

Midgets open OMHA semis

SPORTS: Double-overtime win in deciding game over Bradford

The Stouffville Midget Clippers advanced to the Ontario Minor Hockey Association semifinals after eliminating Bradford in their first-to-six-point quarter-final series that concluded with a dramatic 3-2 double overtime win in deciding game in Stouffville Saturday.

Curtis Crago scored the game-winning marker with the first shot taken just 16 seconds into the second extra session.

Buoyed by goals from Josh Machesny and Lloyd Davis, the Clippers jumped out to an early 2-0 lead just five minutes into the opening period before Bradford elected to change goalkeepers.

That move appeared to jump-start Bradford as they took over the play for a period and a half, sending the teams to the dressing room tied at 2-2 after two periods and ultimately set the stage for Crago's heroics in the second overtime session.

STOUFFVILLE SATURDAY

After opening the series with a 4-4 tie on the road, the Clippers lost the second game at home 3-1.

Playing a more inspired contest in the third game, the Clippers overcame a 1-0 deficit with just 23 seconds remaining in regulation time when Crago scored to tie the game and force overtime.

But Bradford rallied to win the game in the first overtime period.

Trailing the series five points to one, the Clippers staged off elimination after receiving a steady net-minding performance from Ben Singh en route to a 4-0 win in the fourth game in Stouffville.

With the scene shifting back to Bradford, the Clippers forced a deciding game when David Belloff scored midway through the third period to propel Stouffville to a 6-5 victory.

The Clippers are facing Quinte West in a semifinal series that opened in Trenton yesterday and returns to the Stouffville Arena Saturday at 5:30 p.m. before going back to Trenton Sunday at noon.

Maple Leafs tough guy at Boston Pizza Friday

Toronto Maple Leafs tough guy Colton Orr will spend part of the Olympic break in Stouffville.

The hard-nosed winger will sign autographs and greet fans at Boston Pizza on Friday from 7 to 8 p.m.

The Winnipeg native has had 80 fights in 306 NHL games with the Leafs, New York Rangers and Boston Bruins, according to hockeyfights.com

Three of Orr's teammates, Luke Schenn, Tyler Bozak and Jay Rosehill, signed autographs at Boston Pizza last month. Leafs assistant coach Keith Acton co-owns the restaurant, at Hoover Park Drive and Hwy. 48.

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