

stouffville sports

Some good times were had in 1993

□ In a two-part series, Tribune correspondent Bruce Stapley looks at some of the big sports highlights that took place in 1993

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Correspondent

The Spartans ruled in 1993. Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) athletes and teams laid claim to no less than 11 York (YRSSAA) or Durham-York (DYSSAA) championships, including a clean sweep of the York finals by the three Spartans girls' basketball teams.

Ironically, the most surprising of the school's title victories was the unexpected triumph at DYSSAA of the Spartans senior boys' volleyball team. While the Spartans had taken the title each of the past six years, the 1993 squad was considered to be in a rebuilding year, with only two returnees from the 1992 outfit. But thanks to the dedication of veteran coach Jim Fletcher and a determined group of players, the Spartans stretched their DYSSAA string to seven.

In hockey, the town failed once again in a bid to land an OHL Junior team, as negotiations to land an existing squad fell through.

And while there were no new OMHA titles added to the town's trophy cases, it was still an eventful year on the ice. Local senior Eleanor Crossen came out of retirement to don the goalie pads and take part in an exhibition event involving former pro great Bobby Hull.

The Stouffville Legion mites Buttermakers regained their OASA crown, but the Merchants junior men's team wasn't successful in its bid to bring the provincial title back to town.

Our soccer teams experienced a measure of success in York Youth Soccer League play, and marathon runners Kim Kavluk and Fred Robbins achieved impressive results in events run from Richmond Hill to Boston.

Here are the 1993 highlights on a month by month basis:

JANUARY

The town's top provincial and national achieving athletes for 1992 were recognized at a ceremony at the Rec Centre Lounge. Dave Boyd was given the Carl Myers Memorial Award. Bryan Emery (trampoline), Janice Davies (bowling), Ryan Joyce (gymnastics), and Amanda Van Veen (equestrian) were honored for their individual accomplishments. The town's senior girls hockey team, squirt boys softball team, and bantam Clippers hockey team were acknowledged for their provincial championships.

The Stouffville Stars novice girls



Stouffville District Secondary School's Kelly Forsyth ruled the York Region Secondary Schools Athletic Association senior girls' javelin competition by finishing first. At the provincial regional championships, she finished in second place.

started off the year by winning the Novice B title at the Mississauga Tournament, outscoring their opponents 32-1 in four games. The midget Clippers took the gold at a Pickering tournament, while the peewee Clippers won the Beaverton tournament.

Former Clippers Jason Underwood and Chris Winn, representing the Uxbridge Bruins, each had a goal and an assist at the Central Ontario Hockey League's annual All Star Game in Bowmanville.



CHRIS WINN

Hells Bells, a team made up partially of area slow pitch players, took the \$500 first prize at the Greens Restaurant Snopitch Tournament at the town park.

Stouffville's Matt Turner had both winning goals as his Central Ontario Wolves major peewees swept the Markham Thunderbirds in OMHA AAA opening round playoff action.

FEBRUARY

Long time sports backer Cliff Dunkeld was recognized for his 13 years of service to the Provincial Women's Softball Association. The Ward 4 Stouffville councillor was given a Special Achievement award at the Ontario Sports Awards ceremony in Toronto.

Stouffville figure skater Michael Pride won the gold medal in the Pre Novice Competitive Men's category at the Uxbridge Invitational competition, while the Angie's peewee girls hockey team won a tournament in Cobourg.

Former Stouffville District S.S. student Julian Franklin was awarded a Canada 125 medal for

his efforts on behalf of the track and field facility he helped become a reality.

The SDSS midget girls' volleyball team captured the gold at a Collingwood-Stayner tournament. The SDSS junior girls' volleyball team captured the YRSSAA AA championships. SDSS volleyball stars Tim Lavell and Brian Snooks were featured in a Toronto Star North York/York section story.

The Wizards, a Markham co-ed slow-pitch team, prevailed at the fifth annual Stouffville Legion Snopitch Tournament at the town park.

The midget Clippers, who were eliminated in OMHA playoff action, won the Regal Patriot's Day Tournament in Buffalo.

Stouffville hockey enthusiasts Brad Gordon and Bernie Leighton initiated what would end up being an unsuccessful drive to bring Junior A hockey to Stouffville.

