

Marauders clinch second, earn home field for semi finals

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Sports Editor

The Markham District High School Marauders football team could not have picked a more opportune time to get its act together on the gridiron.

With the York Region Athletic Association semi-finals slated for Monday and a second-place finish and more important, a home playoff date on the line, the Marauders did not want to let this opportunity slip away from them when they hosted the King City Secondary School Lions Wednesday.

Playing perhaps their best game to date, the Marauders tamed the Lions with a resounding 49-0 win and claimed

second place and home field advantage for Monday's semi-final.

Finishing its regular campaign with a 5-1 mark, the Marauders will now host the third-place Woodbridge College Wyverns in one semi-final game at 2 p.m. while the first-place and unbeaten Newmarket Secondary School Raiders host the fourth-place Lions in Monday's other semi final.

"We played poorly against Newmarket (a 24-7 loss on Nov. 3). If we didn't come out and send a message this week it wouldn't have been good for us," said Marauders assistant coach Greg Pritty.

"That was the effort we were looking for. We played a good two-way game."

The statistics reflected Pritty's assessment as the Marauders amassed 536 yards on offence, including 302 on the ground and 234 through the air.

On the defensive side of the ledger, Pritty pointed out the front four made 15 tackles as compared with just seven in its loss to Newmarket.

The defence also made three fumble recoveries.

Quarterback-running back Geoff Dyer was involved in four of the Marauders' touchdowns including the game's opening score in the first quarter when he scampered 50 yards into the end zone.

The Grade 10 student also hauled in a 35-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Chris Geiser in the third quarter.

While playing quarterback, Dyer tossed a 20-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Chris Mayhue in the second quarter and another to tight end Tom Hazel in the fourth quarter.

Mayhue scored another major on a three-yard pass from Geiser, who completed 12 of 14 passes on the day for 171 yards.

Running back Dave Bernholtz also crossed the goal line on runs of three yards and one.

Mayhue booted seven convert attempts to round out the scoring.

Looking ahead to Monday's game against the Wyverns, Pritty anticipates the Marauders will not be seeing the same club that it defeated 28-14 in its regular season opener Sept. 28.

However, Pritty remains confident. "I think Woodbridge has gotten a lot better. Nugent (Wayne, Wyverns head coach) has them playing good. I think they've won their last three games. They must be a confident group. It should be a good game."

"The way we played today we'll be going in confident. I think losing (to Newmarket) last week might have been the best thing that happened to us."



STAFF PHOTO/STEVÉ SOMERVILLE

HOOPING IT UP

Brother Andre Catholic High School's Katrina Sullivan (foreground), drives past a Keswick High School defender to score a basket in Monday's junior girls' YRAA basketball game at Brother Andre Catholic High School. The host Cardinals won the game 23-4.

SPORTS DIGEST

Deacon wins golf tournament title

J.C. Deacon carded a birdie on the first hole of an 18-hole sudden death playoff to defeat David Noe for the title in the boys 15-19 division of the Jim McLean Future Collegians World Tour golf title at West Lafayette, Indiana last weekend.

A 17-year-old Unionville resident, Deacon recorded a 74 and 73 through the 36-hole event, which was held at the Purdue University golf course.

Noe fired a 76 and 71 to earn a tie with Deacon through regulation play.

A member of the Beacon Hall Golf Club in Aurora and York Downs Golf and Country Club in Markham, Deacon captured the provincial junior golf title earlier this year.

Jets soar off with C title in Uxbridge

The Unionville Jets tyke selects skated off with the C championship at the recent Uxbridge hockey tournament.

After losing its opening game to Stouffville 5-1, the Jets rebounded to thrash Sutton 8-2 and edge East Gwillimbury 2-1 in overtime.

Scoring for the Jets were: Jamie Shotbolt three goals, one assist; Cody Burch two goals, two assists; Eric Gibson two goals, one assist; Connor Simmonds two goals; Justin Bauer one goal, three assists; Christopher O'Hanlon one goal, two assists; Robert Lawrence two assists; John Altorio, Bryce Lahure, Danile Loberto, Tommy Nishio and Jordan Ramano one assist. Eric Samtleben played well in goal while Connor Downs and Michael Montanaro made strong contributions on defence.



Chris' blast lifts Spirit to O.T. win

BY BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

The Stouffville Spirit made up for 60 minutes of missed opportunities with 13 seconds of perfect execution Thursday night at the Rec Complex.

That's all the time it took for the Stouffville squad to score a short handed goal in overtime to subdue a determined Aurora Tigers crew 4-3 in the Provincial Junior A Hockey League contest. The Tigers got an outstanding performance from goal-keeper Kevin Cordiner as they overcame a 2-0 first-period deficit, then forced overtime when they tied the game at 3-3 with less than a minute to go and Cordiner on the bench.

