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Sports & Classified

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## MOGUL MADNESS



Some skiers at Dagmar Ski Resort (north of Clarendon), just can't get enough attention. Brett Macleod of Pickering, far left, does some hotdogging while airborne. Sporting a red bandana and a black ski suit, the 20-year-old daredevil did some breathtaking — not to mention leg-breaking manoeuvres. However, the skier above, was not so lucky when it came to landing. — Kelly Connelly

## Peewee Clippers win double Championship

When a team fires 42 holes into the opposition in six games, and allows only 12 responding bullets — that team deserves to win the Championship, and the Grand Championship if there is one.

The Stouffville Peewee Clippers collected both crowns in an impressive two-day onslaught at the 15th Annual Richmond Hill International Peewee Tournament (Dec. 26-27).

Although the double B hockey team, sponsored by Stouffville District Credit Union, ran up against A and double A competition, it still managed to outscore the opposition by an average puck ratio of 3.5 to one to sweep all six games.

The Clippers blasted Brampton 9-0 for the Cowan Division Championship, and the Oshawa Red Wings 4-1 for the Grand finale. Centres Scott McKinley and Jason Underwood did most of the damage throughout the tourney, collecting 17 and 11 goals respectively.

Underwood was selected Most Valuable Player in the Cowan Championship and received a watch. Goalie Basil Luciano played impressively in the final two matches. McKinley's most notable performance came in game two against Newmarket. The agile centre scored a staggering seven goals in the 11-4 romp.

**NOTE:** For complete statistics on individual games in the tournament, see B2.

## Midgets applaud revenge against Scarborough team

By KELLY CONNELLY  
 Sports Editor

Sometimes avenging an old foe in an earlier round makes everything else after that seem less exciting. For Stouffville's Credit Union Midget Girls, beating rival Scarborough 3-2 in the semifinal of Cobourg's Hockey Tournament (Dec. 27-28) was the ultimate. Advancing to the championship final and capturing runner-up honors — no big deal.

The Dec. 28 semifinal upset was unquestionably the high point of the weekend tourney for the Stouffville girls — and for Laurie Taylor who scored the winning goal with three minutes left on the clock.

Only three weeks ago, Stouffville had been whipped by the same Scarborough team 4-1.

However, the emotional and physical energy that prevailed in the Scarborough game, just wasn't there anymore when the local girls faced Peterborough for the Championship a few hours later.

Stouffville, having only eight players in uniform for the final, collapsed in the third period under the weight of Peterborough's 13 skaters. The Petes won 5-0 and Stouffville captured runner-up.

Midget coach Ted Lowery had no regrets: "When we saw Scarborough there, that was it. So often you key on one game. Upsetting them in the semifinal made the tourney for us," said the Stouffville skipper.

And his Midgets were certainly pumped up for that one after educating host Cobourg 9-0 in the opener. Highflying centre, Shawn Morrison, scored a hat trick, and teammates Vicki Smith and Taylor (Most Valuable Player) scored a pair each.

Linda Whiteside and Jennifer Altia, who were noticeably absent in the tourney final, rounded out the tally.

Missing key players in the championship was felt by the entire bench, said Morrison, especially when full-strength for the Midgets is two full lines — and that's on a good night.

"If we had a rematch, we could have beaten Peterborough, especially if our key players were there," contended the Stouffville Secondary Grade 9 student.

She added the rep team hasn't practised once this year due to conflicting school and work schedules, and the fact that many members on the team are from out of town.

Goalie Dorothy Tscheng, who captured MVP in the Scarborough tangle, lives in Thornhill. She felt Peterborough was better prepared in the final than her club.

"They were very well prepared against us. They did a lot of passing back to the point, and their wrist shots were good too," praised the 15-year-old netminder. Tscheng let three pucks by her in the third period and admitted she and her teammates ran out of steam.

Lowery explained that his girls have been forced to adopt a "spinal cord" strategy where defence and centre strength takes precedence over winger fortitude.

"We don't have that many girls, so we try to strengthen our team down the middle," he noted. "We key on a strong defence and a strong centre and goalie. It's the wingers who do most of the work and the digging."

The Midgets could only field a line and a half against the strong Peterborough team. Centre Vicki Smith won MVP for her undaunting efforts. Said Lowery: "We just didn't have the legs left in the final period."

**NOTE:** The Stouffville Girls Hockey League hosts a Rep Night on Jan. 12. The Midgets play Keswick, Jan. 25, and Newton, Feb. 6.



SHAWN MORRISON wants rematch

## Hockey school stresses 'less glamorous' skills

By KELLY CONNELLY  
 Sports Editor

The youngster looked no more than three feet high with his blades on. He pursued hockey school instructor Doug Todd around the pylons for a skate exercise while some other schoolmates trailed behind. Passing the second last red cone, the instructor threw his right glove to the ice to replace the final missing pylon. The youngster amusingly threw his little glove down too, thinking it was part of the routine. No sooner had the tiny Gretzky imitated his teacher, he bashfully picked it up realizing the mistake.

During the Christmas break, instructors Todd, John Barnett and Peter Fitzpatrick ran Stouffville's first ever hockey school. The course consisted of seven morning sessions for two separate age groups. From seven to 14-year-olds participated.

There was a lasting impression one acquired while watching the three men conduct a class at Stouffville Arena. It was the keen attention span — though limited — of a group of kids sprawled on the ice for a breather, their oversized-looking helmets bent backwards as they peered up at their giant teachers.

It's not easy coaching a bunch of zealous hockey mites the basics of skating, puckhandling, and checking. Some kids are a little bit of trouble when it comes to listening. I admitted Todd, a former Calgary Flame draftee. The first day we taught them to listen. It's the most important thing.

But how do you get through to today's generation of youngsters who watch National Hockey League games — and the goon sideshows — religiously on TV? Todd doesn't deny that the NHL's dramatic and often overly aggressive style of play has an influence on kids. But he did qualify that a child's keen and aggressive energies are not necessarily negative attributes if channelled in the right direction — by proper coaching.

Stouffville resident Dave Reesor, gave his grandson Jason the hockey school membership as a Christmas present. The elder Reesor, who built family



O.K. guys... never make a blind pass. Hockey school instructors John Barnett (far left), Calgary Flames draftee Doug Todd, and Peter Fitzpatrick discuss the fundamentals for Canada's number one pastime with Stouffville youngsters. Kids participated in the school during the Christmas holidays, and according to one grandparent of a little tyke, "it was money well spent." — Kelly Connelly