

SPORTS

Cardinals flying to OFSAA hockey

Four Stouffville residents are skating to the provincial boys high school hockey championships.

They are members of the Brother Andre (Markham) Cardinals senior boys' team that captured the York Region Athletic Association tier one title with a 4-0 win over the defending league champion St. Elizabeth (Thornhill) Panthers to sweep the best-of-three series at the Vaughan Sports Village last

Thursday.

Stouffville's Shawn Hulshof and David Beloff each scored once for the Cardinals, who held a 2-0 lead after one period and padded it to 3-0 through two.

Defencemen Daniel Perry and Kevin Stevens played integral roles in helping the Cardinals to preserve the shutout.

By winning the York title, the Cardinals will take part in the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations AAA/AAAA tournament in Toronto March 22 to 25.

Midgets get rematch in OMHA final

The Stouffville major midget Clippers moved one step closer to realizing their Ontario Minor Hockey Association title dream on the strength of a 2-2 overtime tie with Ajax Knights; clinching their first-to-six points semifinal series six points to four in Ajax Sunday.

Following a scoreless opening period, the Knights scored twice less than six seconds apart early in the second period.

But the Clippers battled back when Dalton Mayo scored from Curtis Crago and Daniel Perry to cut their deficit in half.

Before the period concluded, the Clippers tied the game on a goal by Crago from Adam Kostandoff.

The game then evolved into a nail-biting affair with both Stouffville goaltender Kyle Pontone and his counterpart in the Ajax net called upon to make a number of exceptional saves.

Ten minutes of overtime failed to deliver any additional scoring and, requiring only

one point to take the series, the Clippers were more than happy to settle for the tie enabling them to wrap up the series.

The Clippers had an opportunity to wrap up the series at the Stouffville Arena Saturday but failed to capitalize on home ice advantage by falling 5-2 to the Knights.

Josh Machesney accounted for both Stouffville goals in the third period after the Clippers trailed 5-0.

James McLeod, Will Brown, Kostandoff and Crago each collected assists.

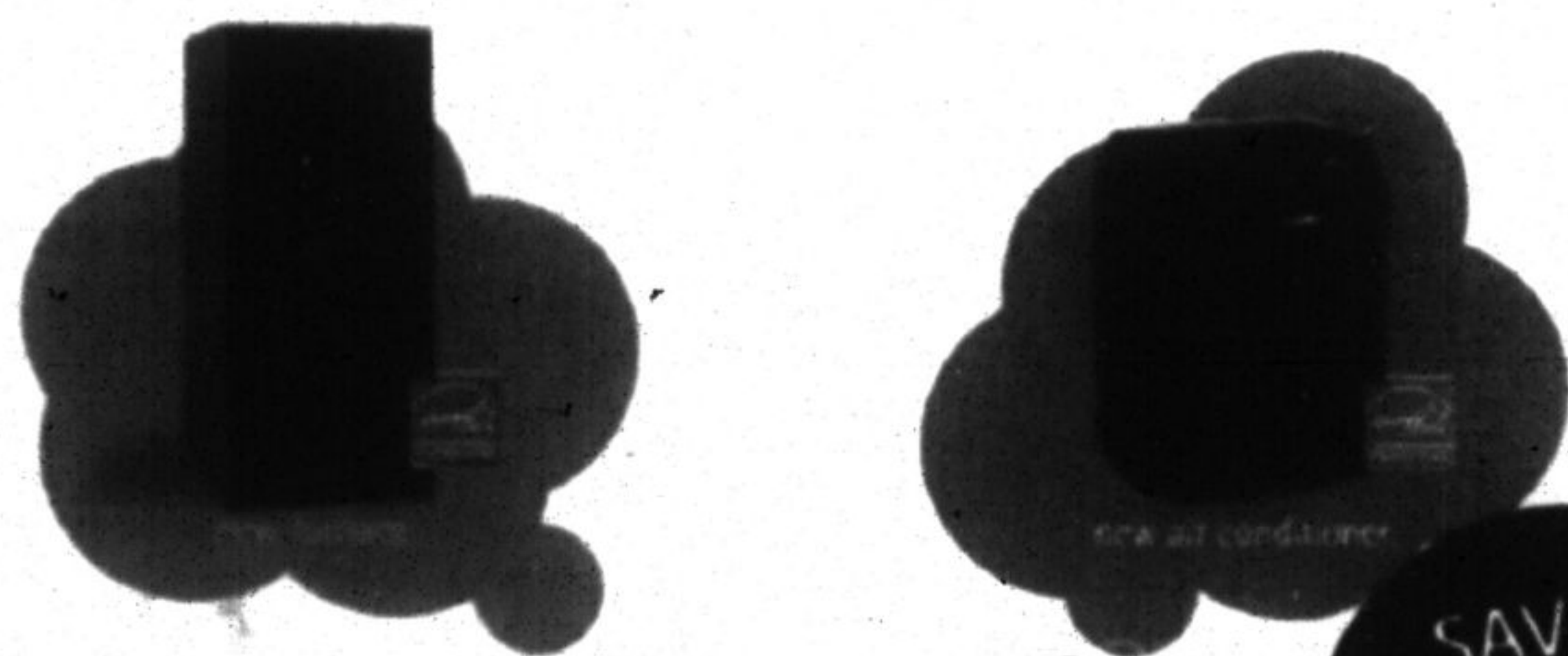
By winning the series, the Clippers will face Amherstburg in a rematch of last year's OMHA championship finalists.

As of press time, no dates were established.

In last year's final, Amherstburg swept the series.

Both teams will also head to the five-team Ontario Hockey Federation Midget A Championships which Stouffville will host April 8 to 10.

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