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Junior Spartans ice pair of wins

By **BRUCE STAPLEY**
Correspondent

The Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) Spartans junior boys' hockey team is proving too fast and too physical for their opponents as the new season gets under way.



The Spartans tuned up for the York Region Athletic Association regular season with an 8-2 win over St. Michael's College High School last Friday afternoon in Toronto. The SDSS squad then ran roughshod over Brother Andre C.H.S. in Monday's season opener, prevailing 9-1 over the Markham school.

"We may not be as strong as we were last year, but we have good speed and our passing is killing everybody," said head coach Bill McKnight. "Plus, Mark Meyer and Cory Turchan are hitting really well and slowing down the opposition attack, making it easier for our guys to come back and get the puck."

The Spartans, who were treated to a tour of the historic St. Michael's Arena before Friday's preseason encounter, proved impolite guests once the game

began. Jason Fontanna broke loose for four goals and two assists. Brett Boyd netted a pair, with singles going to Richard Cho and David Brown.

Fontanna and Boyd were the leading snipers again in the game with Brother Andre, picking up a pair of goals each.

The Spartans won their first two preseason games as well.

DISPLAYING GOOD WORK ETHIC

McKnight said the Spartans are showing a solid work ethic and a genuine dedication as they set out to challenge once again for the YRAA title.

"I'm really pleased with their effort and commitment. We're just hoping to come up against some stiffer competition. We don't want the championship game to be our only tough game, because we wouldn't be ready for it."

McKnight credited assistant coaches Graham Smith and Andrew Hutchinson, who played on last year's team, and returning assistant coach Scott Ferris, with helping the team perform at a maximum level.

The Spartans play again on Monday when they host St. Andrew's College at the Rec Centre.



Having a ball playing hockey

Jordan van Esterik, 13, showcased his netminding skills when he handled several shots taken by Jeremy Cushing, 12, and Cody Bennett, 12, when the trio showcased their ball hockey skills on a driveway along Ninth Line last weekend.

Photo: SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Clippers sail away with Dundas tournament title

Justin Heyworth, Matt Sullivan, Lucas Williams and Brent Meyer each scored to give the Aikens IDA minor bantam Clippers a 4-3 win over London in the championship game at the Dundas Tournament over the weekend.

The Clippers won all five games played at the competition, with goalkeepers Danny Joyce and Graham Smith providing the edge. Playing shorthanded for most of the title tilt, the Clippers came up big, with Smith shining in goal. Assists went to Peter Smit, Dave Brown, Ryan Fontanna, Ryan Jones and Sullivan.

Williams popped a quarter of goals and also had an assist, and Sullivan had a hat trick and a pair of assists, as the Clippers started off the weekend with an 8-3 win over Markham. Jones also scored. Casey Maude had three set ups, with Fontanna, Mike Vandervort and Meyer earning two assists each. In game two, Brown and Fontanna scored to give the Clippers a 2-1 win over Kitchener. Joyce stood out in the Stouffville goal. Smith posted a shutout and Brown scored three goals in the Clippers 6-0 triumph in game three. Williams clicked twice, with Sullivan scoring as well. Earning two assists were Maude, Heyworth, Jones and Meyer. Against the host squad in game five, it was Brown with a pair to back up the outstanding goalkeeping of Joyce in a 3-2 Clippers win. Sullivan rounded out the Stouffville scoring. Jones and Heyworth had two assists each.

In recent league play, Sullivan had two goals and an assist to lead the Clippers to a 5-2 win over Bradford. Heyworth had a goal and an assist, with Brown and Blair Cain scoring one goal apiece.

MAJOR ATOMS EARN WIN, TIE

Five games in three days took their toll as

the Branick Group major atom Clippers managed a win and a tie in games played over the weekend of Nov. 15-17.

Logan Jennings notched the Clippers only goal from Stephen Relf, as the Stouffville squad held their arch rivals from Uxbridge to a 1-1 Friday.

At a weekend tournament in Peterborough, the Clippers fell 6-3 to Innisfil in their opener. Stouffville goals came off the sticks of Brian Taylor (2) and Jesse Maillet. Assists went to Chris Flanagan, Derek Wilcock and Jennings. Taylor had the hat trick as the Clippers rebounded for a 5-4 win over Markham in game two. Michael Pickering and Wilcock also scored. Assists went to Mark Carruthers (3), Jordan Smalley (2), Jennings, Maillet and Flanagan.

In their next outing against Uxbridge, Relf had the only Stouffville goal, from Wilcock and Flanagan, in a 2-1 defeat.

The exhausted Clippers then fell to Lindsay in a league game Sunday night, with Taylor scoring his team's only goal, from Blake Maynard.

The Holiday Inn minor atom Clippers matched Newmarket rush for rush in a fast paced game Nov. 17, but were nipped 2-1 on a late third period goal. Justin Lyons notched the lone Stouffville marker on a picture perfect pass from Cameron Mackenzie. Clippers' goalies Shawn Gibson played an outstanding game, and was backed up by a strong defence.

ATOM SELECTS EDGE PICKERING

Daniel Campitelli's goal in a shootout following a scoreless overtime period gave the Stouffville atom select Clippers a 3-2 victory over Pickering in the consolation championship at a tournament held in Cannington Nov. 16.

(Please see page 24)

Spirit routed by Newmarket

By **BRUCE STAPLEY**
Correspondent

The good news is that the Spirit of Stouffville don't have to play the Newmarket 87's again until near the middle of January.

The Spirit dropped a 9-3 decision to the run away Phillips Division leading club in a Provincial Junior A Hockey League game in Newmarket Thursday.

It left the Stouffville outfit without a point in five tries against the defending champions in the first two months of the 1996-97 season.

The Spirit held their own in the first and third periods, but surrendered five goals in the

second.

Rob Frost had two goals for the Spirit, with Kevin Edgar notching the third marker.

"We fell apart in the second period," said Spirit head coach Steve Sedore. "Against a team like Newmarket, you just can't have one bad period or they'll kill you."

WEEKEND HOMESTAND

With the Orillia Terriers in town for a 7:30 p.m. face off tonight and the Mississauga Chargers here for an 8 p.m. start on Sunday, Sedore said his team will be looking to return to the form they showed last week when they managed a win and a tie in three games.

"We need a win and a tie on the weekend, and then we go into the part of the schedule we've been waiting for. There are no more excuses. We've just got to get out there and win a few."

