

Watch the penalties warns coach ...B2

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Second Section

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YOU CAN'T CATCH SDSS



Top Stouffville runners: from left Linda Hachey, Brenda Hachey, Shane O'Rourke and Rob McConnell.

Stouffville Secondary's cross-country team dominated Vivian Forest for the fourth straight year to win the York Region school championship last Thursday.

The senior girls, paced by lanky Linda Hachey, delivered SDSS's strongest performance of the day with a first-place victory. Hachey crossed the finish line a comfortable 90 seconds ahead of second place runner Jenny Beattie of Thornlea Secondary.

To clinch the overall title, Stouffville captured four second

place wins in junior girls and midjet/junior/senior boys.

Junior Spartan Brenda Hachey finished 43 seconds behind leader Jenny Lewin of Thornlea. Midget runner Shane O'Rourke, new to SDSS, finished a strong third only two seconds behind Unionville's Junior Spencer.

The midjet Spartan girls didn't do as well, finishing fourth overall in their heat. Top runner for them was Kim Murray (24th place).

In all, 37 runners represented

SDSS last Thursday and all six age divisions qualified for tomorrow's Durham-York Secondary School (DYSSA) finals at Dagmar.

"Dale Grose (trainer) and I have stressed the team concept all fall. The first runner may be the star, but all runners are equally important if the overall team is going to do well," said coach Dave Connell.

"The main motivating factor this year was to break the tie with Thornlea. Each of us had five wins and this year's victory

breaks the tie in our favor."

Here's a rundown of Spartan runners and their positions at the York Region meet (Oct. 16):

MIDGET GIRLS (4th)—Kim Murray (24); Jeannie St. John (25); Lianne Nicholls (27); Leanne Beam (29); Michelle Leblond (36); Carolyn McKeen (38); JUNIOR GIRLS (2nd)—Brenda Hachey (2); Lisa Haylow (12); Holly McNamara (14); Leslie Snooks (26); Tricia Lowe (30); SENIOR GIRLS (1st)—Linda Hachey (1); Shelley Whittaker (4); Becca Ness (5); Lisa Zeck (6); Renee

Wassenaar (9); MIDGET BOYS (2nd)—Shane O'Rourke (3); Jason Dixon (6); Kevin Harmer (25); Bryan Patterson (26); Todd Snooks (33); Sean Procuiner (47); JUNIOR BOYS (2nd)—Rob McConnell (4); Rob Blundon (15); Kurt Wittkopp (16); Sean Lewis (18); Joel Roberts (27); Jeff Heath (31); Jim Lloyd (43); Shawn Schevers (45); John Filintissis (49); Chris Topping (68); SENIOR BOYS (2nd)—Greg Tarr (10); Scott Couperthwaite (12); Chris Snooks (13); John Brummell (15); Darren Montgomery (17).

Derby driver is DQ'd in finals

Claremont demolition derby driver Ken Zampaloni was disqualified in the fourth qualifying heat of the All-Ontario championship at Simcoe, Oct. 13.

The veteran smasher, driving a multi-colored GM station wagon, was rammed over a track barrier which automatically meant disqualification. "It was kind of a disaster for me," said Zampaloni, who goes by the nickname Zappy.

"I had about 10 minutes of good running. Then I ran over someone's bumper on the track and it got caught in my transmission."

The mishap put a hole in Zappy's oil pan. His transmission, leaking oil, eventually jammed and he and another car went over the barrier.

The Simcoe event last Monday was marred by vandalism when two junk cars had the keys stolen out of them prior to heats.

"The cars were sealed in a compound (before the races) so I don't know how it happened," said Zappy. "It could be small kids vandalizing the cars, but I'm inclined to believe it was another driver."

Contrary to a report in last week's *Tribune*, Zappy said he hasn't actually won a provincial championship in the past six years although he's made it to the final feature race.

Two American drivers won this year's provincial showdown at Simcoe. A Windsor man came third.

Season passes

Stouffville Minor Hockey will issue season passes on Oct. 24 (7-9 p.m.) and Oct. 25 (10 a.m.-2 p.m.) at the Rec Centre. Adult passes cost \$25; students (up to 19 years) are \$15. These passes are for regular season games only.

You can order your hockey jackets, sweatshirts and bags at the Rec Centre, Oct. 24 (7-9 p.m.) and Oct. 25 (9 a.m.-6 p.m.). Jackets cost \$75 and a 50 percent deposit (\$35) is required.

Classics did everything, but score

Stouffville's Maples of Ballantrae Classics did everything but put the puck in the net at last weekend's Betz Pools Clippers Oldtimers hockey tournament.

The 16-team event, billed as the 'Return of the Opening Face-Off', saw defending A division champs Markham Millionaires steal the limelight once more with a decisive 5-2 victory against Coxwell Old Sports in Sunday's exciting final.

However, it was just one of those weekends for the Stouffville Clas-

sics. The local men played three games of solid hockey in their Labatt's 50 division, but couldn't buy a win.

Stouffville lost to Scarborough Bluffers 2-0 Friday night, tied Green River Chiefs 1-1 Saturday and was edged 3-2 by Toronto Flashbacks in the semifinals Sunday.

"We actually played pretty good in all three games. We had our chances, but we just couldn't put the puck in the net," said goalie Gary Pylon Williams.

The netminder was pulled for the extra attacker in the final minutes of play against Toronto. His club scored on the play, but it wasn't enough to salvage a tie.

Here's a quick rundown of final division match-ups and champions: Budweiser Final—Colonel's Old Boys beat AJB Heating 3-2; Schooner Final—Century 21 doubled Epsom Classics 4-2; Labatt's 50 Final—Scarborough Bluffers ousted Toronto Flashbacks 4-2; Blue Final—

Markham Millionaires beat Coxwell Old Sports 5-2.

