

SPORTS

Spirit grad almost perfect

Dan McWhinney has provided the Huntsville Havoc of the Southern Professional Hockey League with some stellar work between the pipes.

The former Stouffville Spirit netminder was named the league's Easton Player of the Week for the period ending Jan. 27.

McWhinney won two games and recorded a 0.54 goals against average and a .986 save percentage, stopping 73 of 74 shots last week.

In a 7-3 win over the Mississippi RiverKings Jan. 25, the Sault Ste Marie, Ont. native stopped all 30 shots he faced before being ejected for his participation in a third-period altercation. The following day, he only gave up a power play goal and stopped 43 of 44 shots in Huntsville's 5-1 win over Knoxville.

McWhinney was also player of the week for the period of Dec. 24 to 30. He led Huntsville to the 2009-10 SPHL President's Cup championship.

McWhinney played two seasons with the Spirit from 2004-06 and had an integral role in helping the Spirit reach the league championship final in 2006. That same season he was named the North Division's most valuable player.

Former captain to Massachusetts college

Former Stouffville Spirit forward Tommy Tsicos will join the Curry College Colonels beginning with the 2013-14 ECAC-Northeast season, the Ontario Junior Hockey League announced on its website.

The Barrie native began this season with the Spirit and served as their captain before he was dealt to the Orangeville Flyers. Tsicos played with the Spirit last season and helped it capture its first-ever Ontario Junior Hockey League title.

Competing at the NCAA Division Three level, Curry College is in Plymouth, Mass.

Juveniles have eye on top spot

The Stouffville juvenile Clippers' quest to claim first place in the regular season standings will boil down to their final two Ontario Minor Hockey Association contests.

The Clippers placed themselves in this scenario after battling the first-place Ajax Knights to a 3-3 tie in Ajax Wednesday.

The Clippers remained two points behind the Knights and have one game in hand, which they were scheduled to make up last night against the East Gwillimbury Eagles.

The Clippers and Knights are scheduled to meet for what should be for first place in their regular season finale at the Stouffville Arena Tuesday at 9 p.m.

The Clippers iced just seven forwards and five defencemen Wednesday due to a series of injuries and suspensions. Mike Vitelli scored the tying goal with just over three minutes remaining in regulation time — the Clippers' 13th straight game without a loss.

The Clippers skated off with a 4-0 win over Whitby at the Stouffville Arena last weekend.

Lloyd Davis scored a pair of goals, including one shorthanded, and Sean Moffat recorded the shutout.

The Clippers ran into untimely penalties before settling for a 2-2 tie with East Gwillimbury Sunday. Davis and Vitelli scored.

The Clippers will host the Ontario Hockey Federation championship tourney April 5 to 7 at the Stouffville Arena.



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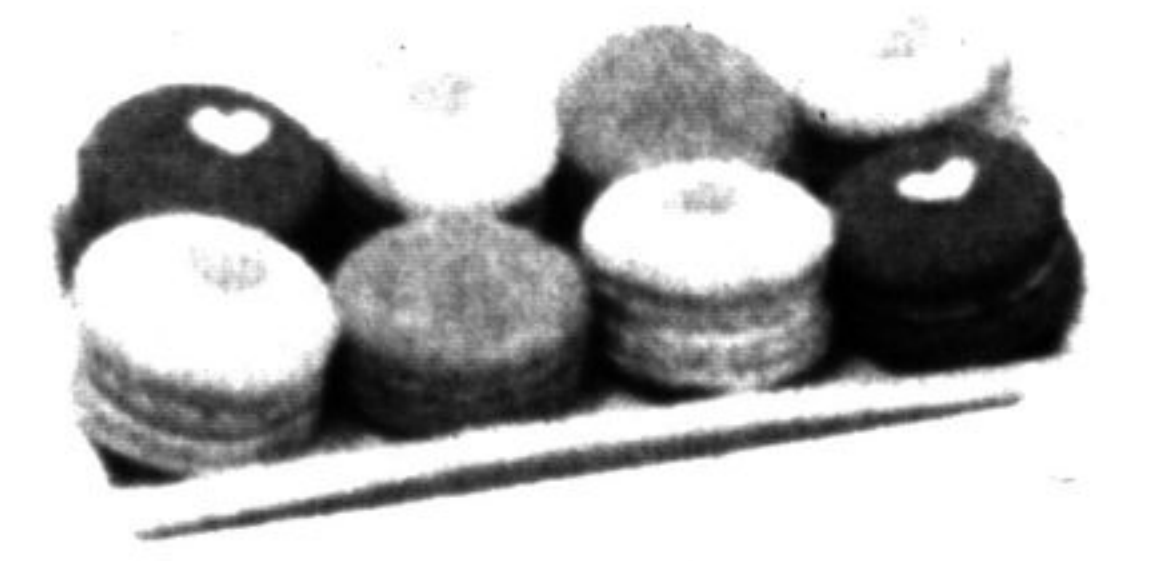


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