

SPORTS: Clippers sail into OMHA playdowns

Juveniles open at home

The Stouffville juvenile Clippers picked a good time to play their best hockey of the season.

In their last nine Ontario Minor Hockey Association outings, the Clippers have won seven and tied two. They open the OMHA playoffs tomorrow.

Included in that stretch were a pair of 6-1 road victories against Port Perry Jan. 15 and East Gwillimbury Jan. 23.

The Clippers also battled East Gwillimbury to a 3-3 tie in East Gwillimbury Jan. 28 while falling 3-1 to host Orono Jan. 30.

Scoring for the Clippers during that stretch of games were Lee Averill with three, Scott Miller, Steve Demelo, Adam Cranley, Lloyd Davis, Joseph Harman, Malcolm Forbes and Phil Wood with two each. Singles were added by Jason Hewlett, Brad Sutherland, Brent Hewlett and Dylan Deveaux.

The Clippers will host East Gwillimbury at the Stouffville Arena Friday at 9 p.m. in the first game of their OMHA quarter-final series.

Minor bantams win opener of OMHA quarter-final series

The Stouffville minor bantam Clippers drew first blood in their best-of-five or first-to-six-point Ontario Minor Hockey Association quarter-final playoff series against the Newmarket Redmen with a 5-1 win at the Magna Centre in Newmarket Monday.

Jeremy Hughes scored twice and had one assist for the Clippers, who jumped out to a 3-0 lead after one period and were never threatened after that. James Merksamer added a goal and two helpers while Duncan Allen and Ben Sear added the other markers.

Jordan Brillinger collected three assists while Chris Evelyn, Ryan Daniels and Nathan Watson each had one.

The series is scheduled to resume today at the Clippers Sport Complex at 8 p.m.

Atom BB Stars tie first playoff game.

After finishing the regular season in first place in their division, the Stouffville-

Markham atom BB Stars began their first round, first to four point Lower Lakes Female Hockey League playoff series with a 1-1 tie against the Durham West Lightning at the Stouffville Arena Sunday.

Trailing 1-0 through two periods, the Stars salvaged the tie with a goal from Georgia Bender.

The Stars are in the Durham West Lightning Tournament this coming weekend and then resume the playoff schedule with the Lightning on Feb. 15 in Pickering.

Peewee Stars bounced from playoffs

The Stouffville-Markham peewee Stars saw their Lower Lakes Female Hockey League season come to an end after they lost their first round, first-to-four-point series to the Scarborough Sharks.

Having lost the first game 4-0 in Scarborough Saturday, the Stars gave the Sharks all they could handle in Sunday's second game at the Stouffville Arena before falling 2-1.

Sammy Burton scored the lone goal for the Stars.

The Stars are turning their attention to representing York Region in the upcoming provincial playdowns in April.

The Stars will play a two-game round-robin with Aurora and Georgina at the end of this month to determine which team goes to the provincials.

