

Atoms advance

The Atom Clippers were finally stopped by Port Perry last week. After an almost perfect round-robin, they were dropped 3-2 for their only loss in the series.

Following a scoreless first period, Port Perry were two up before the Clippers got on the board with Drae Glover's marker, the assist going to Paul Trentadue.

Port Perry got their insurance marker in the third period, putting them ahead 3-1. It stayed that way until Brandon Pridham, from Dayle Lewis and Jason Underwood, scored with 1:26 left to play. The Clippers continued to press hard; the clock running out before they could tie it up.

Sunday saw the Clippers round out the series with another win. A trip to Uxbridge saw them double their hosts 4-2.

Drae Glover, from Scott Ferris and Brad Blacktop, put the Clippers ahead early in the game, while Uxbridge came back to make it 1-1 at the end of the first.

Lewis fired two successive goals in the middle and final frames to put the Clippers 3-1 ahead, assists going to Jason Underwood (2), Glover and Eilert Fraser, while Glover wrapped it up on assists from Trentadue and Bill Payne.

Uxbridge had the final say with a goal late in the period, but the Clippers were out of reach.

The Atom Clippers are scheduled to meet Cobourg in the second round. As yet, no dates have been finalized.

Amateur hockey

The Amateur Hockey League will hold their second annual tournament on the weekend of April 6. Sixteen teams are scheduled to take part in the three-day tournament, proceeds from which will be donated to the Rec. Centre Fund.

Each team will be guaranteed three games, with the championship rounds - four in total - being held on Sunday. An added feature will be a showdown championship shootout, the final being held on Saturday afternoon.

The tournament is being sponsored by Molson's Breweries and Latcham Hall will be open for refreshments.

Admission is free, but a donation box will be prominent at the arena entrance.

The opening ceremony will be held on Saturday and will be attended by members of the Recreation Fund Committee.



Orchard Park Public School's girls' basketball team have added yet another trophy to the school's display cabinet. They won Area 2 championship title last week. (back row) l to r: Dave Young (coach), Suzanne Bradley, Kelly Watling, Lisa Weatherill and staff teacher Ron Robins. (front row) l to r: Chantal Ertl, Sarah Cowan, Linda Belisle and Lori Woolford. Missing from the lineup are: Robin Grove, Monica Francis and Catherine Dunkeld.

Feasby and Burrows pace Midgets

Milkmen dazzle crowd

Easter came early for the Becker's Milk Midgets on Monday night. Their sinking fortunes - at an all time ebb with two straight losses - were resurrected with a dazzling display of hockey that had their quarter-final opponents, Gananogue, outclassed and outplayed in all three periods.

Adding to Gananogue's misery were the duo of Mike Feasby and Ken Burrows. Both were outstanding, with Feasby scoring all four goals and Burrows getting in on three assists. They

dominated the game with fine passing plays and a turn of speed that the visitors simply couldn't counter.

The Milkmen, who seem to take a perverse delight in keeping their fans in suspense, were a completely different team to the one that took a 4-0 thrashing at Gananogue on Sunday. Netminder Joe Risk, despite an injured knee, was unpassable, while Brent Brown and Bill Hutchison worked hard to collect assists.

Burrows paid heavily for his role as Feasby's shadow. A marked man from the outset of the game, he was hammered into the ice in an unprovoked attack, not just by one, but two Gananogue players in the closing minutes of play; necessitating nine stitches to close an ugly gash over his left eye. Fortunately there was no permanent damage and he will be in the lineup for tonight's game at Gananogue.

Friday night's opening

game of the series should have been a runaway win for the Clippers. Leading 7-4 near the end of the second period, they blew it as only they can; getting edged 8-7.

Feasby set the pace with a hat trick, while Shawn McQuigge, Burrows, Brent Brown and Darryl Brown collected singles. Tonight's game at Gananogue, the fourth of the five-game series, is a crucial one for the Milkmen. If they manage to pull it off, the fifth and final game will be at Stouffville this Friday, March 9.



IN PERFECT HARMONY! Mike Feasby (7), Ken Burrows (12) and Darryl Brown of the Becker's Milk Midgets in action during one of their many raids on the Gananogue goal on Monday evening. The powerful first-line trio scored all four goals in their 4-0 shutout over Gananogue.

Peewees tied 1-1 in quarter-final battle

Sunday's game between the Credit Union Peewees and Gananogue - the second in the series - could only be described as spectacular. A third period comeback, capped by Dan Larmer's last-second goal, saw the home side squeak past the visitors 8-7 to tie the series 1-1.

Larmer's unassisted marker opened the scoring, followed by three unanswered goals by Gananogue to give them a 3-1 lead at the end of the first.

