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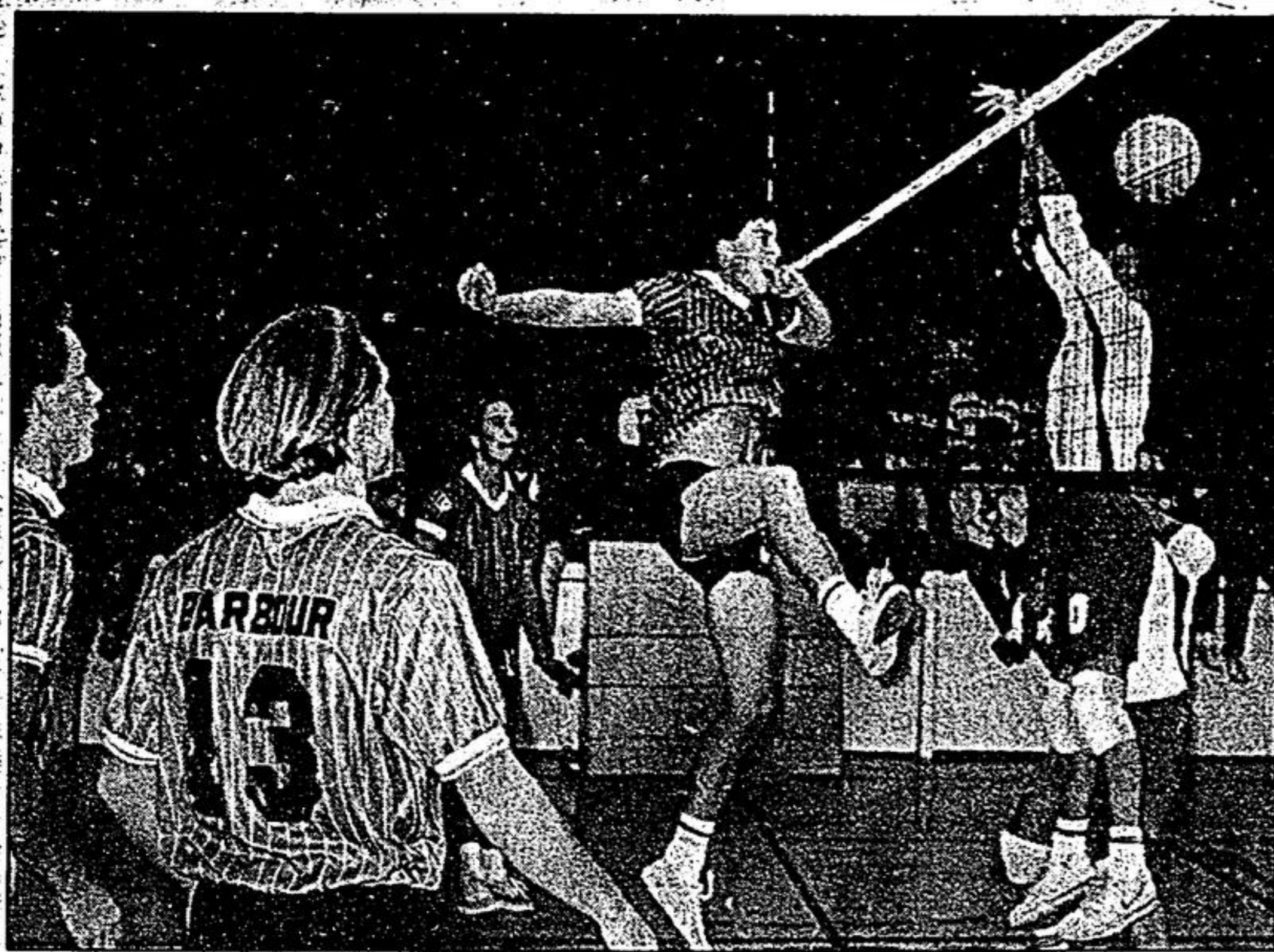


Photo: BRUCE STAPLEY

Stouffville District Secondary School's Senior volleyball team is 'chewing up' the competition of late. They recently won the Dunbarton Classic, and continue to dominate in the York league. Here, the team takes on Huron Heights, last Thursday. That's Scott Evans smashing a quick hit to the floor for SDSS.

Coach is pleased

Stouffville volleyball squad takes Classic

"The pieces are all starting to come together."

