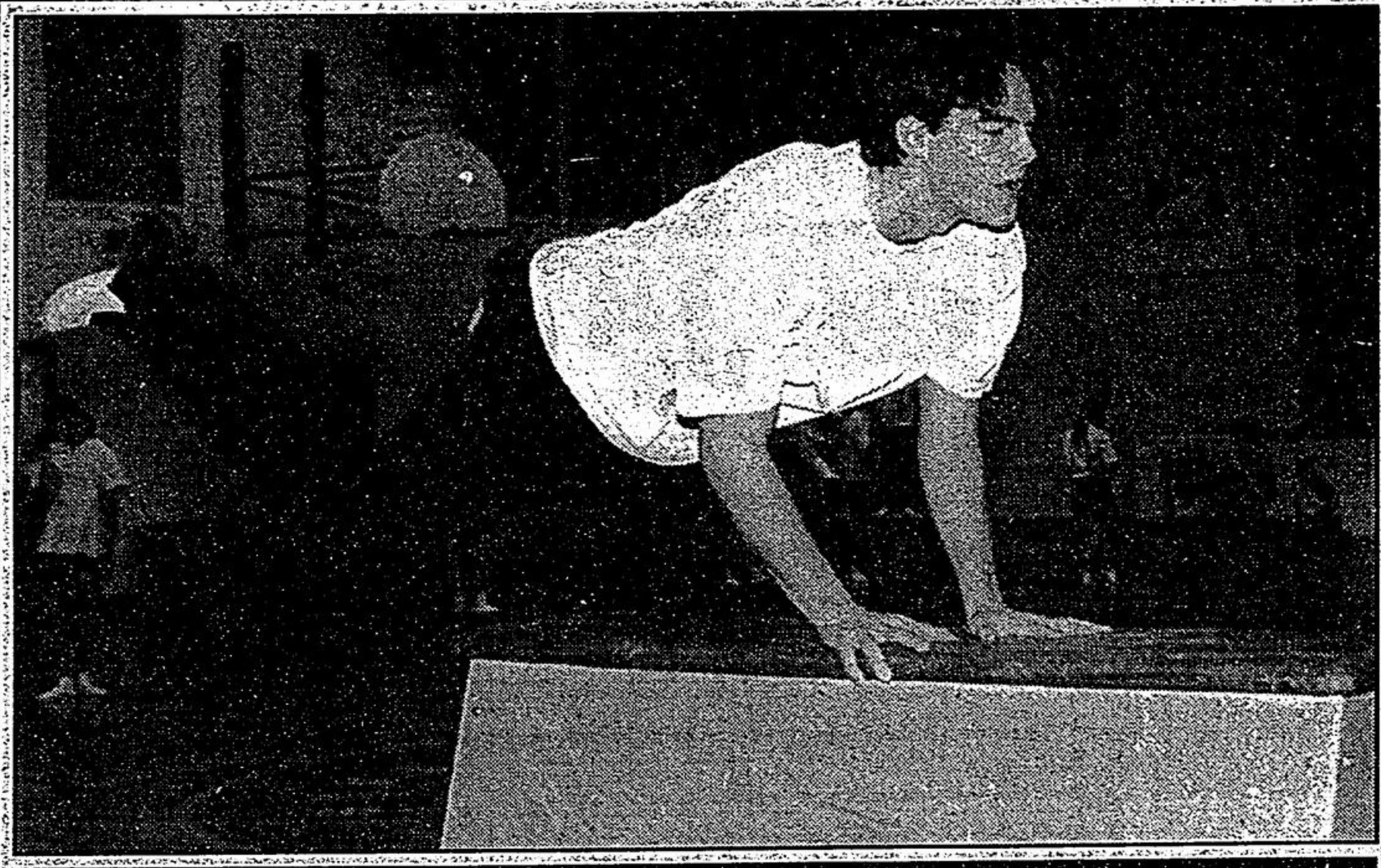


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Vaulting into action

Stouffville District Secondary School student Ian McDougall springs into action as he attempts a vault on the pommel horse during a gymnastics class at Stouffville District Secondary School on Wednesday.

Photo/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Spartans start slow but finish big in win

By **BRUCE STAPLEY**
 Correspondent

The Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) Spartan junior boys' hockey team started slowly, then gained momentum in posting a 6-3 win over the Cardinal Carter C.H.S. Celtics Monday afternoon at the Rec Centre.

Kevin Hackert scored twice for the SDSS crew, which took over sole possession of first place in the York Region Athletic Association's eastern division.

Jason Fontana, Mark Meyer, Peter Mabley and Cory Turchan had the other Spartans goals.

Brett Boys helped set up four goals. Brad Johnston had two assists.

The Spartans led 1-0 after the first period,

then emerged from a goal fest in the second still ahead 4-3. They closed the door on the Celtics in the third while adding another two markers to put the game away.

The Spartans had edged Cardinal Carter in the semi-finals on the way to the championship at the St. Michael's College School Invitational Junior Hockey Tournament last Saturday.

SDSS coach Bill McKnight attributed his team's slow start in Monday's match to the inevitable come down after the big win at St. Michael's.

"They were a little sluggish at the start because of the tournament, but we picked it up in the third," said McKnight.

"Plus we were missing five players so we had a short bench."

The Spartans play St. Andrew's College in Aurora Monday.