From then on in the Clippers were relegated to playing catchup. Despite markers by Darron Baston and Kevin Blacktop, the visitors went ahead with three more goals, giving them a comfortable 6-3 lead at the end of the second period.

If Gananogue had visions of a quick win in the series, they were in for a rude shock. Dan Larmer, from Kevin Francis, tallied early in the third, but the Clippers lose 7-5 in overtime

got it back within 33 seconds.

It was Blacktop who finally got the Clippers on the comeback trail. Taking a lead pass from Jamie Campbell he blasted his second goal past the Gananogue netminder. Inspiration followed with a goal by Sven Hennze, who emerged the winner from a scramble in front of the Gananogue net; Blacktop and Trentadue coming in on the assists.

Baston tied the game with only two minutes left to play. Larmer getting the assist.

Continuing the pressure, the Clippers were rewarded for their efforts when Larmer scored the winner with a hard backhand; completing his hat trick with just one second left to play. Friday game.

Friday night's game at Gananogue, the first in the quarter-final series, saw the Clippers lose 7-5 in overtime

play.

Unfortunately, several of the Clippers were unwell.

Larmer opened the scoring from Kevin Francis, while Ted Stonehouse made it 2-0 with a high backhand into the top corner of the net.

Gananogue managed to get one back before Stonehouse again hit paydirt. However, three unanswered goals put them back in the driver's seat.

The Clippers tied it up when Francis managed to deflect Darryl Ham's point-shot into the net, and Jamie Campbell put them ahead 5-4 on assists from Larmer and Blacktop.

Gananogue, however, forced the game into overtime with a late goal and, subsequently, scored twice.

Third game in the series will be held at Stouffville, tonight at 8 pm.

WSMHA house league tourney

The WSMHA will hold an atom-bantam tournament at the arena during the March break. The tourney will run from Monday, March 12 through Wednesday evening, March 14 when the finals will be held. The organizers are looking for help to run the clock, also scorekeepers. Anyone prepared to help out should contact Al Hachey 640-1832.

IN MY OPINION

BY JIM HOLT

Team loyalty - a problem

Not unexpectedly, rumblings of discontent emanate from the AHL at this time of the year. The reason of course is the absence of senior key players, of whom a number are off at an Oldtimer tournament when their expertise can make or break a team's chances of capturing the league championship.

The championship is and rightly so, the ultimate goal for most AHL members. The playoffs are fun for all, but has no relationship to a team's consistency; the fact that the playoff champions have never won the league crown bears out the fact.

This annual bone of discontent is forever with the league, and this year more than any other, probably due to the closeness of the standings, it has become more pronounced. To lose a crucial game because key players are doing their own thing at an Oldtimer tournament is a downer. It affects players to a greater degree than one would suspect. I would not normally mention such a minor matter. However, when a player tells me

that next year he will do his utmost to steer clear from a team that has Oldtimers on it, then I feel the league has a problem, one that should be attended to by the executive at their annual general meeting.

The player in question is not alone. A number of members have expressed disappointment on finding their teams' low strength at one time or another this season.

To be fair to the Oldtimer squads, they really can't be blamed. Most are founder or very senior members of the amateur hockey league and their dedication to the AHL goes without saying. Their expertise forms the foundation for many a team's success and let's face it, the league would be less colourful organization without them.

Frankly, I think the problem is unsolvable. You can't draft the Oldtimers into one or two teams, because the league would be lopsided with talent. Yet, to continue the present formula of seeding them in individual teams is obviously unsatisfactory to many.

Allstar register for softball

Final date for allstar softball registration will be held this Saturday, March 10, at Latcham Hall from 1 to 4 pm.

Providing sufficient players register, it is hoped to form the following teams: Novice girls - age 13 and under as of Jan. 1'84. Midget girls - age 17 and under as of Jan. 1'84. Peeewe boys - age 13 and under as of Jan. 1'84. Senior ladies (Stouffville Stingers) - age open.

Depending on interest show, the Association will also form boys' Bantam and Midget teams.

In addition to a senior ladies team (King Cole Ducks), there is a possibility that a boys' Midget team will operate out of Vandorf.

Coaches and assistants are also required for the following teams:

Stouffville Stingers ladies team (Home nights are on Wednesday at 8:30 pm and they play in the Metro Ladies League).
 Stouffville Bantam or Midget Boys teams (Home nights are on Thursday at 8:30 pm and they play in the York-Durham league).

For further information call Cliff Dunkeld 640-1204 or Al Piette 640-1691.



SHALL WE DANCE? Midgets Bill Hutchison (left) and Brent Brown have good reason to trip the light fantastic with the Gananogue defencemen. Their Monday night win put them back in contention in the quarter-final round of the playoffs.