Those were the words of Jim Fletcher after his Stouffville District Secondary School Senior Boys Volleyball team captured the Dunbarton Senior Boys Volleyball Classic on Sunday.

The Spartans won six of seven match-ups en route to the tournament victory, with the team from Brighton the only outfit to beat them.

Stouffville took their pool by defeating Anderson Secondary School from Whitby, O'Neill from Oshawa, Westford of Scarborough, and East Northumberland.

After losing to Brighton, the Spartans knocked off York Mills in the semi-finals, which was particularly sweet in that York Mills had beaten Stouffville in the re-

VOLLEYBALL



cent York University tourney.

The finals pitted the Spartans against Blakelock of Oakville, and the first game was a classic. Stouffville eventually prevailed 16-14, and then went on to win the second contest 15-6.

Coach Fletcher was delighted with his team's effort.

"The whole team as a defensive unit was outstanding," he said. "They are starting to gel as a unit."

The offense was equally impressive. "Our quick offense

makes it hard for slower teams to stop us," says Fletcher.

Stars for the Spartans were Don Clearwater, Colin McLean, Scott Evans and Steve Head in the heavy-hitting department. Karsten Henze and Wallace Barber contributed some excellent setting.

In regular league play, it was just another week for the Spartans, as the defending York Region champs beat Sacred Heart and Huron Heights on Tuesday, and took Sutton and Newmarket on Thursday.

The SDSS Junior Boys Volleyball squad split their games Thursday, beating Sutton 15-3, 15-3; then losing to Newmarket 9-15, 11-15.

The Regional Championships are slated for Stouffville on Nov. 2.

Atoms shut down competition

Stouffville Atom Clippers coach Bob McKinnon believes that "sharing" and "stoney" make a great team.

He interchanged goalies Evan Boyd and Brad Hackert during two games with Port Hope last weekend, and the result was a bit of tight-fistedness that earned the dynamic duo a shutout each. Hackert's brilliant save on a breakaway in the first period set the tone for Friday's 2-0 victory.

Boyd robbed another Port Hope shooter from closer range in the second period before the Clippers finally took the lead with a fluke goal.

Michael Underwood cleared the puck into the opposition end from near centre ice. The rolling puck somehow mesmerized Port Hope netminder Bobby Read, and ended up in the net.

Another huge save by Hackert preserved the shutout early in the third stanza. He would contribute another act of robbery halfway through the period.

Then the Clippers' big guns went to work, and with a little more than two minutes remaining in the game, Brent Avery lucked in an Ian Ellis pass to make it 2-0. Roger McMann assisted on the goal.

The Clippers withstood a Port Hope power play in the dying seconds of the game to maintain both the shutout and the victory.

"We were kind of lucky tonight," said McKinnon after the game. "They were keeping the puck in our end early in the game. But our defense and our goalies played well." Chad Dickenson and Ian Ellis were rocks on defense.

The Clippers dominated Port Hope on Sunday, winning 5-0. John McKinnon scored on the

first rush of the game, and Dickenson clicked later on a setup by Danny Armour with five seconds remaining in the opening period to give the Clippers a 2-0 lead.

Dickenson notched his second marker early in the third period with Kyle Norton assisting. Ellis made it 4-0 on a power play goal that was assisted by McKinnon.

Dickenson then notched a hat trick, picking up the puck in the Stouffville zone and weaving through the opposition to score.

Dickenson and Ellis shone on defense again, with Armour chipping in a strong effort as well.

The Clippers host Port Perry Friday night at the Recreation Centre. Game time is 8 p.m.



Photo: BRUCE STAPLEY
The Stouffville Atom Clippers are undefeated in the early going thanks in part to the dynamic efforts of the team's netminders, Brad Hackert (left) and Evan Boyd. The pair were celebrating their win over Port Hope. Both have shut-outs to their credit.

Bantam Clippers take first game after bench brawl

By BRUCE STAPLEY
It was bump, thump, then splat, as the Stouffville Bantam Clippers opened their season with a brawl-marred victory, and a lopsided defeat.

The Edwards Murphy Painting and Decorating Clippers eked out a 2-1 win over Bowmanville on the road in their season opener. The chippy affair was called on account of curfew after a bench-clearing slugfest early in the third period.

Clippers coach Terry Lamb wound up with a one-game suspension as a result of the donnybrook. Stouffville players Brad Blacktopp, David Showers, and O.J. Rugelis were also handed suspensions. Three Bowmanville players were ejected from the contest.

