

Gillis dreams of playing for Canadian national team

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training camp in Dublin. Gillis's overall finish, however, was arguably a result of his long history with the 'stick.'

At an age when most kids were learning to tie their shoes or colour within the lines, Gillis was discovering how to rake, ride and pocket a lacrosse ball. His first introduction to the sport was through another passionate player, his father, who signed

Gillis up for minor box with North Shore Lacrosse at the age of five. Over the years, Gillis has also played field lacrosse with the North Shore team and through the Burnaby Mountain Selects elite program. More recently, in 2008, Gills was drafted by the Burnaby Junior Lakers.

With one world championship tournament under his belt, Gillis is now looking ahead to the spring.

"That was my first time in Ireland, it was awesome, I loved

it there and I really want to go back," said Gillis, who plans to return in October to tryout for Ireland's national team for the 2011 World Box Lacrosse Championships that will take place in Prague next May.

Eventually, Gillis dreams of playing for Canada, a team that was narrowly defeated by the United States during the gold medal game in Manchester.

"Canada is very good, you have to be invited to play," said Gillis.

For this passionate young player, a future invitation is probable. But, until that hopeful time comes, Gillis will continue to work his luck with the Irish, and prove his ancestry proud.

Closer to home, North Shore Lacrosse's Midget C team scored a bronze medal finish at the British Columbia Minor Box lacrosse Midget Provincials held July 14-18 in Mission.

The North Shore squad fell 9-3 to the host team in semifinal action but bounced back to defeat Surrey 10-8 in the bronze medal game.

Matthew Bretner was a fair play award winner while Kenny Brown named a tournament all-star.



NEWS photo Lisa King

Bester stretched

NORTH Vancouver tennis pro Philip Bester stretches for a shot during his opening round match against Australia's Nick Lindahl at the Odum Brown Vancouver Open at West Vancouver's Hollyburn Country Club. Bester earned three match points in the second set but couldn't close the deal, eventually falling 4-6, 7-6, 6-4. The tournament finals are slated for today. Visit www.vanopen.com for updated schedules.

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