Major atom AE's out of OMHAs

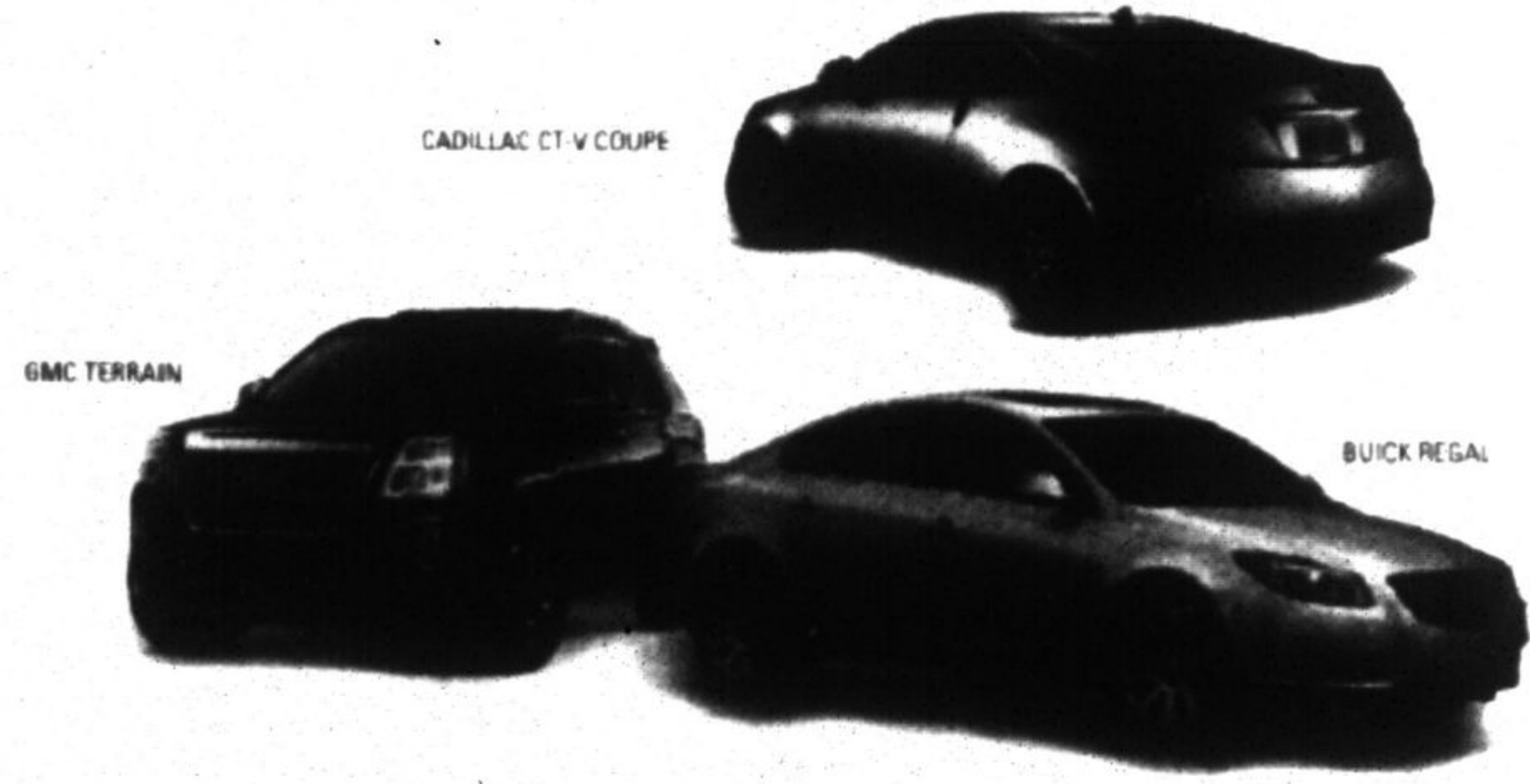
The Stouffville major atom AE Clippers were eliminated from the second round of the best-of-five Ontario Minor Hockey Association playoffs after falling 4-3 to host Orillia in the fourth game Saturday.

Justin Miller and James Carlin each scored one goal and had one assist for the Clippers. Anthony Messina added the other Stouffville goal.

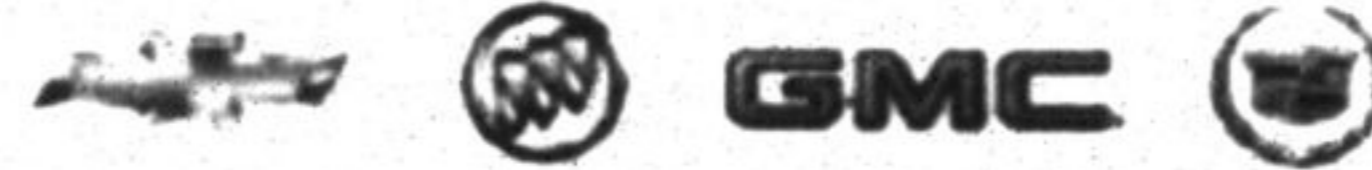
Nathan Wilson collected one assist. With the loss, the Clippers are relegated to the York Simcoe playoffs and await their opponents.

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