The melee overshadowed the brilliant work of Jeff Willis in the Stouffville net. Willis was outstanding, stoning the Bowmanville attackers time and time again.

Stouffville's offence was provided by Dave Showers from Franco Santeramo, and Paul Trentadue from Santeramo and David Caramanico.

But the Clippers, short-staffed due to the suspensions, were no match for Port Perry in their home opener at the Rec Centre. They fell 10-1, and if it hadn't been for Willis' work in goal, the embarrassment could have been greater.

Stouffville had to make do with only ten skaters and Willis, and the fatigue of the extra duty was evident. The Port squad, a bigger bunch to begin with, simply out hustled and outmuscled the depleted Clippers, scoring three goals in the first period, three more in the second, and adding four in the third.

David Caramanico registered the lone Clippers marker, from Eilert Fraser and Jody Invernari, to break Port Perry goalie Ray Doyle's shutout bid in the second period.

Ryan King leads his Novice Clippers to first two victories

There's a new king on the Stouffville hockey scene. He's Ryan King of the Novice Clippers, and he's held a royal flush thus far in the season.

King scored both goals in his team's season opening 2-0 victory over Lindsay last Friday night at the Recreation Centre, then fired a hat trick Sunday as the Novices beat Bowmanville 3-1 on the road.

"Lindsay came out smoking in the first period," said Coach Dave Turner. "We were a little flat. When Ryan scored our first goal, it seemed to pick up."

Turner said much of the credit for the win belonged to netminder

Jason Brown, along with the defence corps of Kevin Hackert, Andrew Hutchison, Jeff Hassard and Graham Smith.

But on Saturday, it was the forwards who shone as Stouffville defeated Bowmanville. The win was satisfying because Stouffville had lost all 10 games they played against the Bulls last season.

Turner says his club will be in the running this year.

"We have five guys who have returned from last year; Matthew Turner, Ryan King, Michael Wood, Andrew Hutchison and Graham Smith. I think we're going to be a competitive team," he said.

