

Minor midget AEs downed in Toronto tourney final

The Stouffville minor midget AE Clippers advanced to the final of the North Toronto Hockey Association Christmas Tournament before settling for the silver medal after falling 4-2 to Goulding Park last Thursday.

Buoyed by strong netminding from Jake Canning and Matt Morrow, the Clippers reeled off victories in round-robin play over host North Toronto 4-3, the Pickering Selects 6-1 and Brampton Sharpshooters 5-1.

With those victories, the Clippers finished first in their pool and gained entry to the final.

Despite dropping the final, Clippers' head coach Al Hamilton said it was a vast improvement from their first tournament earlier in the season in which they failed to qualify for the playoffs.

"This group has been improving steadily all season and recently defeated two of the top teams in league play, so they are starting to believe and have confidence as a team," he said.

Other players contributing to the club's run to the final included Mike Nauta, Andrew Baggs, Daniel Szabo, Ben Hamilton, Chris Matsoukis, Hayden Burton, Jeremy Boston, Connor McCormack, Jake Canning, Hayden Gibson, Chris Garbos, Alex Popper and Taylor Nihda.

The Clippers will take part in another tournament next month in St. Catharines.

Minor peewee AEs take two

The Stouffville minor peewee AE Clippers broke their penchant for earning ties by skating off with two victories in OMHA action last weekend.

Playing host to Newmarket last Saturday, the Clippers received a hat trick and one assist from Cole Gunathunge and one goal and three helpers from Max Vonkaufmann in a 4-3 win.

Brody Krabi also collected three assists.

Playing East Gwillimbury the following day, the Clippers received goals from Krabi and Alex Tashos in a hard-fought 2-1 win.

Gunathunge, Michael Vasconcelos, Tyler Sinclair and Brandon Harrington each earned one assist.

The two wins by the Clippers ended a four-game run in which they played the opposition to ties. The latest of which took place Dec. 23 when they battled the host Markham Waxers to a 2-2 draw.

Sinclair and Tyler Perret-Swirla each scored once for the Clippers.

Sean O'Neill, Gunathunge and Krabi were each credited with one assist.

The Clippers resume league play against Georgina in Keswick Sunday.

Pierson hopes Quebec victory is ticket to UFC big time

Stouffville fighter improves to 9-4

BY MICHAEL HAYAKAWA
mhayakawa@yrmg.com

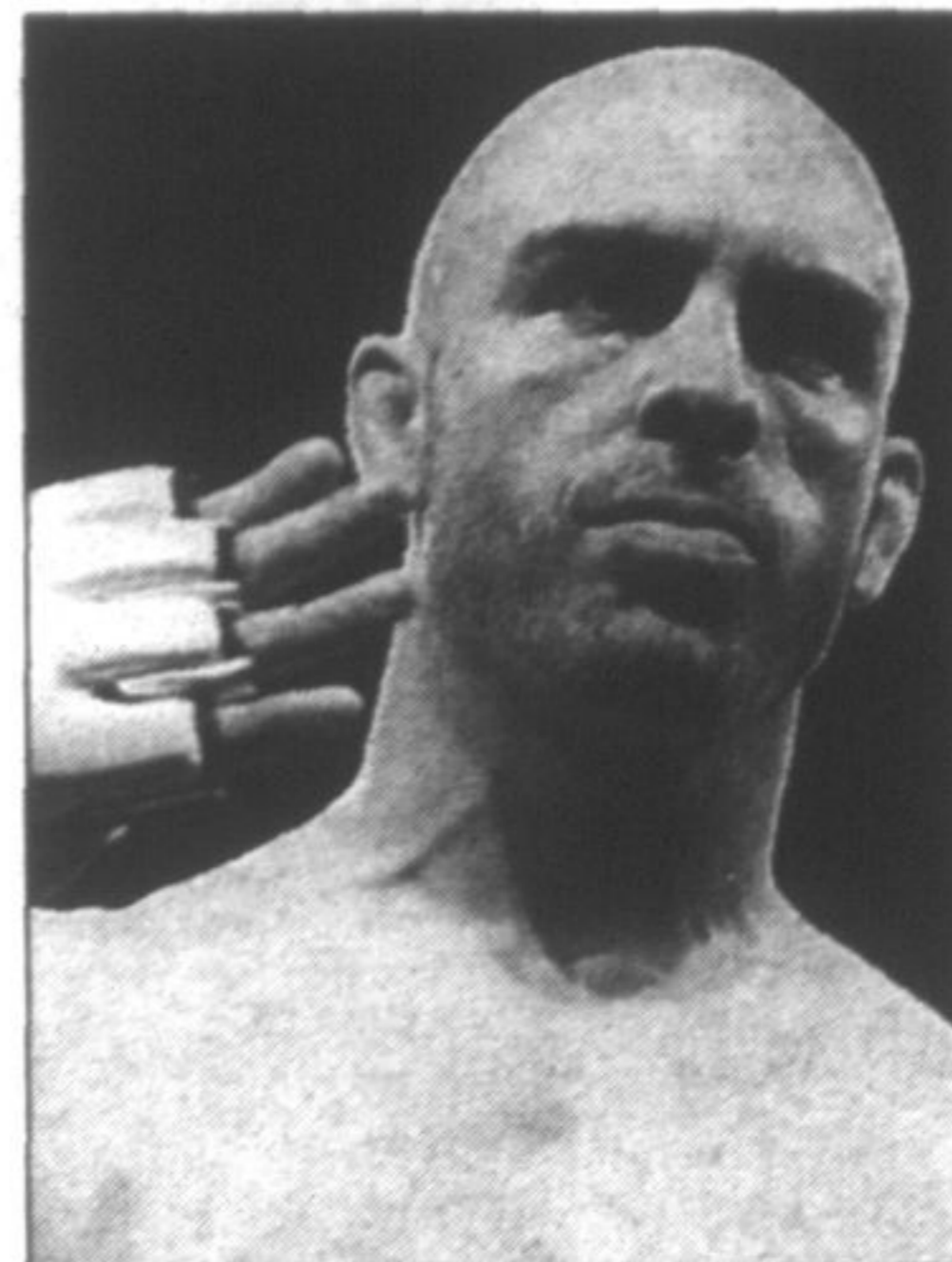
Sean Pierson is keeping his fingers crossed these days.

