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A Metroland Community Newspaper

Wednesday, December 21, 1988



Photo/BRUCE STAPLEY

Students and teachers squared off on the volleyball court at Summitview Public School in Stouffville this week for charity. Students were asked to bring in a can of food or a box for the school's charity food drive. The festive fundraiser was highlighted with a volleyball match between the teachers and the

students. Teacher Ted Shepherd hoists aloft Joan Grodon to get an upper hand in the spiking department, at right, while students Paige Maddock tries the same trick with the help of Jenny Tungatt at left. The students won the game two matches to one.

Stouffville slips one past Ajax "Our finest hour" says Novice coach

By BRUCE STAPLEY

The Stouffville Novice Clippers took advantage of a lull in the schedule to sharpen their already impressive skills against a higher-ranked Ajax Novice team Friday night at the Recreation Centre in an exhibition game. Stouffville, ranked 'BB', defeated the Double-A Ajax outfit 4-3 in a game Clippers' coach Dave Turner called his team's finest hour. "It was probably the best game they've played all year. It was a fun game to coach."

Turner was particularly impressed with the work of Danny

Tardella, whose two goals and steady play helped guarantee the victory.

Top sniper Ryan King scored the other two goals for the Neil Patrick Clippers and also chipped in with an assist.

"King will always get his share of goals," said Turner afterwards, "but I was really pleased to see Danny do so well."

It was King from Jeff Hassard, then Tardella from Andrew Hutchison, to give Stouffville a 2-0 lead in the first period. But Ajax roared back to tie it up before the period ended.

After a scoreless second stan-

za, Tardella and King combined on a scoring effort to restore the Clippers' lead, with Tardella notching the goal.

King then bagged his second tally with seven minutes remaining in the game. The visitors made it close with a late goal, but the solid goaltending of Clippers' Jason Brown preserved the win.

Brown's effort wasn't missed by Turner. "He just keeps getting better. He's Mr. Dependable. He's the guy we're going to need down the stretch."

The Clippers don't play at home again until Friday, Jan. 6.



Photo/BRUCE STAPLEY

Ross Photo handed first loss of girls' season 3-1

Laura Winterstein's two goals were the margin of victory Sunday as Bunnie's Flowers handed George Ross Photo its first loss of the season in the Atom girls house league play, 3-1.

Winterstein put Bunnie's ahead 2-0 with a pair of first-period goals. Jenny Turner clicked for George Ross to cut the deficit in half with only 30 seconds left in the second period.

Julie Comito scored the insurance marker for Bunnie's in the third stanza.

The game was characterized by solid defence, with Michelle Morton standing out for Bunnie's, while Carrie Kirby carried a large share of the load for George Ross.

MPH Earthmoving overcame an early deficit to defeat Stouffville Bowling Centre 4-2 in the other game. Sheri Beardon was the big gun for the winners, scoring twice, and assisting on another.

Kathy Tait put Stouffville Bowling ahead 1-0 late in the

first period, but MPH got that one back before the period was out with Beardon hitting from Tavanagh Herman.

It was Herman from Beardon and Morgan Dubrowski giving MPH the lead early in the second, followed by another pair from Kristi Ingram and Beardon, to give MPH a stranglehold.

Nicole Thornhill got one back for Stouffville Bowling but they couldn't add to their total despite pressing late in the game.

Kevin Cryderman nets two Midgets hang tough to defeat Bowmanville by one goal

Kevin Cryderman's two goals led the way Wednesday night as the Stouffville Midget Clippers hung on to edge Bowmanville 3-2 at the Recreation Centre.

Todd Balazs gave Stouffville an early 1-0 lead in the first period, scoring from Brent Gould and Kelly McGinty.

The visitors tied things up shortly after, but Cryderman

restored the one-goal margin before the period ended with an assist going to Anand Date.

Cryderman came back with another marker in the third to close out the Clippers' scoring.

Date drew an assist on that one as well. Bowmanville made it close with a late goal, but Stouffville clung to the slim margin of victory.