But Spirit winger Doug Orr sped deep into the Aurora zone mere seconds after the opening overtime face off, stole the puck behind the Tigers goal and relayed a perfect pass to Chris Sanginesi, who one-timed a laser shot off the post and into the net.

"He (the Aurora player) didn't even see me coming," said Orr of his timely theft. "He didn't expect me..."

The steal wasn't without its price as Orr held an ice pack to an aching wrist after the game courtesy of a retaliatory shot from the Aurora defender.

Sanginesi, a Stouffville resident, doubled his season points total by earning two assists in addition to his second goal. The Spirit outshot the Tigers 51-26, including a 20-4 edge in the third period when they dominated the visitors for most of the period but couldn't beat Cordiner.

Michel Bond scored his 11th goal of the season and added an assist to take over the Spirit points lead.

The game marked the return to form of the Spirit power play, which has been quiet in recent weeks. All three Stouffville goals in regulation time came with the man advantage. Alain Veilleux notched his fourth goal in six games after being sidelined for most of the season with an injury. He also had an assist on Chris Large's goal that restored the Spirit lead early in the third. It was Large's first goal of the year after returning from a lengthy bout with mononucleosis last week.

The win, which extended the Spirit unbeaten string to six games, was the team's seventh straight home ice victory. It left them with 32 points, one ahead of the Newmarket Hurricanes in first place in the North Conference, and tied with the Lindsay Muskies for first overall in the 37-team league.

The Spirit was to travel to Huntsville to play the Wildcats last night. Stouffville visits the Durham Huskies tonight. The Spirit hosts the Collingwood Blues Thursday.



SANGINESI

CANADIAN TIRE PLAYERS OF THE GAME



CHRIS GEISER

DAVE NAGY

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE GAME

Quarterback Chris Geiser completed 12 of 14 passes for 171 yards and threw two touchdown passes to lead the Markham District High School Marauders to a 49-0 win over the King City Secondary School Lions in Wednesday's YRAA regular season finale. Geiser, 15, is a Grade 10 student and is in his first year of senior ball.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE GAME

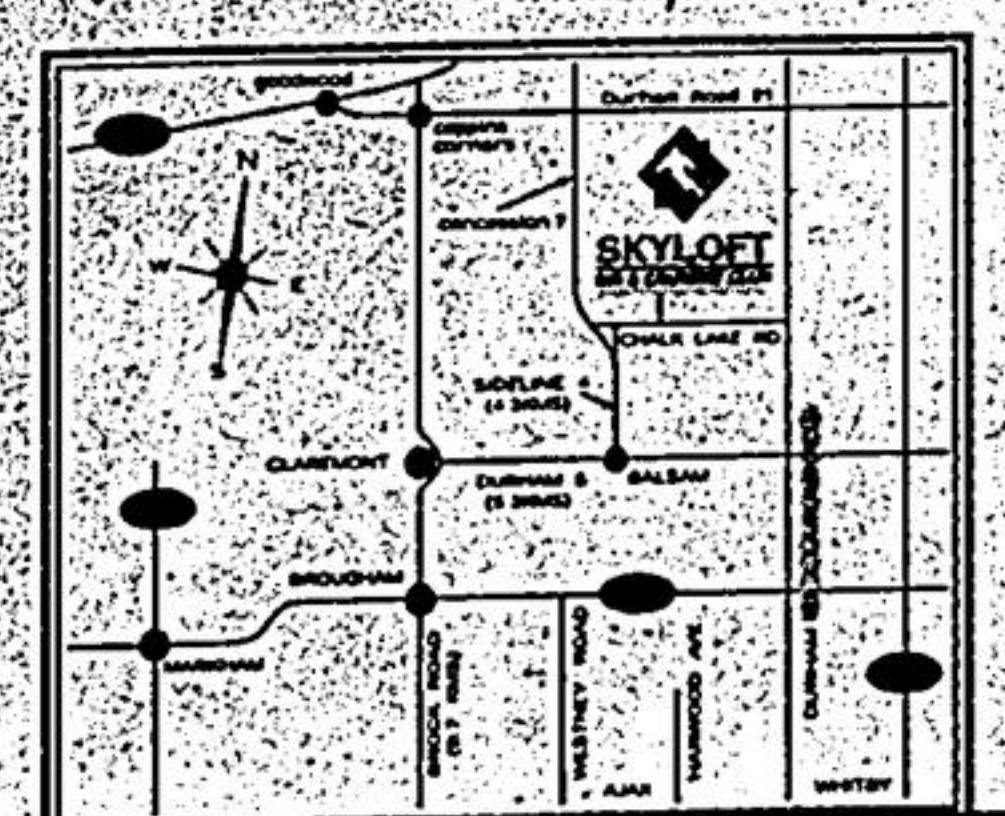
Defensive back Dave Nagy had a big game in helping the Markham District Secondary School Marauders to its 49-0 win over the King City Secondary School Lions on Wednesday. The 18-year-old OAC student made four tackles and recovered an on-side kick.

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