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# Sports

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A Metroland Community Newspaper

Wednesday, November 30, 1988

## DYSSA CHAMPIONS



**CELEBRATE:** Members of the Stouffville District Secondary School Senior volleyball team celebrate the victory this weekend at the DYSSA finals with fans and cheerleaders from the school. Prior to the win, the SDSS boys had been undefeated, reaffirming the team's stance as the number one volleyball power in the area for 18 of the past 20 years.

## Spartans march to the Ontario finals

**BRUCE STAPLEY**

Correspondent

No surprises.

The Stouffville Secondary School Senior Boys Volleyball team is on its way to battle for All-Ontario honors after a cakewalk last Friday at the Durham-York Secondary Schools Athletic Association (DYSSA) championships.

The Spartans, who had captured their second straight York Regional title earlier this month, swept Friday's four-team competition in eight straight games at Brock Secondary School in Cannington.

They breezed past Courtice 15-0, 15-8, then knocked off Port Perry 15-3, 15-4.

The Spartans completed their domination of the preliminaries with a 15-2, 15-7 win over Richmond Hill, whom they had defeated in the York Region title match-up.

They took on Courtice for all

the marbles, and easily knocked off the Oshawa school 15-6, 15-1.

"Our defence was playing as one," raved Spartans' energetic coach Jim Fletcher. "They were just bringing everything back. They sometimes amaze me."

Fletcher said his entire lineup played superbly, and that some played at the top of their game.

"Leaping" Donnie Clearwater and Scott Evans were a dynamic duo out there in the middle hitting position. And Jon 'Hit if Off The Hands' Hall was real consistent," he said.

He also praised the work of Wallace Barbour, Colin McLean, Guy Cowan, Karsten Hennze, Steve Head and Karem Amer.

The sweep brought Stouffville's overall season record, including tournaments, to 101 wins and 29 losses.

The Spartans travel to Stratford tomorrow for the apex of the high school season — the All-Ontario OFSAA championships.

The provincial event will pit Stouffville against all the top

AA teams in Ontario, with Stratford and Widdifield Secondary School (North Bay) the favorites. Stouffville is ranked at about sixth.

"We hope to sneak in the back door," said Fletcher. "If they continue to play the defence they've been playing, they'll be in every game."

## Juniors nearly make a Spartan sweep

The Stouffville District Secondary School Junior boys volleyball team came close to making it a Stouffville sweep at the Durham-York Secondary Schools Athletic Association (DYSSA) finals Friday.

The Junior Spartans were able to knock off two of their three competitors at the tournament, which was played at Brock Secondary School in Cannington. But they were knocked off in

the championship round by Woodbridge 15-9, 15-11. Woodbridge had defeated Stouffville for the York Regional title in early November.

Stouffville Coach Doug McCommon praised the effort of his team, but admitted his troops were outgunned.

"Woodbridge played extremely well. You couldn't find a fault with their play. You need to have the other team make mistakes in

volleyball," he said.

McCommon singled out Travis White, Tony Persaud and Kevin Harmer for the exceptional play, while stressing that it was a team effort which took the squad to the

DYSSA finals in the first place.

Other Spartan players are as follows: Rich Burkholder, Jason Pascoe, Jon Barnes, Todd Wawryk, Todd Snooks, Jeremy Hall and Mike Pongracz.

## Ref calls Midget game after coach puts defenceman in net

**BRUCE STAPLEY**

Correspondent

What a difference home ice makes.

The Stouffville Midget Clippers, who hung tough to earn a 1-1 tie with Port Perry in the Scugog town Monday night, pasted the Port crew 12-2 at the Recreation Centre Wednesday evening.

And in the end, the experience

was just too sour for the visitors coach Don Kett to handle.

Referee Tom Buchanan called the game with a minute remaining after Kent sent a defenceman onto the ice, complete with goal stick and gloves, to mind the twines.