Bantam Stars shine at Orangeville girls' tourney

The A and S Construction Stars bantam girls' hockey team got caught up in some wacky mathematics at the Orangeville Sweethearts Tournament last weekend.

The Stars won two and tied one of their three games played, giving them five out of a possible six points, but were denied a crack at the title.

The Stars played some of their best hockey of the season, leading off the weekend with a 1-1 tie with the host squad. Defenceman Heather Allen scored to give her team a 1-0 lead.

But Orangeville tied it with just 12 seconds left to play.

Miller, Alison Edward and Laura Johnston were the goal scorers in a 3-1 win over

Durham West in their second match. Blair Wilkinson, Jen Imrie and Miller assisted.

The Stars closed out the tournament with a 2-0 win over Stoney Creek. Candice Miller netted both goals for the Stars, with assists from Johnston and Sarah Ivany.

Despite their strong showing, the Stars failed to qualify for the finals.

Meanwhile, the host team, which tied one and lost two, was given a berth in the title game.

Stars coach Tom Edward was delighted with his team's effort.

"They played a tremendous tournament," said Edward. "It seems to be coming together for the girls right now."

Tykes bring home consolation title

Jake Carrick, Kyle Miller and Evan Tsiopolous scored to give the Houston Ford tyke Clippers a 3-1 win over the host team in the consolation final at a tournament played in Woodville last weekend.



The Clippers, who were relegated to the consolation side after losing their tournament opener to Uxbridge 2-0, rallied to bounce Lindsay 9-0 in their second game. Jeff McGuckin netted a pair to lead the way, with Miller adding a pair.

Mathew Briggs, Justin Hulshof, Mitchell Raithley and Richard Downing also scored. Tyler Lorenzen and Justin Gaudet were sharp in net.

Downing collected two assists while Jeff Gibson, Hulshof, Briggs, Carrick, Patrick Salvagna, Ryne Parsons, Simon Kennedy, McNelly, Derek Conlon and Miller added singles.

NOVICES PLAYING WELL

Six wins, three ties and one loss. That's the boxscore for the Neil and Ken Patrick novice Clippers in their last 10 games as they outscored their opponents 45-18.

The Clippers have built the streak around solid defence and stingy goalkeeping, from Ryan Allan and Matthew Cartwright.

The defence of Nathaniel Martin, Phillip Briggs, Landon Wideman, Trevor Greenham and Devon McDougall have made up a wall opponents find difficult to crack.

Point getters in the 10 games were: Mark Sullivan, 18, David Del Zotto, 17, Brook Stachel, 16, Cash Nicastro, nine, Brendon Laing, 9, Alex Bruno, eight, Mark D'Andrea, seven, Shayne Paterson and Kurtis Paisley, four each.

MINOR BANTAMS WIN TWO OF THREE

It was two lopsided wins, and a

close loss for the Aiken's IDA minor bantam Clippers in recent play.

Ryan Jones netted a pair, and Ryan Fontana and Lukas Williams each chipped in a goal and an assist as the Clippers downed Georgina 6-2 in their first outing.

David Brown and Casey Maude also scored.

Justin Heyworth had four helpers while Blair Cain recorded two. Peter Smit and Geoff Dunn, notched singles. Graham Smith was in the Clippers net.

Williams scored twice, and Brown, Fontana and Matt Prentice also counted markers, as the Clippers fell 7-5 to the Caledon Hawks in their next game. Brown notched two assists while singles went to Brent Meyer, Mike Vandervoort and Casey Maude.

Williams exploded for seven goals to lead the Clippers to a 19-1 blowout over East Gwillimbury to round out the week.

Brown delivered a hat trick, while Matt Sullivan and Heyworth each scored twice. Singles went to Smit, Jones, Fontana, Meyer and Vandervoort.

Heyworth and Meyer each had three assists while Vandervoort, Williams, Maude and Prentice had doubles. Brown, Smit, Jones, Sullivan, Fontana, Blair Cain, Dunn and Ryan Zonnekyn earned singles. Smith was in net.

GOOD FINISH FOR MAJOR BANTAMS

The Edwards Murphy Painting major bantams got a hat trick from Brad Clubine in a 4-2 win over Oshawa West.

Jamie Alston also scored with assists going to Brandon Bain, Tyler Markle and Chad Kerswill. Brad Miller was solid in net.

The Clippers were slated to meet Uxbridge in their playoff opener on Friday.

Peewee and mites ice wins

January has brought with it a change in fortunes for the Stouffville peewee and mite select hockey teams.

The Storm peewee Selects, who couldn't get their offence untracked in the first half of the season, kicked off the new year with a come-from-behind 4-2 win over Willowdale in a recent game.

Braden Pare opened the scoring for the Storm, from Adam Pappas, before Willowdale came back to take a 2-1 lead in the second period.

The third period was all Stouffville as Pare scored his second

goal to even things, before Spiros Tsiopolulos and Ryan Kennedy scored to round out the scoring. Other assists went to Andy Haines, Chris Loughlin, Anthony Tsiopolulos and Jeremy Cushing.

The mite selects received a three-goal effort from Michael Del Zotto to down the Chingacousy Blues 4-1 recently.

Jeff Kavluk added the other goal.

Christopher Lombardo played well in goal while Ethan Werek, Sam Carrick, Grant Somerville and Michael Sooley were solid on defence.