

**Juniors second at Markham tourney**

**SDSS Senior volleyballers show team spirit at Wexford**

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Correspondent**

"We've turned the corner." Those were the words of Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) Spartans Senior boys volleyball team coach Jim Fletcher after his squad fought back to earn a second place finish in last Thursday's Wexford Classic Volleyball Tournament.

The Spartans, who currently hold first place in the York North high school standings, but have struggled in tournament play, lost three of their first four games at the Scarborough area competition.

But they bounced back, beating Agincourt 15-6, 15-12, before taking second place in their pool with a pair of wins, 15-6, 15-13 over Oliver Mowat.

The SDSS crew took two of three from Cedarbrae in their quarterfinal set, coming back from an 8-5 deficit to win the tie breaker on the strength of Karam Amer's six consecutive floor smashes.

In the semifinals versus Lester Pearson, the Spartans dropped the opener 15-8. But they recovered, blasting Pearson 15-4 in the second contest, before advancing to the championship round with a 15-13 victory in which Rich Burkholder made the final point with a wicked smash that almost knocked out an opposing blocker.

However, the Spartans couldn't contain Sir Wilfred Laurier in the final, bowing out 15-6, 15-13. The SDSS team lost the services of Todd Snooks, who suffered an ankle injury in the first game of the championship set.

Travis White set and hit well all day for the Spartans, with Jon Barnes, Bill Pride, Jeremy Hall and Paul Purdy also giving outstanding performances.

Fletcher felt the strong showing was a sign of good things to come for his team, which has its sights set on the Ontario high school championship tournament in Chatham Nov. 24.

"This tournament really helped our team unity," said Fletcher, whose team has gone as far as the provincial's the past two years.

"The team is starting to mould together."

The Spartans are off to the London-Saunders Tournament this Saturday, with a stop along the way to play an exhibition set against Galt, the number one seeded Triple-A squad in Ontario.

In other SDSS volleyball action, the Junior boys team had to settle for second spot at last Thursday's Markham District High School Tournament.

The Junior Spartans rode a great team effort, winning five of their first seven games to put them into the title match against Anderson Collegiate Institute.

However, the SDSS boys just fell short in a marathon struggle for the tourney championship, eventually dropping a 21-19 decision.

Also, the Midget Spartans went undefeated in four games against Cardinal Carter the same day. The Midgets showed a strong effort as they won by scores of 15-11, 15-12, 15-12 and 15-7.

This week, the Midget Spartans will go after the York North crown.

**Bantam B Clippers take tie for first point**

The Stouffville Edwards-Murphy Decorating Bantam B Clippers forged a 2-2 tie with Bowmanville Saturday to earn their first point of the season.

Lindsay Haylow and Lincoln Kerswill netted the Clippers goals, with assists going to Matt Malloy, Stuart Pegg and Kerswill.

Goalie Brad Hackert, a second year Pee Wee, made several tough saves to preserve the tie.

In earlier action, the Bantams Bs fell 8-4 to Markham in an exhibition game last Thursday at the Recreation Centre.

The Clippers were hurt by three Markham goals in less than a minute during the first period.

Christ Benoit, Shane Wilcox, B.J. Maude and Liam Brennan had the Stouffville goals, while assists went to Wilcox and Brennan, each with two, Malloy, Derek Herrison and Maude.

The Clippers had a rough ride the first week of the regular season, dropping all three games played.

Consisting mostly of former house league players who have never played Rep level hockey, the Bantams fell 13-0 to Port Perry in their opener.

Lincoln Kerswill netted the team's first goal of the season in game two, a 10-1 loss to Millbrook. Joe Ireton earned the assist.

And it was close, but no cigar as the Clippers lost a 5-3 decision to Sunderland. Kerswill, Ireton and BJ Maude accounted for the Stouffville scoring, while Brad Hackert shone in goal for the Clippers.

The Bantams next game is this Thursday at 7 p.m. against Port Perry at the Recreation Centre.

**Classics earn second win**

The Stouffville Chefero Classics Oldtimers posted their second consecutive win of the young season last Wednesday, besting Pollard Roofing 5-3.

The Classics took a 2-0 first period lead on goals by Doug Gornall, from Wayne Jackson, and Gord Smith, from Bill Hermanson and Kim Kavluk.

They added another goal in the middle stanza, with Jackson hitting the net on a set up from Bob Leger.

Bill Thornhill found the range in the third, with help from Kavluk and Larry Penny, and Kavluk closed out the Classics scoring with an unassisted effort.

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