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A golden night at Rec Centre as association celebrates 50th anniversary

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They honoured the old and paraded the new at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association's (WSMHA) 50th Anniversary gala celebration Friday night at the Rec Centre.

With Stouffville resident and Global TV sports personality Don Martin at the microphone, noted contributors to Stouffville minor hockey from the past and the present were paraded across the red carpet laid out on the ice surface.

Cameron MacKenzie, a member of the atom Clippers rep team, played the bag pipes as the guests made their way across the ice.

While most of the special guests were WSMHA or town officials, or players and teams who had distinguished themselves over the past 50 years, the new generation was displayed as well.

Kyle Sauro and Jeff Leuschner, both born on June 22, 1993, were introduced as the youngest players in the WSMHA this season.

A colour guard was made up of members of the tyke selects team.

Guests included WSMHA president Peter Mabley and Mayor Wayne Emmerson, a former Stouffville minor hockey player current-



WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY: The Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association celebrated its 50th anniversary at the Rec Centre on Friday evening. Part of the night's festivities saw a gathering of various association and town dignitaries from the past and present. In the left photograph are (from far left) councillors Judy Scala, Cliff Dunkeld, Mayor Wayne Emmerson, Global television's Don Martin and association president Peter Mabley. Standing in front of the group is piper and rep player Cameron MacKenzie. In the right photograph, Mayor Emmerson hands a commemorative plaque to former Stouffville minor player Jason Reesor.



Photos by CHERYL JOHNSON

ly playing with the Stouffville Amateur Hockey League.

Councillors Cliff Dunkeld and Judy Scala were also introduced. Dunkeld, who has for years involved himself in youth sport in

town, was called "A good friend of the youth of Stouffville." Scala was credited as being "a big reason for the arrival of the second ice pad."

Les Clarke, whose picture appeared on the cover of the first

Clippers program, was introduced, as was Polly Minton, who skated with the 1952-53 Ontario Senior B champions from Stouffville.

Long time sponsors were also acknowledged, with representatives

from Birkett and Hassard Insurance, Schell Lumber, Cedar Beach, the Stouffville Legion, Stouffville Credit Union and Edwards Murphy Painting and Decorating introduced to the audience.

Joanne Steel, the first female WSMHA president was also brought out, as was Matt Hawkins, who has held every executive position with the WSMHA, while coaching at every level as well.

WSMHA alumni who went on to achieve at the minor pro level were on hand as well, with Bill Hassard, Doug Todd and Spirit of Stouffville head coach Dan Larmer present. Jason Reesor, who helped the Guelph Gryphons to the 1996-97 Canadian university hockey crown, was also introduced.

Brandon Crossen, Andrew Hutchison, Kyle Harrison, Jason Ellis, Jeff Morris, John Tamburro and Phillippe Lakos, Stouffville residents with the Spirit of Stouffville Spirit, were brought on the ice.

Successful WSMHA rep teams from the 96-97 season were paraded, including the novice select divisional champions, midget Clippers OMHA finalists, and bantam Clippers OMHA semi-finalist.

The program was followed by games involving the minor novice and midget Clippers.

Atom Clippers denied two goals in loss

It was the two that got away that cost the Stouffville atom Clippers their hockey game with Noble-King Saturday afternoon at the Rec Centre.

The Clippers had two goals disallowed in a tightly contested 3-2 defeat.

The game was a highly spirited affair, but no penalties were called throughout.

Richard Little and Cam MacKenzie were the Clippers marksmen.

Gabrien Barnett assisted on both markers, with Justin Lyons earning one assist.

The Clippers host Pickering this Saturday at 2:40 p.m. on pad B at the Rec Centre.



Bantam Clippers sail off with tournament crown

Great expectations are the key words coming from the Edwards Murphy bantam Clippers after the Stouffville team went undefeated in tournament play, as well as preseason and regular schedule action recently.

The Clippers took the title at a tournament in Dundas, Ont. the weekend of Sept. 27-28, tying their opener before winning their next three matches to earn the crown.

The Stouffville crew fought back from deficits of 2-0 and 3-2 to tie a strong Sarnia team on a goal with just 12 seconds to play in game one.

Clippers goalkeeper George Papazoglou was outstanding in net, stopping four breakaways to keep the Clippers close until his teammates found their scoring touch.

The Clippers bounced East Gwillimbury 6-1 in game two, then claimed first place in the round robin preliminaries, and a spot in the finals, with a 3-2 win over the host squad.

The Stouffville boys prevailed 5-3 over East Sarnia in the title tilt as Graham Smith made a number of big saves in the game's dying minutes to preserve the victory.

Scoring for the Clippers in the tournament were: Ryan Fontanna, six goals, three assists, Justin Heyworth, four goals, David Brown, three goals, four assists, Jeremy Morris, one goal, Dylan Harrison, one goal, Peter Smit, one goal, three assists, Geoff Dunn, one goal, two assists, Ryan Jones, four assists, Matt Sullivan, two assists, Casey Maude, two assists, and Brent Meyer, one assist.

The Clippers defeated Markham 5-2 in a preseason game,

then defeated East Gwillimbury 10-2 in their season opener Sept. 26 as Fontanna netted five goals.

Heyworth had a pair of markers, with singles going to Maude, Sullivan and Jones. Sullivan had four assists, with single set-ups coming from Jones, Dunn, Harrison and Maude.

The Clippers downed Noble/King 5-2 in their second league contest on Oct. 2.

Dunn netted a pair of goals, with singles from Heyworth, Maude and Mike Vandervoort. Maude and Fontanna each had two assists.

The Clippers made it three in a row in league play with a 9-4 win over Keswick Saturday.

Lukas Williams had four goals, with Brown adding a pair. Singles went to Heyworth, Dunn and Meyer. Brown had three assists. Maude and Williams each set up two scores. Heyworth's goal gave him at least one score in all eight games played by the Clippers this season. Williams and Brown put on a clinic, scoring three shorthanded goals in a span of 58 seconds.

The Clippers have 14 players from last year's minor bantam squad that went to the Ontario Minor Hockey Association semi-finals.

Also included on the team roster are: Ryan Zonnekeyn, Matt Prentice and Jeremy Morris. Coaches are Mike Jones and Gord Smith. Norm Dunn is manager, Scott Frisby is trainer.

A Classic opening win

Graham Williams notched a pair of markers to help lift the Stouffville Classics men's hockey team to a season opening 6-2 victory over Caps on Oct. 2.

Bill Hermanson, Gord Smith, Larry Penny and George Sled also scored for the Classics.

Doug Gornall collected two assists while singles went to Tom Brown, Sled, Hermanson and Dave Farlow.