No you don't, said Buchanan, claiming the act made a travesty of the game. "That's no kind of an example to set for the kids,"

said Buchanan in giving his reason for slapping a game-ending gross misconduct on the coach. "You teach the kids to keep trying, not to quit."

The visitors managed to hold their own though the first period, where Jamie Campbell's goal from Anand Date and Keith Plette gave the Clippers a 1-0 lead.

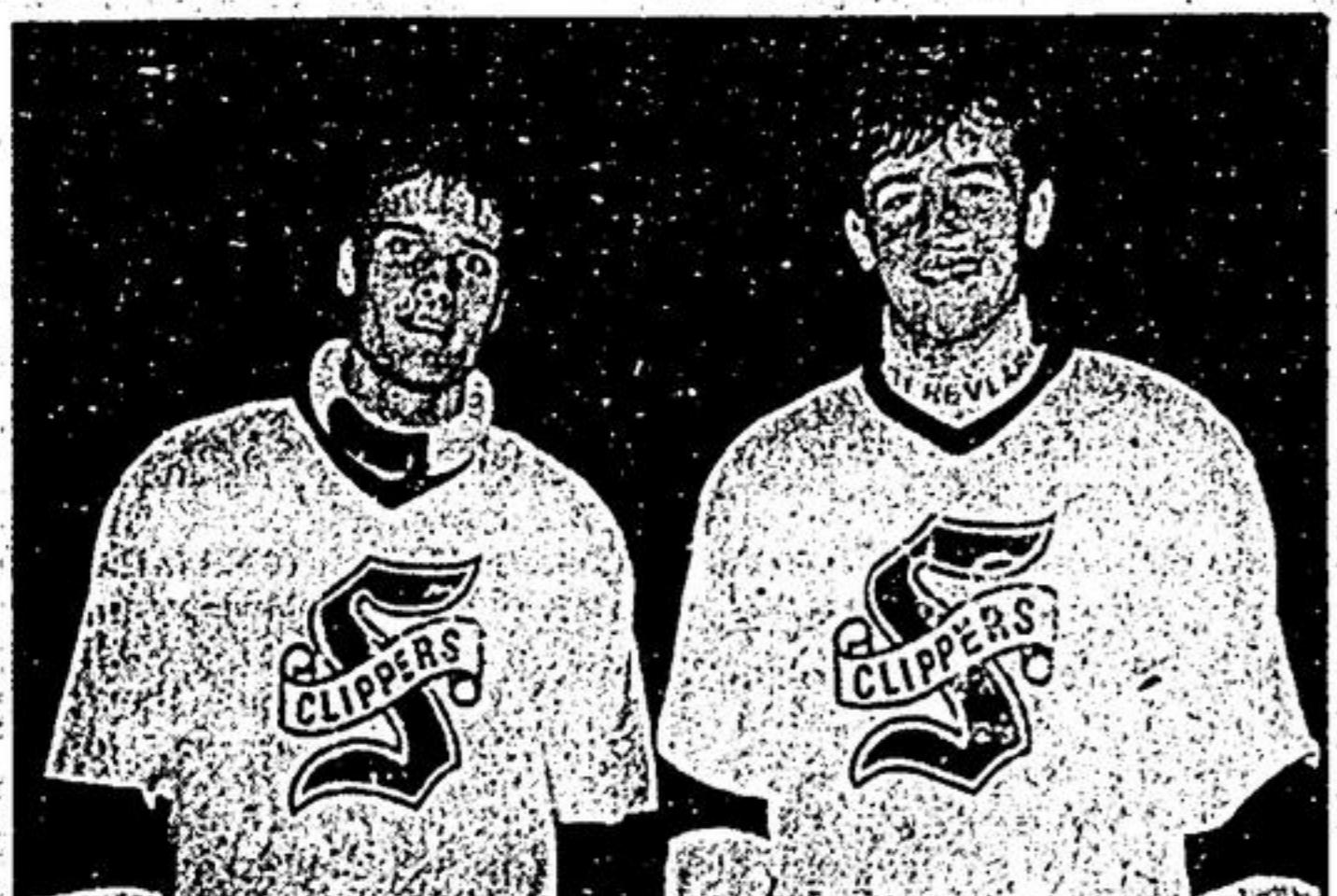
But Kevin Cryderman scored two of his four goals within two minutes of the start of the second period, and the rout was underway. Chris Burkholder would find the range twice before the period ended as well, with singles going to Matt Thillart and Ted Stonehouse.

