

2011: Torres falls in Cup final, others triumph

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Brunton was the lone Canadian instructor to be included on this prestigious list.

• The Granite Golf Club won the Club of the Year Award given out by the Canadian Society of Club Managers in their mid-size club category. The award is presented to Canadian Society Club Managers-affiliated clubs which exhibit significant innovation, leadership and social responsibility in the club industry.

HIGH SCHOOLS: The Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans senior boys' rugby team won their fifth straight York Region Athletic Association title and advanced to the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations AAAA gold medal game before settling for the silver medal after falling 26-7 to third-seed Uxbridge Secondary School. The Spartans were the top seed in the tournament.

• Hunter Davidson successfully retained his YRAA junior boys' golf title after carding a four-over 75 at the Red Crest Golf Club course in Kettleby. Finishing second was teammate Josh Burkholder.

• Greg Barker, a Grade 9 Stouffville District Secondary School student, won the bronze medal in the midget boys' discus at the OFSAA track and field championships in Sudbury. Barker was fourth in the shot put.

• Kevin Stevens, Shawn Hulshof, David Beloff, Daniel Perry, Ben Singh and Marco Mastrangelo were part of the Markham St. Brother Andre Cardinals senior boys' hockey team that won the OFSAA AAA/AAAA gold medal.

HOCKEY: For the second time in his NHL career, Ballantrae resident Raffi Torres was denied an opportunity to hoist the Stanley Cup after the Vancouver Canucks fell to the Boston Bruins in the seventh and deciding game. Once the season concluded, Torres became a free agent and signed a two-year deal with the Phoenix Coyotes.

• Several members of the Stouffville Spirit garnered post-season honours as forward Matt Neal was named to the Ontario Junior Hockey League's North-West first team while defenceman Tyler Ferry was named to the second team. Neal was also named the league's MVP and player of the month for January. Defenceman Brennan Serville was named to the league's All-Prospect Team. The 18-year-old Serville was chosen in the third round of the NHL draft by the Winnipeg Jets.

• Spirit defenceman Paul Geiger, 19, and forward Drake Caggiula, 17, were members of the Team Canada East entry that settled for the silver medal at the 2011 World Junior A Hockey Challenge in Langley, B.C. Just a few weeks later, Caggiula

would accept an offer from the University of North Dakota to attend school and play hockey there in the fall of 2012 or the following year.

• Josh Carrick, a 15-year-old defenceman with the Markham Majors, was chosen by the Canadian Olympic Committee to be part of a Canadian team that will compete at the 2012 Youth Winter Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria from Jan. 13 to 22, 2012.

• The Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association announced their Clippers rep A teams would make the jump to playing as AA entries starting in the 2011-12 Ontario Minor Hockey Association campaign.

• The Stouffville midget Clippers advanced to the Ontario Minor Hockey Association A final and took the Amherstburg Stars to a fifth and deciding game before succumbing 2-1. Both clubs would later play in the Ontario Hockey Federation A championships, which were hosted by Stouffville, with Amherstburg winning the coveted title.

• The Stouffville juvenile Clippers captured their division title

at the North American Silver Stick championships in Mooretown after defeating Quinte 4-0.

• After working 15 years in the Ontario Hockey League, including the last 10 as a referee, Sean McQuigge, 42, elected to hang up the blades in the OHL.

MARTIAL ARTS: Alexander Henry, 16, won his second Canadian taekwondo crown at the 2011 Junior and Senior Taekwondo Championships in Winnipeg after capturing the junior middleweight title. Henry won his first title in 2009 while competing as a bantamweight.

• Colleen Welch, a blue belt who trains with the Sheffield Judo Club, earned a silver medal at the 2011 Junior Canadian Judo Championships in Sept-Îles, Que. Welch competed in the under-17 70-kilogram and over class.

• Dominique Bosshart, a fifth-degree master instructor and 2000 Canadian Olympic bronze medalist who works out of Stouffville Taekwondo, was an inaugural inductee into the Canadian Taekwondo Hall of Fame.

• Sean Pierson, 35, fulfilled a dream in taking to the octagon as a part of the first UFC card to be held in Toronto at the Rogers Centre. Fighting before a record crowd of 55,000 onlookers at UFC 129, Pierson battled Jake Ellenberger before falling by TKO in the first round.

SOCCER: Striker Tommy Kouzmanis scored a goal to help the Markham Lightning men's over-35 team defeat Nova Scotia in the Eastern Masters Canadian final in Charlottetown. Other Stouffville residents with the Lightning included: defender Rene Martin and midfielder Paul Stoyanovski. The title won by the Lightning was their third in the last four years.

SOFTBALL: The Stouffville Storm junior mites reached the final of the provincial championships in Stouffville before settling for silver.

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