

stouffville sports

Canucks, Bruins champions in SAHL playoffs

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"It was the kind of hockey you dream of for the playoffs."

So said Stouffville Amateur Hockey League President Jim Wagg after both the men's leagues' championship games were decided by one goal, one in overtime, at the Rec Centre Sunday.

John Barnett's second marker of the game, an unassisted effort a minute and half into OT, gave the Stouffville Travel Canucks a 2-1 win over the surprise A&S Construction Flames in the 30-and-over division title match.

George Sled hit the target in the dying minutes of regulation time to lift the Smurthwaite Heating Bruins to a 4-3 come-from-behind victory over the Canadian Tire Black Hawks in the 40-and-over division final.

The Flames, last place finishers in the regular season, had earned their championship contest by birth by scoring five more playoff goals than the Farquharson Realty Penguins in the three playoff preliminary games. Both squads had won two and tied one, with the goals scored factor being used to break the deadlock.

To add to the equation, the Village Landscaping Capitals, needing to win their third playoff match by six goals to qualify for the 30-and-over title game, fell just short Sunday morning, as they blanked the G&R Flooring Jets 5-0.

The Bruins edged the Villeneuve Heating Devils 2-1 Sunday morning to give them two wins and a tie, good enough to qualify them for the 40-and-over final.

In the title tussle, Steve Upton, Joe Infurnari, and Bill Ormson had scored to pull the Bruins even before Sled decided it.

It was Dave Wickstead with a pair and Ralph



The Canucks had a 2-1 win over the Flames in the SAHL 30-and-over title match Sunday. The team members are (front row, left to right): Bill Corrigan, Brent Stachel, Bill Grove, Skip Hughes, Steve Ramer, Sandy McKenzie, Gord Smith (back row) Charles Ramsey, Ian Boyd, Pete Mabley, Dave Sheridan, John Barnette, Herb Forgie and Bob Leger.



The Bruins were winners in the 40-and-over final game. They are (front row, left to right): Bill Hermanson, John Beal, Steve Lipton, Wes Wilson, Joe Infurnari, Bill Ormson, George Sled, (back row) Gary Frazer, Loui Campitelli, Gary Harrison, Bill Guest, Bruce Gribbon, Frank Wildman, Bob Swain, Andy Perley and coach Bill Shena.

Photos/ANNETTE BUCHKOWSKI

Cain adding a solo for the Hawks, who had finished on top in the regular season race.

Both the Bruins and the Canucks placed second in their respective regular league stand-

ings. "Both finals were exciting, clean games," said Wagg afterwards. "It was a great finish to the season."

High school wins trophies in badminton

Stouffville District Secondary School captured two first place trophies and a consolation title at the York Region Central Badminton Championships in Aurora Thursday and Friday.

The SDSS Junior team of Tim Lavell and Julia Lei swept to victory in the mixed doubles event Thursday, going undefeated in three match ups.

Brian Snooks of the SDSS Senior squad took on all comers in winning the men's single crown Friday, while the school's junior duo of Jason Cheng and Willy Cheung took the consolation finals in the men's doubles.

Both winning doubles teams, along with Snooks, will now go on to the York Championships at Unionville High School this week.

The SDSS Junior team impressed long time school badminton coach Jim Rehill. "They showed an awful lot of poise," said Rehill. "I was really proud of them."

Rehill said he was grateful for the influx of players born in Hong Kong on his crew. The players are part of the Markham area students who are attending SDSS while two new Markham schools are completed.

"We had a wonderful blend of kids," said Rehill. "The Chinese tend to dominate international badminton, and our Hong Kong kids gave the Stouffville team a taste of that international prowess. It was an exciting day, very positive in every way."

Rehill pointed to the work of Marcus Milos, Kevin Nicholls, Elaine Low, Stacie Patten, Man Wa Leung, Josephine Chan, Kevin Cargill and Jason Cowan, while also praising alternates Bernard Chow and Andrew Leung.

"The kids were all very proud of themselves."

SDSS Seniors coach Peter Arnott was equally pleased with his team's performance. "Scott McKinley just missed the finals on the 'B' side. Everyone played well, and there were a lot of great matches."

Brad May helps in Thunder win

Brad May scored two goals, including the winner, as his Niagara Falls Thunder edged the Windsor Spitfires 5-4 Thursday.

The victory gave the Junior A Thunder the Ontario Hockey League (OHL) Emms Division semifinal series in four straight games.

The Thunder begins the divisional series with the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds this Thursday.

May, the ex-Stouffville Clipper who now resides in Markham, was held goalless in the Thunder's third game 4-3 win over the Spitfires last Tuesday.

The winner of the Niagara Falls-Sault Ste. Marie series goes on to play the Leydon Division champion for the OHL title.

Stouffville hockey girls to fight in all-Ontarios

Four, count 'em, four, Whitchurch-Stouffville rep hockey teams head off to Mississauga this weekend to contest All-Ontario championships in their respective divisions.

Okay, now that we've got your attention - after all, our town teams haven't exactly been papering the grey walls of the Rec Centre with provincial titlist pennant sin recent years - it's important to point out that the four teams are made up exclusively of female players.

Actually, there would have been a fifth town team rounding out the Stouffville juggernaut had the Betz Pools Senior Bs not lost a 1-0 heart-breaker to Orangeville the other week in the Central Ontario final. The two teams had played a pair of ties previous to the deciding match.

According to Steve Upton, the proud president of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Girls Hockey Association, the WSGHA had never even iced Pee Wee, Atom or Intermediate girls rep squads until two sea-



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sons ago.

But the upward climb began immediately, and continues to gain speed.

The Atoms, in their initial year as a team, qualified for the provincial tournament, but fell short.

Last spring, the Pee Wees, who were the same Atoms moved up a notch, went as far as the All-Ontario semi-finals. The Senior Cs also made the trip.

This time around, as the momentum continues to build, it will be the Angies Pee Wees, the Ringwood Variety Intermediate Cs, the Credit Union Atom All Stars, and the Angies Senior Ds all representing Central Ontario in the provin-

cial puck chase in Mississauga come Friday.

No wonder Upton is strutting around like a new father of twins these days.

For the girls hockey program, pioneered back in 1974 by Cliff Dunkeld, with some help from Joanne Steel and Al Piette, is well on its way to achieving full maturity under the direction of Upton and his sidekick John Summerhill.

With close to 100 girls taking to the ice this season, the WSGHA is close to realizing its goal of being able to sustain both a healthy house league program and a full platoon of rep level outfits.

Upton realizes there is still a way to go, however, in selling the concept of girls hockey to both the young females, and most municipalities.

"This is now the only centre for girls hockey in York Region," he told me the other day. "We're open an even keel now, but we need to interest more players to continue to allow for a full program."

Kings beat Rangers in SHL semifinal playoffs

Paul Barry fired a pair of goals, while Kevin Bartley, Bob Hughes and Tom Lehman had singles, to lead the Williamson Kings to a 5-2 win over the Consortium Group Rangers in Stouffville Intermediate

Hockey League semifinal playoff action last Tuesday.

Barry Greenshields counted both Rangers scores.

In the other semifinal encounter, it was Terry Porter and Doug Peasby

scoring as the Dave Blow Canadians nipped Boyd's Sports 2-1. Shawn Leonard clicked for Boyd's.

The Kings and the Canadians face off for the league playoff championship this week.