

Major novices reach finals in Fort Erie tourney

It was never say die as the I.D.A. major novice Clippers fought their way to the finals at the A/AA Fort Erie tournament over the Nov. 22 weekend.

The Clippers overcame an early 2-0 deficit to win their semi-final 4-3 over the host squad, sending them on to the championship match up with Tecumseh.

The odds were stacked against the short-staffed Clippers in the title tilt with their AA/AAA ranked Windsor area opponents.

But the Clippers came close as they netted a pair of late goals in a 4-3 defeat, missing a tying goal by inches in the dying seconds.

The Clippers led off with a resounding 9-1 win over Rochester, then edged Orangeville 3-2 before earning the right to contest the playoff round with a 4-0 victory over Barrie.

Clippers goalkeeper Jake Balsdon was stellar throughout the tournament, picking up an assist as well. Luke Mabley, who

chalked up four goals and three assists, received the award for most sportsmanlike player. Other Clippers scorers were: Nick Jago (five goals, one assist), Chris Schell (three goals, three assists), Adam Craig (four goals), Chris Stewart (two goals, one assist), Steve Brown and Eric Gainsbrook (three assists each), Chris Normandeau (two goals), Warren Tayles and Nick Maillet (one goal, one assist each), Brandon Jupp, Taylor Campbell and Balsdon (one assist).

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McNeil honoured in Uxbridge



Sports Notes
Bruce Stapley

Dan McNeil was remembered last Sunday at the Uxbridge Arena as Hockey Night in Canada's Ron MacLean addressed the large crowd before serving as referee for the Bruins game with the Lakefield Chiefs.

MacLean was there as part of the fundraiser for the Durham Dragons Special Hockey program for the developmentally handicapped. He noted that his TV sparring partner, Don Cherry, had been involved with Dan's father, Bob McNeil, when the two were playing minor pro hockey several decades back. He said Cherry remains touched by the tragic death of Dan, who was with the Bruins at the time of his death in 1992, and continues to hold the Uxbridge club close to his heart.

TIME FOR A CHALLENGE

It's challenge time as the Stouffville District Secondary School midget girls' Spartans basketball team looks to engage the school's midget boys' volleyball squad in a two-sport tournament. The girls are looking to take on the boys in a combo basketball volleyball tourney.

The girls saw their season end with a heartbreaking 39-38 York Region Athletic Association quarter final playoff defeat at the hands of Holy Cross C.H.S. Monday. Hannah Fleming once again led the Spartans offence with 13 points.

Heather McManus played her strongest game of the year, sinking seven points. Defensive specialist Andrea Moller had six points, Michelle Babb four, and Tracey Hoher and Sandra Giles four each. Sam Metcalfe, Tiffany Bennett, Laurie Blowe, Ashley Brooks and Courtney Baker also played well.

DON VALLEY NORTH LEXUS - TOYOTA ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



NATALIE FARIA
Skating 10 years with the Unionville Skating Club has paid off in a big way for Natalie Faria.

The 15-year-old Markham native recently completed her Level One in Skating Skills. A Grade 10 student at Brother Andre Catholic High School, Faria has also been involved in precision skating for the last six years and is presently a member of the Black Ice Junior precision skating team.

DON VALLEY NORTH LEXUS - TOYOTA
3120 Steeles Ave. E.
East of the
404 (Pkwy.) **475-0722**