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MAKING A LAST-DITCH EFFORT: Stouffville District Secondary School's Kristy Filipchuk (far left), makes a last-ditch attempt to dig this ball before it hits the ground in this YRAA midget girls' volleyball contest against visiting Unionville High School on Wednesday. Looking on is teammate Hannah Fleming (far right). The host Spartans lost the match 2-1. For further news on the Stouffville District Secondary School sports scene, see page 17.

Photo by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Major atoms denied entry to Silver Stick finals

The major atom Clippers managed a split at the recent Regional Silver Stick Tournament in Bramalea, then fell just short in two of three matches at their own tournament at the Rec Centre.

The Stouffville squad saw their chances of advancing in the Silver Stick tourney dimmed when they were downed 4-1 by South London in their



But they toughed out wins of 3-2 over Keswick and 2-0 over East Gwillimbury before the weary Clippers bowed out with a loss to Schomberg the same evening.

Scoring for the Clippers in the tourney were Gabe Barnett (four goals, one assist), Jon Wonch, Lee Maxwell and Josh Spang (one goal, one assist each), Len Spiteri and Justin Lyons (one goal each), Richard Little (three assists), Todd Nesbitt (two assists), Scott Robinson, Brad Steckley and Cam MacKenzie.

Domenic Metauro's shutout goalkeeping won him MVP honours against East Gwillimbury.

At home for their own tournament several days later, the Clippers started with a flourish downing West Hill 6-1.

Newmarket shaded the Stouffville boys 1-0 on a third-period goal in game two as the Clippers narrowly missed several scoring opportunities.

The Clippers saw their chances to move on erased when they were nipped 3-2 by an Uxbridge

select team.

Point getters for Stouffville in the tourney were Barnett (three goals, one assist), Nesbitt (three assists), Lyons and Steckley (one goal, one assist each), Wonch (two assists), Lee Maxwell, MacKenzie and Spang (one assist each), Little and Luke Dawson (one assist each).

MINOR ATOMS COME UP SHORT IN NEWMARKET TOURNAMENT

The State Farm-Legrow Agency/Cobequid Life Sciences minor atom Clippers came up short at the Newmarket AA and A tournament over the Jan. 10 weekend.

The Clippers took their division with two wins and a tie, but were bounced 8-1 by a strong AA team from Caledon in the semi-finals.

In the preliminary round, the Clippers started out with a 3-1 win over Cobourg, before tying Owen Sound 1-1 in a game that saw the Stouffville crew lack a little zip.

The Clippers prevailed 2-1 over Woodstock in a hard fought third game to advance to the playoff round.

Scoring for the Clippers in the tourney were David Del Zotto with three goals, with singles to Cameron Allan, Alex Bruno, Brendon Laing and Kevin Rainbow.

Earning assists were Phillip Briggs and Brook Stachet (two each), Trevor Greenham, Zach Popper and Landon Wideman.

King holds court as Spirit tame Tigers

BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

King Darcy!

It was the crowning moment of the season for Darcy King and the Spirit of Stouffville as the fired up Spirit ravaged the Aurora Tigers 8-2 in a Provincial Junior A Hockey League game Thursday at the Rec Centre.

King reigned supreme against the second-place Tigers. The 17-year-old centre scored two goals, his 32nd and 33rd of the season, and set up another trio. All five points came within a span of 15 minutes as the host squad erased a 1-0 first-period deficit with six unanswered goals in the second. The spree left King firmly entrenched in first place in the Eastern Conference scoring race. The Spirit's second period sextet marked their biggest single period outburst of the campaign.

"It was our best game of the season," beamed an ecstatic head coach Dan Larmer. "We got an outstanding effort from everybody."

Assistant coach John Peron was equally buoyant. "It was very exciting to finally get 60 minutes of in your face hockey," he said. Peron praised the outstanding two-way play of King and linemates Kevin Edgar and Geoff Keillor. Keillor reunited with King and Edgar after a combination of injuries and suspensions.

The win was the Spirit's second straight over Aurora, giving them three wins and a tie in their eight-game season series with the 1996-97 Metro Junior A League champions.

Peron suggested there's little love lost between the teams.

"It was rather nice to get a win like that considering the animosity that's been built up between the two teams."

The win pulled the last-place Spirit to within four points of the fifth-place Lindsay Muskies, and six points of the Couchiching Terriers in the fourth and final playoff position.

The Spirit, who were to travel to Collingwood to play the league-leading Blues on Friday, return home to host the Bowmanville Eagles Thursday at the Rec Centre at 7:30 p.m.

Spirit tykes ice Woodville title

It was a clean sweep for the Stouffville tyke Spirit at the Woodville Tournament last weekend.

The Stouffville squad outscored their opponents 29-1 to win their three games played en route to the title.

The Spirit started off with shut out victories of 13-0 over Minden and 9-0 against Bobcaygeon. They then prevailed 7-1 over the host squad in the title tilt.

Scoring for Stouffville in the three matches were Kyle Cussion (seven goals, six assists), Dennis O'Shaughnessy (three goals, two assists), Chris Lombardo (two goals, two assists), Justin Hulshof (one goal, eight assists), Gregory Outram-Kuzma (two goals, one assist), Jamie Gregory (three goals, three assists), Michael Stanton (one goal, four assists), Scott Bolton (one goal, three assists), Patrick Salvagna (one goal, three assists), Connor Stevens (two goals, three assists), Chris Boake (one goal, one assist), Malcolm Forbes (one goal), Brad Maxwell (two goals), Michael Sooley (one goal, three assists). Shutouts were shared by Outram-Kuzma and Matthew Raguseo.

In league action Jan. 11, the Spirit fell 6-3 to Keswick. Cussion, Salvagna and Forbes had the Stouffville goals. Assists went to Hulshof, Sooley and Gregory.

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