



SQUIRTS MAJOR CROWNED SILVERSTICK CHAMPS

The Florida Jr. Panthers Squirt Major Team captured the Southeast Regional Silver Stick Championship in Alpharetta, GA. The qualifying tournament was held from December 6 through the 9, 2001. They will compete in the National Tournament in Sarnia, Ontario January 18-20, 2002.

The Panthers started the weekend with a tough game against the Jr. Everblades. Nick Cipriano opened the scoring on a breakaway but the Everblades came right back to tie the game in the second period. Danny Derasmo broke the 1-1 tie midway through the third period and the Panthers walked away with the 2-1 win.

The second game of the tournament was against the Ice Sharks of Sunrise. The Panthers dominated the game from start to finish. Tyler Wynn netted a hat trick while Cody Disbury added a goal and two assists. Brody Sutter rounded out the scoring in the 5-0 shutout. Team Raleigh was no match for the Panthers in a 9-0 blowout. Brody Sutter had a hat trick while Logan Romano added two goals and two assists.

The fourth game in the round robin tournament was inconsequential as the Panthers were the only unbeaten and untied team going into the final game. The Atlanta Fire needed to beat the Panthers by 17 goals to win the tiebreaker and take the championship from them. Although the Panthers lost 3-1 to the Fire, they won the championship and the right to represent the Southeast in Canada in the National Silverstick Tournament.

The Squirt Panthers are presently 18-0 and the only undefeated team in the Florida Youth Hockey League Squirt Division. **The Jr. Panthers include Tyler Wynn, Doug Beck, Danny Derasmo, Steven Gutowitz, Nick Cipriano, Steven Hamel, Cody Disbury, Ben Kantor, Danny Quinn, Logan Romano, Brody Sutter, Scott Schwartz, Connor Ference, Joseph Nathan, Jack Glenn and Casey Ray.** The team is coached By Steve Hamel, Jeff Ference and Mark Ray.