By Ross Murray

The Stanstead College Junior Girls Basketball Spartans captured the ETIAC playoff trophy for the first time ever on Tuesday, defeating Richmond Regional by a single point in the second half of the game.

### Spartans first-time playoff champions

**Martin Rourke**

**Bishop’s University**

Leading into Saturday afternoon’s contest in Montreal with the No.8 McGill Redmen the Bishop’s Gaiters men’s basketball team knew they had a tall task in front of them if they wanted to qualify for the RSEQ Final-4. First task was to win their final two games then get help. McGill ended all hope the Gaiters had with a convincing 76-46 triumph.

The Gaiters had staved off elimination the previous two weeks however were unable to make it three in a row. Bishop’s jumped out to a 17-15 advantage after the opening frame. The host Redmen then found their stride. They put up 20 points and held the guests to just five to grab a 35-22 halftime lead. McGill scored 22 more points in the third and Bishop’s answered with 15. Again in the fourth the nation’s eighth ranked team held the Gaiters to single digits and four in the nation’s eighth ranked team turned the ball over 16 times while the Gaiters had 24 miscues. McGill also out-rebounded Bishop’s 43-33 and turned the ball over 16 times while the Gaiters had 24 miscues. McGill had already wrapped up top spot in the RSEQ prior to the contest but three Redmen managed double figures. Dele Ogundokun had a game high 21 points while Jenning Leung scored 15 and Typhon Carter-Newman 10.

McGill had all the answers in the second half. Duncan Lambert chipped in with 11 of his own in just 17 minutes on the court. The Gaiters struggled from the field shooting just 20.3 percent including a 1-17 performance from three-point land. Compare that to McGill’s 45.6 percent and seven made threes in 17 attempts. McGill also out-rebounded Bishop’s 43-33 and turned the ball over 16 times while the Gaiters had 24 miscues.

One contest remains for Bishop’s who travel to the provincial capital on Thursday to face the Laval Rouge et Or (6-9). The Gaiters have dropped to 4-11 and will miss the playoffs for the first time since in the 2011-12 season.

**March is Maple Month**

Throughout the month of March, The Record will celebrate the time-honoured tradition of sugaring in the Townships.

Readers are invited to send in pictures and memories of their favourite moments around the wood stove in the sugar shack, or out emptying sap buckets waist-deep in snow.

Can you remember the first time you tried sugar on snow?

Do you have delicious maple recipes to share?

Can you remember the first time you tried sugar on snow?

Send your thoughts, pictures, recipes and memories of sugaring, or even describe the work involved in getting ready for this season’s harvest.

Email: newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com or call the newsroom at 819-569-6345 for more information.

**McGill ends Bishop’s hoopsters playoff hopes**

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Stanstead beat BCS 43-4 in the semi-final while Richmond had a by to advance to the final.

Richmond played a physical press throughout the final, forcing Stanstead to struggle to get the ball over half and resulting in a number of turnovers. But the Spartans were tough on defence in their own right, especially under the basket, resulting in a 2-point lead for the Spartans at half.

The second half saw Richmond further fluster the second-place team, allowing the Raiders to build a lead by as many as 7 points. With their top post player fouled out, Stanstead fought back and found themselves down 30-31. After an SC timeout, Emily Willis for the Spartans was fouled on the shot with only 11 seconds left. Needing one to tie, Willis sank two free throws to take the lead. Stanstead then hung tough on defence, forcing a Richmond turnover to regain possession and win the game.

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