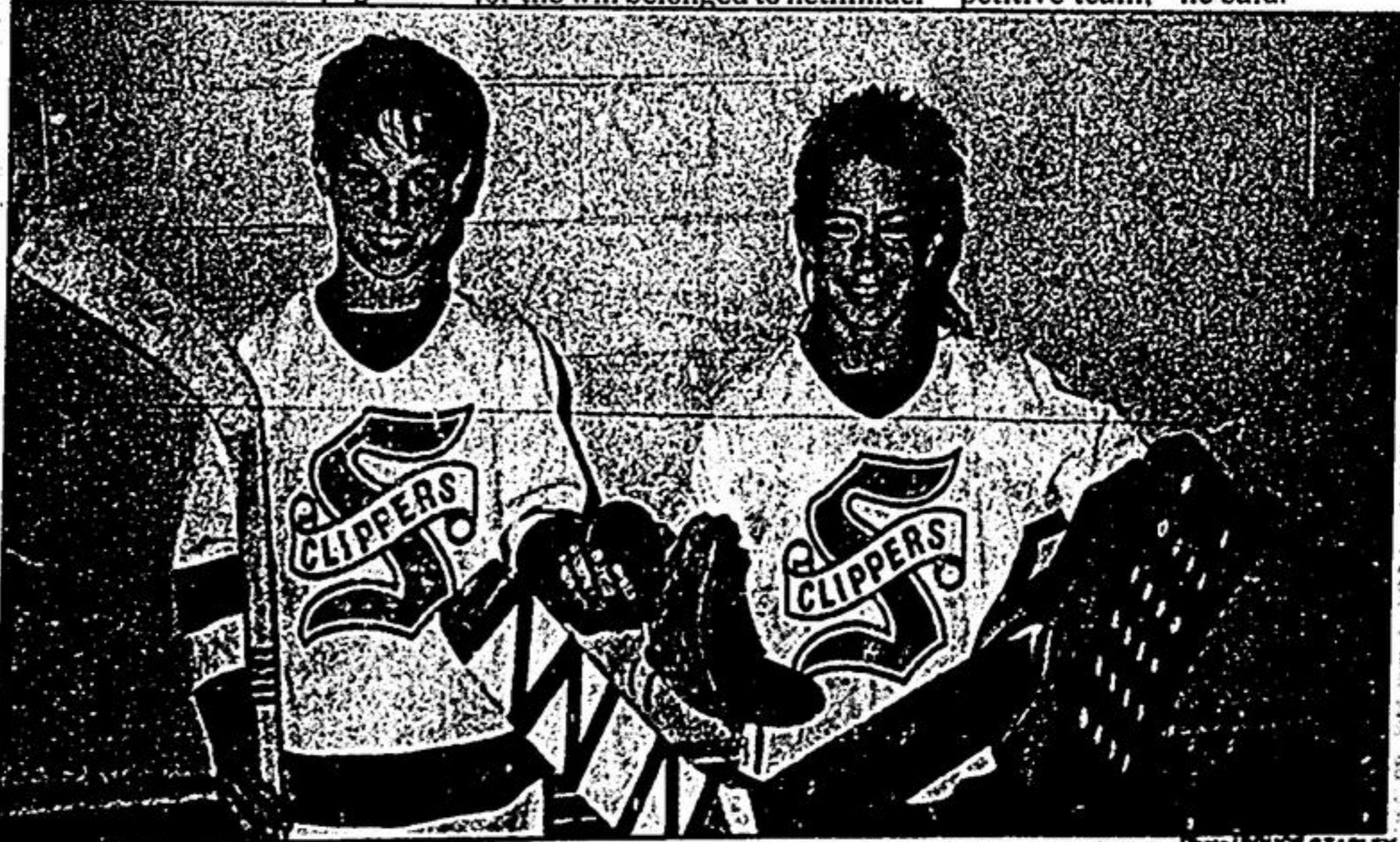


Photo: BRUCE STAPLEY
Ryan King, at left, and Jason Brown, the Novice Clipper goalie had a great weekend. King reigned over the Lindsay entry with two goals, while Jason earned a shut-out. King also scored all three of the Stouffville Novices' goals in their Saturday outing against Bowmanville.

SAHL greets new challenges

By BRUCE STAPLEY

Back in 1977 Stouffville newcomer Eric Scaife put an ad in the Tribune looking for players to form an adult recreational hockey league. A minimal response made it necessary to import 80 per cent of the players

from out of town to fill out the fledgling four team circuit.

Eleven years later, the Stouffville Amateur Hockey Association boasts a 12 team roster comprised of 168 individuals. And except for the originals, all members are from the Stouffville area.

"We were told then we'd never do it, that we'd never be given ice time," recalls Scaife of his early initiative. "We played our first season at Centre Ice Arena in Scarborough."

As word spread through town of the recreational aspect of the SAHL, increasing numbers of Stouffville men started to sign up. The league grew to eight teams by its sixth year, and has continued growing ever since.

When the old arena was abandoned, the men took their act to the new Recreation Centre, where they now hold six games every Sunday morning from September through April.

The league broke into two divisions last season, and now consists of a category for men from 30-40 years of age, and another for those over 40. Players under 30 play in the Stouffville Intermediate Hockey League, applying for the SAHL as they approach 30.

And such is the length of the league's waiting list that the younger adults find it necessary to apply a few years before their 30th birthday so as to be guaranteed a spot.

Each team is sponsored by a local business which provides team jerseys and socks, which are used for three years. Registration fees are \$190 per player.

Not only is fair play encouraged, it is strictly enforced. The league rules call for automatic season suspensions for any player who becomes involved in a fight. The rule has only had to be enforced once, according to League Vice-President Jim Wagg.

Body contact and slap shots are strictly forbidden. "It's absolutely non-contact," said Wagg. "Everyone has to go to work the next morning."

Foul language is rewarded with a game misconduct, and excessive penalty minutes result in suspensions.

Parity is also strived for. Players are not allowed to be bunched together on one team to form a super squad. A draft is used each June, at which time all players are rated by the executive, and divided into categories. The names are then drawn from envelopes and teams are picked.

"That way, you get to know 14 new players each year," explains Wagg. "It helps anyone who is new in town to get to know the others, and it balances the league. It keeps people from setting a team up."

Imbalances that become evident as the season wears on are

sometimes addressed and acted upon in mid season as well.

Executive members are voted in by the players, with the idea being that each person chosen moves up a notch every two years. This year's line up has Henry Stephens as president, Wagg as First Vice-President, Wayne Jackson as Second Vice, Ted Pickering as Secretary, and Bruce Gibbon acting as Treasurer.

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Top runner



Guy Cowan, of Stouffville District Secondary School was the top Senior runner in the Regional Cross-country race at the Wagon Wheel, course at 10th Line and Aurora Sideroad. SDSS won the overall points total.