MARCH

Stouffville area resident and girls softball coach Bob Abbot managed the Canadian team to the World Junior Men's Softball Championships in New Zealand.

The bantam Clippers brought home the gold at a tournament in Buffalo March 7.

Stouffville Merchants junior men's fastball team slugger Chris Burkholder was named the winner of the 1992 OASA Silver Card award. The award and accompanying \$500 cheque is part of the province's Elite Athlete Assistance Program.

Ex NHL great Bobby Hull came to town as part of a fund raising hockey exhibition between the

Stouffville bantam/peewee girls all stars and the visiting City TV No Stars. The game featured the appearance of octogenarian athlete Eleanor Crossen, who put on the goal tending equipment and stopped several shots lobbed at her by Hull in a between periods exhibition.

Bob Abbot was honored for his two years as president of the OASA at that body's annual meeting at Markham's Chimo Hotel. He was also acknowledged for his part in bringing the World Junior Men's Championships to Canada.

Tim and Holly Garbutt were both presented with awards at the annual Canadian Morgan Horse Convention in Mississauga.

APRIL

It was the Occasions Catering Blues capturing the Stouffville Amateur Hockey League 30 and over divisional playoff championship. The Village Landscaping Capitals took the 40 and over playoff title.

The Angie's peewee girls rep hockey team swept to victory in the North Metro League playoff championships, before going on to take the silver at the Provincial Women's Hockey Association championships. Another local girls' hockey team, the Stouffville Stars, moved up from novice B to novice A and took the title at a Brampton girls' tournament.

The Kellington's Old Timers hockey team won the Royal Wood Shop division at the Newmarket Rays tournament over the Easter weekend.

Kim Kavluk finished the 26.2-mile Boston Marathon in a time of three hours, five minutes, and 33 seconds, placing 953rd out of 8,800 runners.

A team of former Stouffville Clippers players defeated a squad of past Uxbridge Bruins 6-4 in a Rec Centre fundraiser that earned

\$3,500 for the Children's Wish Foundation in the name of the late Dan McNeil.

Another former Clipper, Brad May, scored the overtime goal which clinched the Buffalo Sabres' four game, round one Stanley Cup playoff sweep of the Boston Bruins.



BRAD MAY

MAY

Former Clipper goaltender Jason Brown was named Most Valuable Player for the Central Ontario Wolves AAA major peewee team at the Wolves awards night in Lindsay. Another Stouffville player, Jean Francois Bourqui, won the Most Sportsmanlike Award for the major novice Wolves squad.

SDSS athlete Kelly Forsyth was first in the senior girls' javelin throw event at the YRSSAA Outdoor Track and Field Meet at York University. Forsyth went on to earn a trip to the OFSAA championships when she placed second in the javelin event at the OFSAA regional finals in Oshawa.

The Stouffville squirt girls rep softball team won the championship at the Aurora Teddy Bear Tournament.

It was the Claremont Classics taking home the \$600 C division first place prize money at the 11th annual A & S Raiders Slo-Pitch Tournament over the Victoria Day weekend. Stouffville's Tarbabies took the Recreation DD crown.

JUNE

Kelly Sheridan and Jason Cowan were named top female and male athlete respectively at the annual SDSS Athletic Awards Banquet. Nicole Bardell and Ian Ellis took the top junior honors. Jamie Sheridan took the Homestead Trophy, and Tammy Wray received the Jim Rehill Sportsmanship Award.

The Spartans boys' softball team wrapped up the school athletic year by regaining the York Region championship, defeating Dr. G.W. Williams S.S. 1-0 in the final.

Jason Reesor, who starred with the all-Ontario champion Stouffville Bantam Clippers in 1991-92, was drafted by the Niagara Falls Thunder in the fourth round of the annual Ontario Hockey League draft.

The Stouffville Merchants finished third at the annual Kemptville Intermediate Tournament. The Stouffville peewee boys rep softball team won the St. Catharines tournament, winning all four games played.

Spring Lakes Golf and Country Club, Canada's largest golf facility, announced that former owner Mac Frost would be reassuming control of the operation as of Nov. 1, 1993.

Musselman Lake swimmer Angela White was given two awards by the Newmarket Stingrays Swim Club, of which she was a member in 1993.