The 33-year-old Stouffville resident is doing so with the hope his career in the octagon could land him a fight in the prestigious Ultimate Fighting Championship, known in mixed martial arts circles as the UFC.

Pierson took a giant step in that direction last month when he competed in the main event of a Wreck MMA series card in Gatineau, Que.

Applying his mixed martial arts skills in a welterweight match (170 pounds and under) against Fabio Holanda, a Brazilian jiu jitsu blackbelt, Pierson won by a knockout just one minute and 41 seconds into the opening round.

Holanda, who has coached many UFC fighters, including current UFC welterweight champion George St. Pierre, had six victories in his last eight



SEAN PIERSON: Stouffville fighter wins Wreck MMA series card in Gatineau, Que.

fights.

While Pierson bolstered his record in the octagon to 9-4, with five of those wins coming via knockout or technical knockout and the other four by submission, word has circulated his latest accomplishment could be the ticket to entering the UFC.

To do so would fulfill Pierson's ultimate dream since he became involved in mixed mar-

tial arts.

"I'm in a bit of a waiting period right now, but for good reasons. Rumours were around that the winner of this fight was being seriously looked at for the May UFC card in Montreal, again just rumours for now," Pierson said.

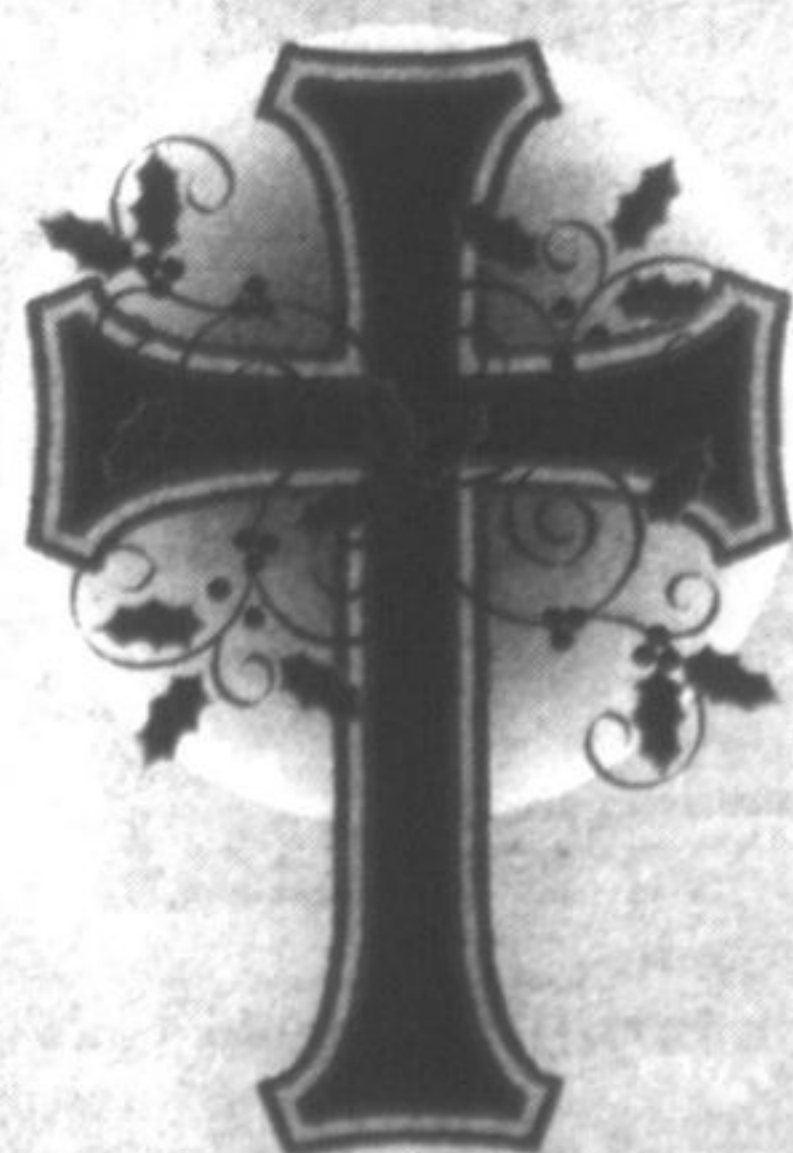
In the meantime, Pierson was quick to note he's received offers to showcase his fighting skills in several other mixed martial arts circuits.

For now, though, he intends to carefully weigh what options will be available.

Pierson credits his success to the hours he's logged training in the gym coupled with a sense of what's required during the heat of battle.

"I think that hard work is really the No. 1 factor for success that I've had so far. With that being said, I pride myself on being well rounded as a fight can change pace and direction at any moment and my ability to adapt to the situation is an important attribute," Pierson said.

Stouffville Churches Welcome You



Welcome to...

ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Kathryn Strachan, Minister

6432 Main St. Stouffville

Phone - 905-640-3151

email: st.james.stouffville@bellnet.ca

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

Bible Study - 9 a.m.

Hymn-sing - 9:45 a.m.

Service of Worship - 10 a.m.

Church School - 10:15 a.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9,

Burns Supper

Parkview Village - 5 p.m.

'Still welcoming after 150 years'

'A friendly family church'

Stouffville Pentecostal Church

6853 Main St. • Stouffville

905.640.5696

Sunday, January 10th

10:00 am

Pastor Jeff Laird

Tues. 7pm • Jr. Youth

Grades 6, 7 & 8

Wed. 7pm • Kid's Club

Ages 4 to Grade 6

Everyone Welcome!



Christ Church Stouffville

Anglican Church of Canada

254 Sunset Blvd.

905-640-1461

www.stouffvilleanglican.ca

Sunday January 10, 2010

The Baptism of the Lord

Services at 8 am & 10 am

Nursery & Church School at 10 am

Friday January 8

Floor Hockey at 7 pm

Wednesday January 20

Healing Service at 7 pm

COME & SEE



springvale

BUILDING FAITH, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

Stouffville Rd. at Kennedy Rd.

905-887-5651

www.springvale.org

Senior Pastor:

Bob Flemming

Associate Pastor:

Jay Sandiford

Student Ministries:

Alex Street

Children's Ministries:

Ben Bartosik

Counselling Services:

Sharon Russell

Sunday, Jan. 10th, 2010

9:45 a.m.

Celebration Service

Pastor Jay Sandiford

11:11 am Sunday School for all ages



Parkview Village

12184 Ninth Line South

Sunday, January 10th • 7pm

Rev. David Lawrenson

Churchill Baptist Church

BLOOMINGTON GOSPEL CHURCH

13660 Ninth Line N.

(905) 642-4414

Rev. Peter Pallant

Sunday, January 10th

9:30 am - Sunday School

10:55 am - Morning

Worship Service

6:30 pm - Evening Service

Everyone Welcome!

STOUFFVILLE UNITED CHURCH

34 Church St. N. 905-640-1163

Minister of Worship: Rev Nancy Waterman

info@stouffvilleuc.ca

Sunday, January 10th

10:30 am

WORSHIP SERVICE

Epiphany 2

Wedding at Cana

Building Spirits! Building Lives!

Website: www.stouffvilleuc.ca

To advertise please call 905-640-2612