

# Award winner big on school

From page 1.

the Stouffville Arena and Stouffville District Secondary School in his honour.

Carter had just turned one year old at the time of Dan's death.

"I had never heard of the Dan McNeil award until I found out that I had won it," the Grade 10 student at Holy Trinity School in Richmond Hill said. "My parents explained to me who Dan McNeil was and why this award was named after him. It felt good to win it because I was competing against many other good hockey players."

Dan's parents, Sheila and Bob McNeil, and sister Cindy took part in the presentation. Cindy, an instructor with the Stouffville Figure Skating Club, taught Carter when he was three.

**'It's nice (minor hockey) continues on with the award. It's a great honour for our family. Dan had a lot of strong qualities, but (Carter) has so many more.'**

Sheila McNeil  
mother of the late Dan McNeil

"It's nice (minor hockey) continues on with the award," Sheila McNeil said. "It's a great honour for our family. Dan had a lot of strong qualities, but (Carter) has so many more."

Introduced to the game

when he was six years old, Carter played on Stouffville Clippers rep teams starting at the minor novice level in 1999 and then moving up the ranks to major novice, atom and peewee.

But to take part in extracurricular school activities and maintain academic standing, he dropped to the house league level five years ago.

An example of his leadership skills? A centre for most of his career, he volunteered to move to defence for his short-staffed Michelle's Snack Bar midget-juvenile house team this year.

The second-youngest player on the squad, he was its second-leading scorer during the regular season.

During his house league career, he won four ESSO sportsmanship awards and another for being most dedicated.

During the 2005-06 Provincial Jr. A Hockey League season, Carter served as the Stouffville Spirit's assistant equipment manager.

Off the ice, he raised funds for World Vision. Enrolled in Holy Trinity's Duke of Edinburgh program, he is also a member of the school's Help the Society group, which raises money for local charities.

He plays on several school sports squads.

His future?

"I would like to go on to university, but I do know that I am going to continue to play the game of hockey," he said.

-with files from  
Jim Mason



STAFF PHOTO/JIM MASON

Carter Kroen received the Dan McNeil Memorial Award at the annual meeting of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association at Crossroads Restaurant last Thursday. Making the presentation were Dan's parents, Bob (from left) and Sheila McNeil, Josie Robinson of minor hockey and Dan's sister, Cindy McNeil. Dan, a Stouffville minor hockey graduate, died in a car accident 15 years ago. The award honours a player for his contributions on and off the ice.

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## Think You've Heard It All?

by Lorraine Kennedy Vosu  
Clinical Director/Owner  
M.A., Reg. CASLPO Aud(C) Audiologist

### AN AGE-OLD CONDITION

Hearing declines as part of the aging process, beginning in middle age. This problem is much more common in men than women. The process results in a loss of hearing sensitivity starting in our highest hearing frequencies, a condition referred to as "presbycusis." Noise-induced hearing loss, in contrast, usually occurs at lower sound frequencies, at about 4,000 Hz. It often later progresses to involve the higher and lower frequencies. Often, noise-induced hearing loss is superimposed on age-related hearing loss. If you begin to notice hearing loss of either sort, you are best advised to get a hearing test and, if appropriate, explore the use of a hearing instrument. Both types of hearing loss lend themselves to improvement with a hearing instrument.

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P.S. While their parents usually did not show signs of hearing loss until they reached their 60s or later, Baby Boomers begin to display symptoms in their late 40s and 50s.

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