The Stouffville Classics and Betz Pools Oldtimers, will see action in a Woodville tourney next month.

On behalf of the Betz Pools Clippers Oldtimers, Eric Scaife would like to thank all the teams for making the second annual Betz Oldtimers Tournament a success. Appreciation is also extended to Betz players and their wives, Movies-Plus, Gord Ness and the Rec Centre.



Sideline Comment

Appetite for danger

BY KELLY CONNELLY

Stouffville rally driver Ray Gregg and his two buddies — Bob Esseltine and Laverne Burkhart — just got back from the 23,000-kilometre CanAmex Car Rally out west.

The three men, in their mid 30s, drove a 4X4 unmodified Chevy Blazer on a charted route that stretched as far north as the Yukon Territories and Alaska, and as far south as Acapulco and the Baja Peninsula of Mexico. Of the 29 crews that began the rally at Expo Vancouver, Sept. 20, only 11 cars crossed the same start/finish line three weeks later.

Maybe 'finished' isn't the proper word. 'Survived' is more apropos. The event was anything but a JOY RIDE. Driving skill, navigational tactics, vehicle reliability and sometimes sheer guts were necessary in coping with unfriendly canyons and inquisitive, gun-toting Mexican soldiers. Speaking a little Spanish certainly helped with the latter obstacle.

It was at an armed, guard station on the Baja coast that the three drivers, not noticing the sign 'stop', were almost fired upon. Burkhart explained "a bus had stopped and was blocking our view of the sign. We continued through and about 50 yards down a great big board with spikes fell in front of us. A guy with a machine gun was standing there. The rest is vintage Raiders of the Lost Ark, no doubt."

1,500 HOURS IN 20 DAYS

When the adventure was over, Gregg and his crew, calling themselves the Trail Blazers Rally Team, came sixth! They had driven a total 1,500 hours — night and day — with few breaks inbetween. Although most of the rally took place on public roads, it was not a drag race as one might assume.

Vehicles had to maintain pre-set average speeds and pass through various 'time control' segments ranging from 150 kilometres to 2,400 kilometres. Crews were penalized for arriving too early or late at check-points.

To hear Esseltine describe the dicey situations they encountered, it's a wonder the Trail Blazers Rally Team arrived at all. Passing through Wyoming one night with Esseltine at the wheel, the crew found itself in a continental basin. "It was very deep mud and all you could see was blackness on either side," recalled the father of four.

Fuel pump failure in the middle of a desert, 65 miles away from the nearest phone, was no picnic either. The breakdown happened near the south-eastern tip of the Baja Peninsula. "We were on very rough road and there was a washboard-type effect," recalled Esseltine. "There was so much vibration the fuel pump actually shook off."

QUESTIONING SANITY

It took the men five hours to fix the problem. Asked if such bad luck made them question what the heck they were doing in a desert, Esseltine hesitated and then replied "uhhh, yeah." The team witnessed one near-tragedy on a rock-strewn, narrow canyon path when another rally vehicle almost went over the side.

So much for thrills. Esseltine pointed out that this North American rally was conservative compared to the "crazy" ones on the other side of the world. And yes, women do compete in these things.

"There is quite a bit of isolation in a rally like this, but the camaraderie build-up with the other crews is tremendous," added Gregg. "We became a very close-knit group. After a while, you were hoping everybody would finish the race."

But fatigue, like the notorious White Line Fever long-distance truckers are afflicted with, was a popular demon with the rallyists, especially the two-driver crews. "You can get to a point where you don't think straight," said Esseltine.

But then, if these drivers did think straight, maybe they would have talked themselves out of the event long ago.

Atom team unbeaten

The Fame International Atom Clippers, sporting a new look this year, took three of a possible four points in their opening two games of the season.

The Clippers shut out Lindsay 2-0 last Saturday and tied Port Hope 3-3 on Sunday. Many of last year's top gunners for the championship novice team have moved up to the atom lineup.

At Lindsay, ex-novice captain Phil Pridham opened the scoring early in the second period with a high shot to the corner. Ryan Burkholder and Brian Coughlan assisted. Goalie Greg Sanford made a number of excellent pad saves to preserve the shut out.

Stouffville put the game away with two minutes remaining when Geoff Smith backhanded the puck to winger Danny McNaught who made no mistake.

Stouffville took a quick 1-0 lead against Port Hope on Sunday when centre Darren Zellers fed a pass to defenceman Jay Hause who blasted a shot into the net. However, the atom boys gave up the lead and found themselves trailing in the third period.

McNaught fed Ryan Jefferson a goalmouth pass to tie the game 2-2. Again trailing 3-2 late in the game, David Sporenburg on a solo effort, released a quick wrist shot to salvage the tie.

The Atom Clippers first home game is Friday night (8 p.m.) at the Rec Centre against Port Hope. This year's lineup includes: goalie Greg Sanford; defencemen Jay Hause, David Mountjoy, Brian Coughlan, Jason Reesor; centres Darren Zellers; Ryan Burkholder; Geoff Smith; wingers Trevor Bardell, David Sporenburg, Danny McNaught, Ryan Jefferson, Sian Morrison, Philip Pridham. Coach is Don Reesor with assistants Mike Jones and manager Barry Zeller.



Three's a crowd

Maples of Ballantrae Classics goaltender Gary Pylon Williams has some company in his crease during last Saturday's tangle with Green River Chiefs. Classics defenceman Larry Penny (99) follows the play. The game ended 1-1. Action took place in last weekend's Betz Pools Oldtimers Hockey Tournament.

—Kelly Connelly