The game was characterized by an over-all lethargy, with sporadic play by both teams. However, the Clippers were happy for the win, keeping their season loss total at only two games; both to Newcastle.

The Clippers take on Pickering tonight at 8:30 p.m. at the Rec Centre.

Dynamic duo

Darren Zellers, at left, and linemate Steve Emmes led the Stouffville Pee Wee Clippers to a 2-1 victory last week against Lindsay. The pair scored a single tally each, which was enough to put the opposition down in the losing column.

There is a good side to hockey

By BRUCE STAPLEY

With the pucks flying around the Recreation Centre like silver balls in a pinball machine, it's probably a good opportunity to take time out to acknowledge the efforts of some of the tireless volunteers who make Stouffville hockey a positive diversion for so many local kids.

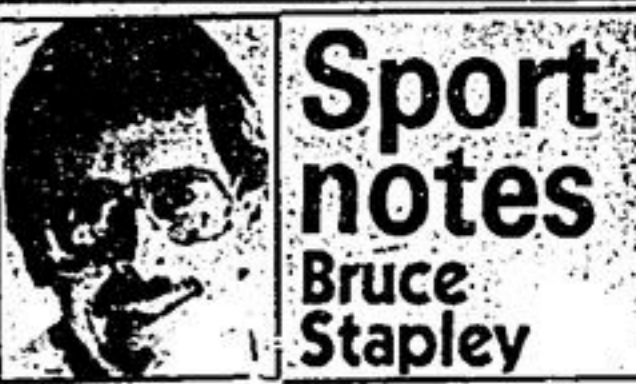
We've played up the "down" side of the great winter game and its adherents and officials in weeks gone by. So this column is to let you know I do see the bright side.

I mentioned last week how Stouffville rep team coaches have, for the most part, impressed me from a "fair play" point of view. No one better exemplifies this approach than Dave Turner, mild-mannered coach of the Novice Clippers which are racking up victories in grand style this season.

Turner has taken a mix of first-year players and last year's leftovers and moulded them into a slick, exciting unit. He wants to win, but is approachable after a loss.

As a reporter scurrying around the arena searching out timely quotes from Clippers coaches, I always look forward to chatting with Dave after a game. He's always got something good to say about one of his troopers and he's anxious to see the lesser lights get the credit they deserve.

Talking with him, you sense he's enjoying the whole all-star experience win, lose or draw. He knows when his boys are giving it their best shot and he's not opposed to me putting it in print when the lady's minds are elsewhere. In fact, he feels if they read in the paper that they were doing well, they'll be more inclined to put out next game.



Sport notes
Bruce Stapley

through their paces.

This is the same coaching duo which so expertly piloted the Atom Clippers to the provincial championships last spring with the strategy from a coaching brain trust contributing greatly to the big triumph.

For Reesor, hockey is serious business; you are out there to win and there are no short cuts. It was a delight to watch the way he and Jones pulled up the intensity level with the Atom champs last year, causing them to peak at just the right time. The same thing would appear to be happening this season with the Pee Wees.

One thing is for certain: If your boys are on a Reesor-Jones team, he is certain to grow in both ability and character. And we must not forget the lesser lights — the people who make hockey a fun experience for average kids. Cliff Dunkeld and Alf Pletto have been trying for years to convince Stouffville area girls that sport, particularly hockey, is not a male exclusive.

The Atom girls house league is having an excellent season and the young ladies are having a ball.

Over in the Novice boys house league, Paul Murray is in his eighth season as coach of the McNall sponsored team. Paul has no children of his own, but enjoys helping other people's kids learn how to play and enjoy hockey.



Close call

Keith Plette (14) of the Stouffville Midget Clippers may have missed this particular shot, but his teammates were on the mark later in the contest. The Clippers nipped Bowmanville 3-2 at the Rec Centre.

last Wednesday. Kevin Cryderman led the way to victory with a pair of goals.