

St. Max cruises to YRAA girls hockey final



By Jake Courtepatte

It's déjà vu for the St. Maximilian Kolbe Mustangs.

For the fourth year in a row, the varsity girls hockey Mustangs will skate in the YRAA championship series, after an offensive onslaught spelled out a quick semifinal series with Stouffville High School.

In Game One of the best-of-three series, Stouffville could not keep up with the likes of Nikki Shaw, the Mustangs leading scorer throughout the regular season. Her six-goal performance led St. Max to a 7 ? 0 win, with the shutout going to both Erynn Visser and Alyssa Errico.

Game Two in Stouffville on Thursday saw the Mustangs take a 3 ? 0 lead into the first intermission, and holding onto the shutout through two periods. Stouffville's only goal in the eventual 6 ? 1 final came with just over eight minutes to play on a scrum in front of the St. Max net.

Liv Reid led the way with a hat trick for St. Max, while Jayden Thompson added a pair of her own. Emily Gianias rounded out the scoring.

The Mustangs await the winner of the semifinal featuring Aurora High School and Markham District, with game two of the series going Tuesday afternoon after press time.

Markham took Game One of the series by a score of 4 ? 1.

In the boys Tier 1 playoffs, the Mustangs are set to face St. Elizabeth this week in a three-game series after eliminating Sir William Mulock in the first round.

The other semifinal features St. Brother Andre at St. Theresa of Lisieux.

For schedules, visit www.yraa.ca.