

The Works
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Sports



Swinging into action

The arrival of spring signifies the start of another golf season. Here, Stouffville resident Gary Wilson got into the spirit of the season by hitting a bucket of balls recently at the Timber Creek driving range.

Photo/BREE CAMPBELL

Stingrays serve up 11th place effort

The Stouffville Stingrays were in tough at the recent Ontario Tier 1 Midget Girls Volleyball Championships at the University of Toronto's Scarborough College.

The Stingrays placed third in their pool after winning one of their three preliminary sets. They were then downed in a hard fought three game set in the opening playoff round, but came back to prevail in a three game consolation set to claim 11th place overall in the 16-team competition.

Stingrays coach Don Forbes praised the consistent play of Arin Bush, Amanda Crowder, Suzanne Fogg, Evelyn Kuck, Megan Bennett and Tory Woods in the tournament. He said the team had a banner season overall.

"We reached our goal to play with the best club teams in Ontario at the Tier 1 level," said Forbes. "I'm very proud of what we've accomplished this season."

SAHL titles on the line tonight at the Rec Centre

By BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

While Music Mania treats its audience to song and dance tonight at the local high school, the Stouffville Amateur Hockey League (SAHL) will be providing the drama at the Rec Centre a few hundred yards to the west.

If past performance is any indication, the recreational mens league's season-ending championship showdown will include thrills, spills and an overtime goal or two.

As usual, upsets have been the order of the day as only one of the three divisional regular season champions have advanced to the final round.

The last-place finishing Ghosts will take on the runaway league leading Bruins in the 20 and over title tilt, which gets under way at 5 p.m.

While the Bruins cruised to the finals with a playoff record of three wins and no defeats, the Ghosts snuck through the back

door with a mark of just one win and two losses.

The Ghosts, who posted their only post season win Tuesday when they blanked the Penguins 5-0, ended up in a three-way tie with two points, but advanced to the championship match because of a superior goals for and against average.

The Ghosts had only managed to score four goals in their first two playoff outings, but rallied behind goalkeeper Glen Greigg to blank the Pens Tuesday.

In Wednesday's 30 and over division preliminary round robin final, Steve Schneider and Randy Osbourne were the heroes as the Williamson Motors Jets advanced to the finals with a 1-0 win over the Fullerton Flames.

Schneider had the game's only goal, while Osbourne recorded his second shutout in three playoff games.

The nimble netminder has allowed just one goal in three playoff outings, taking two consecutive shutouts into the final. His only goal against came with just 12 sec-

onds left in the Jets opening game 1-1 tie with the Flyers April 9.

Wednesday's loss was the first for the Flames after winning their first two games.

Meanwhile, the Flyers were defeating the Boyd's Sports Sharks 4-1 Wednesday to clinch a berth in the championship showdown, which takes place at 7 p.m. tonight.

The Flyers, who placed fifth in the regular season, and the Jets, who were second, each finished the round robin with two wins and a tie.

The first-place finishing Sharks won just one of their three post season contests.

The 40 and over title tilt gets underway at 6 p.m., pitting the second place Whalers against the third place Flyers.

The Whalers won all four playoff round robin games, while the Flyers won three and lost one.

If tonight's games are not decided in regulation time, an overtime period, and if necessary a shoot out, will be used to decide the winners.

Kavluk happy with marathon effort

By BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

Kim Kavluk finally got the monkey off his back.

The 42-year-old Stouffville runner broke the three hour mark for the first time in five tries at the 101st running of the Boston Marathon Monday.

The insurance broker covered the 26-mile distance in two hours, 57 minutes and five seconds, finishing an impressive 598th overall in the 12,000 runner field.

"I had a super race. I always

thought this course had a curse on me, said Kavluk, whose previous

best had been just under three hours and six minutes in 1992. A severe flu bug and chest infection resulted in his finishing well over three hours at the 100th anniversary running of the classic marathon in 1996.

The veteran marathon runner

was recovering from a similar condition this year, but managed to recover in time for race day.

"It must have cleared up quicker this year or else I never would have run the course in that time," said Kavluk, who took along a medicinal puffer for use during the race.

While Kavluk routinely finishes under three hours at marathons elsewhere, the Boston course had always proved elusive.

"I felt I was ready last year, but to get sick like that was a big disappointment. But I got the job done this time."



KIM KAVLUK

Novice Selects ice divisional crown

The Stouffville Novice Selects are North York Hockey League divisional champions.

The Stouffville crew, which is sponsored by Greyfield Construction and W.K. Miller Insurance Adjusters, swept Faustina two straight in a closely contested playoff championship series played last week.

The Selects rallied from a 3-0 deficit to take the opener 4-3 in sudden death overtime, then came up with an intense effort in a 3-2 triumph in game two.

Team spokesperson Tara Donaghey said the Selects were rewarded for their efforts all season.

"The season saw the team develop as players and individuals. They were successful because they approached each game with hard work and intensity. They played as a team and won as a team."

Donaghey also praised the work of coach Kirk McCullough. "Their coach Kirk McCullough has taught these

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Local riders cycle up a storm in Durham Regional Forest

A trio of Stouffville riders posted impressive results at the frigid Chico Challenge Time Trials mountain bike race held Sunday in the Durham Regional Forest.

Duane Epp was 12th in the Junior Sport male

event, while his brother Kyle was 13th in the Cadet Sport class. Paul Bouchard was 14th in the same event.

In all, 250 riders took part in the all day, 12-kilometre competition, which included 23 classes.

Points earned at the trials count for Ontario Cycling Association season totals.

This weekend will see the first Ontario Cup race of the season held at Pleasure Valley near Claremont.