



Stewarttown won their first Halton basketball crown since 1978, after they nipped Rolling Meadows 26-25 Thursday night. Front row, from left: John Jickling, Jon McMurray, Trevor Ellnesky, David Lawrence, Garry Hans, Josh Hayes, and Jim Sale (Manager). Back row: Michael Cosgrove, Ryan Peddie, Craig Batstone, Adam Croll, Dan Argudin, Adam Hagen, Craig Rintamaki, and Jim Ridley (Coach). (Herald photo)

Stallions win squeaker to take Halton crown

By MIKE TURNER
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The Stewarttown Stallions held on for a dramatic 26-25 victory over Rolling Meadows of Burlington to claim their first Halton Boys' Basketball League championship title in 11 years.

The win capped off a tremendous season that saw the Stallions lose only once in 20 games, and regain the title they haven't held since 1978.

The girls' championship final was also decided in dramatic fashion as Oakville's Frontenac edged Sam Sherratt of Milton 24-21.

Both games were played at E.C. Drury Secondary School in Milton, Thursday night.

Stewarttown coach Jim Ridley watched his team play to an 8-8 draw after the opening quarter, but they moved ahead to lead 18-11 by the half.

Rolling Meadows made their move in the third, trailing 22-19, but were unable to overtake the Stallions in the final period.

"They came back in the second half, and we got a little tired," Ridley said following the contest.

"They played well, and it was a good game all around."

Ridley had high praise for all his players, and team leader Trevor

Ellnesky, in particular, who was top scorer for the Stallions with 14 points.

"He settled everybody down," the coach said. "The other team knew they had to stop him to beat us. It's fitting that in his last game, he played the way he did."

Ridley also commended Craig Batstone, who contributed four points, and pulled down several key rebounds in the game. He also shone in the Stallions' 38-28 win over Montclair of Oakville in the Halton semi-finals.

Batstone saved his best games for the end of the year," he said. "He played really well...they all did."

The Stallions held a three-point lead in the final few minutes of regulation time, but Rolling Meadows drew to within one after scoring a bucket with less than 30 seconds remaining.

Stewarttown had trouble moving the ball out of their own end, but were successful in running the clock down for the win.

Dave Lawrence chipped in with six of the Stallions' points, while Adam Croll had the other two.

For Rolling Meadows, Grant MacAuley was the top sniper, as he hit for 14 points, while Darryl Hall and Jeff Lack clicked for four

apiece.

Stewarttown's only loss of the season came at the hands of Georgetown's Centennial School, during the regular schedule.

Following the championship game, members of the Stewarttown team presented the title pennant to school principal Robert McCaw.

In the girls' championship match, Frontenac led 8-4 after the opening quarter, 14-9 at the half, and 22-18 at the three-quarter mark.

The victory was that much more satisfying for the winners as they reached the championship finals as a Wild Card entry.

Rolling Meadows won the Halton West title, and Frontenac had to win a round robin series with the other two area finalists to advance to the semi-finals. Frontenac defeated Rolling Meadows 28-19 to earn a berth in the finals.

Sherratt advanced by defeating New Central of Oakville 26-23 in the other semi-final contest.

Beth Watson led Frontenac in the scoring department with 12 points, while Nicole McCormick contributed 10.

Jennifer Cheevers was tops for Sherratt with eight points, followed by Janel Boscom with five, and Jennifer Boscom with four.



Trevor Ellnesky had 14 points to lead the Stewarttown Stallions to the Halton boys' basketball championship title over Rolling Meadows, here, Ellnesky fights for the ball with a Rolling Meadows player, as the Stallions were trying to preserve a one point lead in the dying seconds of regulation time. (Herald photo)

10 local gymnasts earn right to advance

Ten gymnasts from Georgetown District High School have qualified for the Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conference gymnastic meet, after competing at the Halton finals Thursday in Burlington.

The GDHS team placed fourth overall, out of eight teams competing at the Halton meet, hosted by M.M. Robinson Secondary School.

The top ten finishers in each event earned the right to advance to the GHAC finals.

The GDHS junior team placed third all around in their division, paced by the performances of Susanne Siegle who was fourth in total points for individual juniors.

Other juniors who qualified included Lisa Jones, who was third on the balance beam; Andrea Bosman, fifth on the floor; Heather Bruman, ninth on the floor; and Kim Jollimore, 10th in the vault.

In the intermediate division, Elaine Euwen was second overall, as she placed second on the bars, fourth in the vault, and fifth on the balance beam.

She missed taking the intermediate individual title by a mere one-tenth of a point. Tammy Tanner of T.A. Blakelock took the honor with 33.35 points, while Euwen had 33.25.

Lianne Graham also qualified in the intermediate division, with a seventh on the bars and eighth on the floor.

In the senior division, Tracey Weeks was fifth all around after she recorded fourths on the floor and balance beam, and eights on the bars and in the vault.

Jennifer Arnold and Sandi Weeks dominated the Elite division as they placed first and second, respectively in the individual standings.

Arnold claimed firsts in all four events, the floor, balance beam, bars and vault.

Weeks was second in the floor, balance beam, and bars, and placed third in the vault.

The GHAC gymnastics championships will be held April 3, at Delta High School in Hamilton.

GDHS coach Joyce Finley has confidence her gymnasts will make a good showing at the GHAC meet, but admits she doesn't know exactly what to expect in Hamilton.

"We've never been up against the Golden Horseshoe gymnasts," she says. "In the past we've always met the Peel competitors. So we don't know what calibre of gymnasts will be coming out of that area."

Finley says Sandi Weeks, a Grade 10 student, and Arnold, who is in Grade 9, will likely have the best shots at advancing to higher levels of competition.

After the GHAC meet, the top competitors in each division will advance to the OFSAA finals, which will be held in Scarborough this year.



It was tense going in the final few minutes of the Halton boys' basketball championship game Thursday night. Stewarttown pulled out a 26-25 victory to claim their first title in almost 10 years. Here, coach Jim

Ridley gives instructions during a timeout, called with less than 30 seconds showing on the clock. (Herald photo)