

Bullard's return to stand-up finds him at hockey event

BY JIM MASON
Staff Writer

Mike Bullard's return to his roots finds him in Whitchurch-Stouffville next week.

The former talk show host and satellite radio jock is back on the stand-up circuit, serving up laughs in community centres, night clubs and corporate Canada.

He'll headline a comedy night fundraiser for the Stouffville tyke Clippers hockey team Nov. 24 at the Ballantrae Community Centre.

Why Stouffville? Mr. Bullard is good friends with Bob Breckles Jr. of the Clippers coaching staff.

"The Lions Clubs and other small-town gigs are the most fun," he said. "People come prepared to have a good time."

A similar fundraiser last year for the same team featuring Mr. Bullard sold out quickly.

He hosted the fifth annual comedy festival in St. John, N.B., this month. Earlier this fall, he performed in Kingston for a weekend and for a three-night run at Yuk-Yuk's in Ottawa.

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He emceed a charity roast of Q107 morning man and Whitchurch-Stouffville resident John Derringer in Toronto last month. Roasters included Peter Mansbridge, Ed The Sock and Gord Martineau.

Mr. Bullard, 50, grew up watching The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson wanting to be a comedian. He moonlighted as a comic while working at Bell Canada.

In 1997, After 10 years on the stand-up circuit, he launched his own TV talk show, Open Mike with Mike Bullard, on The Comedy Network. It moved to CTV and became Canada's longest running show of its genre, at six years. But it changed names and networks before being dumped by Global in 2004.

His seven-month run on XM Radio ended in March.

There are other comedic irons in the multimedia fire, but nothing firm.

A report this fall of Mr. Bullard hosting a game



Mike Bullard, and fellow Canadian stand-up/radio veterans Judy Croon and Lawrence Morgenstern, will entertain at a fundraiser for the tyke Clippers hockey team Nov. 24 in Ballantrae.

show on CBC caught him off guard. "Sure, why not," he said incredulously. "I heard about it on Entertainment Tonight."

In other words, it's not happening.

He will be joined at the Ballantrae event by fellow Canadian stand-up/radio veterans Judy Croon of Montreal's Q92FM and Lawrence Morgenstern,

Tickets are \$40 per person and include food catered by event sponsor The Earl of Whitchurch. Call 905-642-1351.

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