

Clippers are set to defend provincial ice championship

The Edwards Murphy bantam Clippers begin the defence of their All Ontario title this week.

The Clippers, who won both the Ontario Minor Hockey Association crown and the Ontario Hockey Federation title last spring, take on Peterborough in their opening post season series.

The series was to begin Tuesday night in Peterborough, before returning to Stouffville for games Friday and Saturday nights.

The Clippers finished out the regular season on a winning note with a 4-2 road win over Oshawa on Saturday.

Roger McMann's two goals made the difference in the contest. John McKinnon and Peter Smith each counted a goal and an assist.

Mike Underwood set up a pair of Clippers' markers, with single helpers going to David Hutchison, Adam Crowder, and Tim Smart.

Fontana nets four for minor atoms

Ryan Fontana netted a quartet of markers to power the Aiken's IDA minor atom Clippers to a 7-1 victory over Port Perry last week.

Justin Heyworth, Brent Meyer, and Casey Maude rounded out the Clipper scoring.

Matt Prentice, Lukas Williams and Rob Howie each collected two assists. Single helpers were credited to Meyer, Maude, and Eric Harper.

It was the final game of the regular season for the Clippers, who begin post-season action with a series against Owen Sound this week.

Friday night at the Rec Centre, Underwood scored from Smart and McMann late in the third period to enable the Clippers to salvage a 3-3 tie with East Gwillimbury in an exhibition match.

The Stouffville outfit took a 2-0 lead into the middle stanza, as McMann and McKinnon found the range, with assists going to Smith, Hutchison and Ian Ellis.

But East Gwillimbury rallied with a goal in the second period and two more early in the third to take the lead.

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Midget Clippers lose playoff opener to Cobourg

The Cable Tech midget Clippers finished out the regular season with a flourish, but fell flat in their recent Ontario Minor Hockey Association playoff opener.

The Clippers scored twice within a one-minute span late in the third period to earn a 5-3 road win over Lindsay in their final regular season contest.

The host Lindsay crew seized a 1-0 lead in the second period, then tied it at 2-2 midway through the final period before the Clippers broke loose in the dying minutes.

The Clippers started slowly in their best-of-five playoff series with Cobourg, surrendering all four opposition goals by the midway point in the contest

in a 4-1 loss.

Against Lindsay, it was Dan McNaught and Ryan Burkholder leading the way with two goals apiece.

Lindsay Haylow added the fifth goal. Jason Davis collected two assists while McNaught, Haylow, Darren Zeller, Geoff Smith, Bob Gray, Bob Crozier and Shane Wilcox were each credited with singles.

Gray accounted for the Clippers' lone goal in their game with Cobourg five minutes into the final stanza.

Smith and Wilcox drew assists.

The series continues at the Rec Centre on Sunday at 3 p.m.



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