In the third, it was Keith Plette, Todd Balazs, Rob Parcells, and Cryderman twice. Plette would end up top point getter on the night with five assists to go with his goal.

Despite the lopsided score, Clippers' goalie Basil Luciano was forced to make several big saves, stopping breakaways and close in shots.

On Monday, it was Balazs from Burkholder and Lee Scaife, with 8:39 to go in the second period to give the Clippers the tie with Port Perry. Danny Wilson was the man of the hour between the pipes for Stouffville.

The Clippers host Bowmanville tonight (Wed.) at 8:30.



**TOP SCORERS:** Kevin Cryderman, left, and Kevin Plette were the top players for the Stouffville Midget Clippers this week. The team beat Port Perry badly, and referee Tom Buchanan called the game after Stouffville attempted to put a defenceman into the net to even the score a little.



**CLOSE CALL:** The Junior Spartans almost made it a sweep at last weekend's DYSSA volleyball finals. The Juniors played well, as demonstrated here by setter Tony Persaud. Travis White looks on during action at Brock Secondary School in Carrington.

**Sport notes**  
Bruce Stapley

## My pick for top athlete

At least 152 times each week I get anxious townspeople coming up to me with suggestions for our Athlete of the Week feature.

"But we don't have an Athlete of the Week feature," I tell them. "That's the other paper's gig."

And it's always so sad to see the looks on their faces as they experience that deflated sensation that always goes with the dashing of dreams. So this week we're going to single out two exceptional local athletes for the incredible contribution to the sporting scene of Uxbridge and Stouffville during the week gone by.

I mean, I just couldn't bear to face these two individuals if I didn't somehow find a way to let the world know of their respective destinies. In the case of Stouffville's Craig Stromach, the round-faced left-winger with the Jr. C. Uxbridge Bruins, last Friday's four-goal outburst was a reawakening, a breaking out of a season-long slump that had seen the feisty player score but twice in 12 games.

While not a trouble-maker, young Stromach wouldn't back away from an ill-tempered opponent determined to let off steam via a good old-fashioned punch-up on skates.

Hopefully this big part in the Bruins' 8-7 victory over Lakefield Friday will be the beginning of a big uprising for the likeable SDSS student with considerable talents. As for the other winner of this week's Golden Jock Strap Award, let's just say that by recognizing this man's rather bizarre accomplishment, it may mean this hero will be fit to live with again by the weekend.

For we wouldn't want SDSS gym teacher and Senior Boys Volleyball Coach Jim Fletcher to replay each of his three goals scored in last Wednesday's student-staff hockey game when his team takes to the court in Stratford this weekend for the All-Ontario Volleyball championships.

Fletch spent all of Thursday running around trying to find an agent to present his salary demands to the National Hockey League teams he fell would most assuredly be beating a path to his door.

"Do you want me to tell you how I scored them?" was his opening line of conversation with everyone he encountered for the rest of that week.

Rumor has it he had a press conference all lined up, but then cancelled it upon learning that the five reporters who would be expected to attend were scheduled to take pictures of a Brownie Fly Up at the time Fletch planned to tell all.

I understand the boys down at the firehall are rigging up a net for the new firetruck, so they can parade you and your troops down Main Street with original style and flair. In fact, if you pull off this miracle, I personally promise to deliver a Jim Fletcher Cheer in Section 1 of at least 25 people for your next lunchtime Loonie Hockey game.