

Clipper teams sailing into OMHA semifinals

Three Stouffville Clipper teams have advanced to the Ontario Minor Hockey Association A-level semifinals.

The atom, minor peewee and minor midget teams qualified this week. The juvenile and bantam Clippers need a tie or win this weekend to join them. The novice Clippers continue to advance in their OMHA Central playdowns.

Juveniles need tie tonight

The Stouffville juvenile Clippers inched closer to capturing their best-of-five or first-to-six point Ontario Minor Hockey Association quarter-final series against East Gwillimbury after battling them to a 2-2 tie Thursday in Sharon.

Nathan James and Jimiel Selmanovski each scored for the Clippers, who can wrap up the series tonight at the Stouffville Arena at 7 p.m. with a tie.

Minor peewees get ready for Belleville series

The Stouffville minor peewee Clippers advanced to the Ontario Minor Hockey Association semifinals by capturing its quarter-final series against Bradford that was capped off with a 4-2 win Wednesday at the Stouffville Arena.

The Clippers captured the first game of the first-to-six-point series 6-2 before Bradford evened things up with a 4-2 home ice win.

But the Clippers rallied to win the third game in Bradford 4-0 and set the stage for the series clincher.

The Clippers will face Belleville in a best-of-five or first-to-six point series with dates to be announced.

Atoms, Port Perry in semis

The atom Clippers will begin their best-of-five or first-to-six point Ontario Minor Hockey Association semifinal series against Port Perry Sunday at the Stouffville Arena at 7:10 p.m.

The series will resume in Port Perry Friday at 7 p.m. and next Saturday, 2:15 p.m.

The fourth game is scheduled to be played March 5 at the Stouffville Arena at 7:40 p.m.

A fifth game would be played at Port Perry March 6 at 7 p.m.

A sixth game, if required, would also be played in Stouffville March 8 at 6:10 p.m.

The Clippers advanced to the semifinals after defeating Orillia in three straight in their best-of-five or first-to-six point quarter-final series. They clinched Tuesday with a 4-3 win in Orillia.

Minor midgets sweep Orillia in quarter-finals

The Stouffville minor midget Clippers made quick work of Orillia in their best-of-five or first-to-six point OMHA quarter final series. It ended Tuesday with a 4-2 win in Stouffville.

They'll play Cobourg or Oshawa in the semis.

Dylan Deveaux, Oliver Boettcher, Peter LeBuffe and Ryan Brown, with an empty net tally, scored for the Clippers. Boettcher had two helpers while Jake Woolnough, Scott Miller, Zach Burke and LeBuffe each had one.

The Clippers won the first game 3-1 in Orillia with Boettcher, Josh King and Miller scoring. Lloyd Davis, Boettcher, Miller, Woolnough and Deveaux were each credited with one assist.

The Clippers took a stranglehold in the series with a 3-2 win at the Stouffville Arena.

Davis paced the Clippers' with two goals while Deveaux had one. LeBuffe had two assists and Boettcher, Woolnough and Brad Sutherland each had one.

Ben Singh handled netminding duties in the first two games and Marcel Cenic in the finale.

Also making critical contributions in the series were: Josh Whitehead, Chris Chekay, Brent Hewlett and Brett Kirkness.

SDSS hockey teams back in regional finals

Hughes, Humphreys lead girls to win in opener

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Staff Writer

Buoyed by a two-goal effort from Heather Hughes and a solid netminding effort from Courtney Humphreys, the Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans girls' hockey team won the first game of its York Region Athletic Association tier one two-game-three-point semifinal series.

They upended Brother Andre Catholic High School 4-0 Tuesday at Mount Joy Arena in Markham.

Vanessa Spataro and Jaime Sparks added singles for the Spartans.

The series resumes Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. at the Stouffville Arena.

Stouffville, which lost in last year's regional final, won the OFSAA AA title the last two years.

Boys await Markham opponent

The Spartans senior boys' hockey team will be making a visit to a very familiar place.

For the second consecutive season and third in the last five, the Spartans gained a berth in the York Region final.

The defending York champions accomplished that feat Wednesday

by sweeping a best-of-three semifinal series with a 6-1 victory over the host St. Theresa of Lisieux Catholic High School Lions in Richmond Hill.

Sam Carrick, Nathan James, Jamie Wise, Scott Van Allen, Matt Raguseo and Luke Bartell scored for the Spartans.

Although his club won by a decisive margin, Spartans head coach Jamie Hewitt felt they played better in Tuesday's gruelling, triple overtime 4-3 win.

"I thought Tuesday's game was one of our better games. But we ran into a hot goalie that day. In Wednesday's game we got up early and that helped," he said.

The Spartans, who have already gained entry into the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations AA championships April 2 to 5 in Ottawa, will face the winner of the all-Markham best-of-three semifinal series between the Markham District High School Marauders and Brother Andre Catholic High School Cardinals.

Stouffville won the OFSAA AA title last year.

The Marauders and Cardinals will play the deciding game Tuesday at Markham Village Arena at 2 p.m. The winner of that series will be the YRAA entry into the OFSAA AAA/AAAA play-downs April 2 to 5 in Ottawa.

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The big task for Levon and Carmen Karamanian is to discover the most popular ice cream flavours of Stouffville and area residents. The brother and sister team are the owners of the Baskin Robbins franchise at 5892 Main Street and they plan to carry the flavours local residents want most.

"Baskin Robbins became famous for its 31 flavours - one for every day of the month," says Levon. "In fact, there are more than 1,000 flavours of ice cream, sherbets, sorbets and ices, some with low-fat and no sugar added. Every store selects a few favourites on their own. We also have fresh made waffles."

Levon and Carmen, who own and operate four other Baskin Robbins locations in the GTA, are already big fans of Stouffville and merely want to return the "flavour", according to Levon. "There's a great small-town flavour here and we just want to be a part of it; to get more involved with the community."

Baskin Robbins was one of the first-ever franchised food service companies. It was founded in Glendale, California in 1945 by Burton Baskin and Irvin Robbins, two ice cream enthusiasts who believed people should be able to try any flavour without cost. That's why even today, you can still

savour the flavour for free with one of their iconic pink spoons.

Baskin Robbins is now the world's largest chain of ice cream specialty shops with more than 5,600 outlets in 40 countries. There is also a strong Canadian component as their Peterborough, Ontario, plant is a major supplier to Baskin Robbins outlets around the world, shipping more than 6.5 million gallons of ice cream every year.

They are just as popular for their special desserts, frozen drinks and custom-made ice cream cakes to suit whatever your occasion. "We have more than 45 cakes - different flavours, sizes and designs - in stock at all times," says Levon.

And more important, he says, is the company's tradition of being more than just an ice cream store. "Baskin Robbins is a place for families to gather and we plan to be a big part of this community."



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