Panthers take Silver Stick Tourney again



By Ryan Essex

The Aurora Panthers emerged as champs in the 15th annual International Silver Stick Girls Finals held in Aurora this month. The tournament started with a 2-0 victory against Clearview on goals by Anna Riopelle and Sabryn Essex with goaltender Victoria Solilo posting a shutout.

That night, the team lost 2-0 to Cambridge (empty net goal) that put them in a do or die situation against Lansing Michigan Saturday morning. The girls came to play and outshot Lansing 36-5 posting a 1-0 victory on a late goal by Vanessa Carriere launching them into the semi-finals against Norfolk.

Victoria Solilo posted her third of four shutouts of the weekend as Aurora defeated Norfolk 5-0 in the semi-finals on goals by Carolyn Forster, Emma Bellerby, Niki Sir, Hannah Warriner and captain Zoe Wheeler.

In the final, game MVP Victoria Solilo posted her fourth shutout of the tournament helping lead the team to a 1-0 championship victory over the Guelph Junior Gryphons on a second period goal scored by Hannah Warriner off a great 2 on 1 pass from Carolyn Forster.

It was a hard fought championship game played by both teams.