

Pair of Stouffville Secondary Spartans on York Region Media Group's second annual all-star squad

BEST OF THE BEST IN YORK REGION HOCKEY

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Staff Writer

There's no shortage of stars in York Region's high school hockey ranks.

With 18 teams in the York Region Athletic Association Tier 1 senior

boys hockey league, the talent pool was deep.

Identifying the cream of the crop, though, posed a challenge.

But coaches had to choose who this year's best were.

Jamie Hewitt, head coach for

the two-time defending Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations A/AA champion Stouffville District Secondary School and YRAA senior boys hockey convenor helped oversee the poll.

"If we had a second all-star team,

there were some kids who would be there who just missed out in being on the first team," he said. "There were so many good players who stood out."

Only one player was a unanimous choice — St. Teresa de

Lisieux Catholic High School Lions netminder Daniel Marchione.

"He was nominated by several coaches. Not just by those from within his division, but from outside as well," Hewitt said of the Richmond Hill goalie.

DANIEL MARCHIONE

ST. THERESA OF LISIEUX CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Grade: 12

Age: 17

Position: Goalie.

Season numbers: 1.70 goals against average in league play.

Rep team: None this year.

Academic average: 76 per cent.

Biggest highlight in 07-08 season: "Our run in the playoffs and in our first semifinal game against Stouffville District Secondary School when we took them into overtime, but lost," he said.

What coach says: "He's small," Lions head coach John Spicer said of the five-foot, seven-inch netminder. "But he's lightning fast and a real gamer. He was our backbone. He's very focused, very disciplined and mentally strong. He loves the challenges. I could recall one time when he stopped a penalty shot and he told me afterwards, 'That's what I live for.'"

NHL idols: Patrick Roy and Carey Price.

Post-secondary school ambitions: Majoring in fine arts and playing hockey at the collegiate level.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Here are the York Region first team all-stars. Kneeling in front is Daniel Marchione. In back are Gary Teskey (left), Stouffville's Jamie Wise and Scott Van Allen and Massimo Lamacchia and Jack Caradonna.

GARY TESKEY

BROTHER ANDRE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Grade: 12

Age: 18

Position: Defence.

Season numbers: eight goals, 23 assists, including league, tournaments and OFSAA.

Rep team: none

Academic average: 87 per cent.

Biggest highlight in 07-08 season: helping Cardinals advance to OFSAA AAA/AAAA playdowns.

What coach says: "He's an intense player and a strong leader for our team," Cardinals co-coach Paul Titanic said of the three-year member of the senior club. "He plays hard every second of every shift and he has lots of hockey intelligence. He understands the game offensively and defensively and he can make the right play at the right time."

NHL idol: Gary Roberts.

Post-secondary school ambitions: Go to university and study life sciences.

JACK CARADONNA

MARKHAM DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

Grade: 12

Age: 18

Position: Defence.

Season numbers: Five goals, 16 assists and a +22 plus/minus rating.

Rep team: Markham Waxers AAA midgets.

Academic average: 81 per cent.

Biggest highlight in 07-08 season: The final playoff game against Brother Andre. "Although we lost, it was the most intense and exciting hockey game I had ever played," Caradonna said.

What coach says: "Jack's intensity and perseverance was unparalleled on our team and there was no question that he would be our captain this season because of the respect that everyone had for him," Marauders head coach Jim Buie said of Caradonna, who was named the club's most valuable defenceman and recipient of the team's coach's award.

NHL idol: Mats Sundin.

Post-secondary school ambitions: To attend university and hopefully play varsity hockey.

SCOTT VAN ALLEN

STOUFFVILLE DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL

Grade: 11

Age: 16

Position: Centre.

Season numbers: 25 goals and 35 assists in league, tournament and OFSAA games.

Rep team: Markham Majors AAA midgets.

Academic average: 65 to 70 per cent.

Biggest highlight in 07-08 season: Winning OFSAA title after missing it last year while playing for his rep team in the Ontario Hockey Federation championships.

What coach says: "Scott is a tremendous leader," Spartans head coach Jamie Hewitt said of his team captain, who just completed his third year with the senior team. "He's the most complete kid I've ever coached in my life."

NHL idol: Jarome Iginla.

Post-secondary school ambitions: To be a carpenter or plumber.

JAMIE WISE

STOUFFVILLE DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL

Grade: 11

Age: 17

Position: Left wing.

Season numbers: 34 goals and 26 assists in league, tournament and OFSAA games.

Rep team: Markham Majors AAA midgets

Academic average: 70 per cent.

What coach says: "He's a complete hockey player," Spartans head coach Jamie Hewitt said of the third-year member of the senior team and assistant captain. "You can tell he's the son of a coach (father is Graham Wise, head coach at Ryerson University and former longtime York University coach). I haven't taught him that much."

NHL idol: Jordin Tootoo.

Post-secondary school ambitions: To attend university, play collegiate hockey and major in kinesiology.

MASSIMO LAMACCHIA

ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Grade: 11

Age: 16

Position: Right wing.

Season numbers: 12 goals, 16 assists in 10 league games.

Rep team: Toronto Marlies AAA midgets.

Academic average: 82 per cent.

Biggest highlight in 07-08 season: Winning the quarter-final series against St. Theresa to advance to the YRAA semifinals. Also capturing the Continental Classic Tournament Title at York U vs Lord Selkirk from Manitoba.

What coach says: "He's a gifted hockey player. He never misses practices or games. He was committed to the team and he was a team leader and great person. For example, if we played a game and if we were blowing a team out, I didn't have to talk to him. He would tell me to give the other guys who weren't getting much ice time the playing time. We were certainly blessed to have him."

NHL idol: Sidney Crosby

Post-secondary school ambitions: To major in business or law and earn an NCAA hockey scholarship.

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