

Spirit power-play fizzles in 7-3 loss

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Correspondent

The Spirit of Stouffville headed north Friday with hopes of putting an end to a six-game skid.

The Stouffville crew ended up on the short end of a 7-3 score Thursday night as the Aurora Tigers avenged a defeat at the hands of the Spirit two weeks earlier.

And while the Spirit power play counted two of the three home team scores in the Provincial Junior A Hockey League contest, it was the inability of the host club to capitalize early with the man advantage that put them behind the eight ball.

"We had a seven-minute power play in the first period when the score was tied 1-1 and we couldn't get a goal," lamented Spirit head coach Dan Larmer. "If we could have put a couple of goals in we would have come out of the period up 3-1 and had them on their heels. Our power play is losing us games."

The Tigers pounced for four goals in the second while the Spirit could only counter with a pair.

The Aurora outfit iced it with two more in the third after withstanding a determined Stouffville offensive thrust early in the period.

"We were all over them (when it was still 5-3) but we just couldn't buy a goal," said Larmer.

Darcy King counted his team-leading 17th goal of the season for the Spirit, and had an assist on Scott Martin's first period score. Defenceman Brian Fish netted his first goal since joining the Spirit earlier this month, and also had an assist.

The Spirit were to play in Sturgeon Falls on Friday, then take on the Golden Bears in Timmins tonight as they engage in interlocking play with the Northern Ontario Junior A League. Larmer, whose team defeated Timmins at the Rec Centre back in October, expected his team to have its hands full on the northern swing.

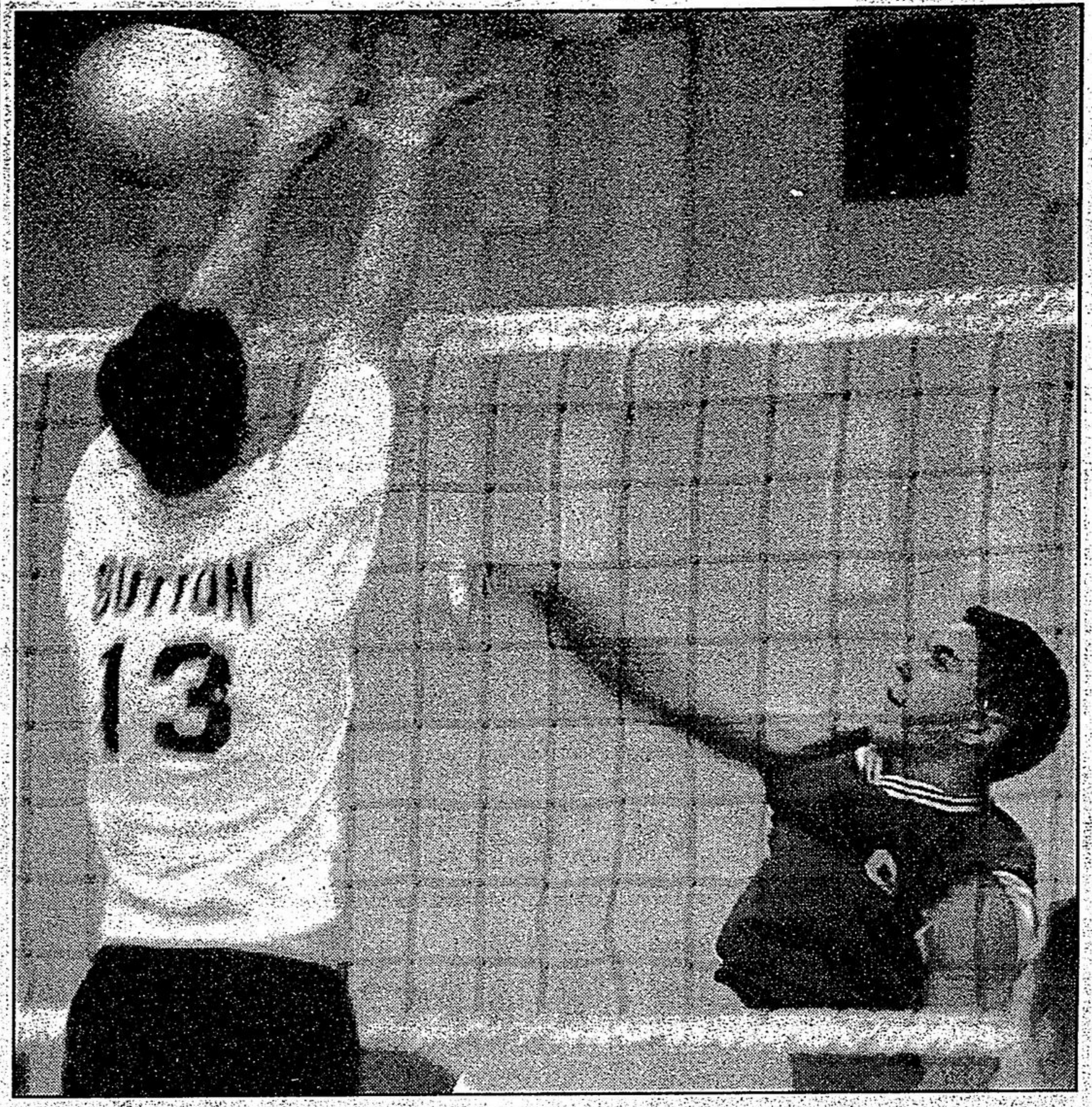
"Sturgeon Falls are a big team that checks and skates well. They are in second place in their league. And we should see a different Timmins team up there this weekend."

Thursday's game marked the Spirit debut for Craig Giuliani, a defenceman who put in a month with the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds of the OHL earlier this season. Giuliani, who stands six feet tall and weighs in at 190 pounds, was at the Spirit spring and fall training camps.

The Spirit have said goodbye to goal keeper John Tamburro and defenceman Jeff Morris, with deals currently pending that will likely see the two sent to Shelbourne and Cobourg respectively.

Stouffville minor hockey product Andrew Harper takes over the back up goalie role behind Corey Lloyd. Harper was with the Richmond Hill AAA midget Stars.

The Spirit, who remain in last place in the six-team Phillips Division return home to take on the fifth-place Lindsay Muskies on Dec. 4.



SPIKING IT RICH: Stouffville District Secondary School's Aaron Altmann (left), drives this ball past the outstretched arms of his Sutton District High School opponent during Wednesday's exhibition senior boys' volleyball game played at Stouffville District Secondary School. The visitors from Sutton won the closely contested match 2-1 (17-16, 13-15, 17-16). Photo by STEVE SOMERVILLE

Major peewees win two, tie one

It was a pair of 6-2 wins and a draw for the Barker Roofing major peewee Clippers in recent ice action.

The Stouffville outfit dumped Sutton in a league contest played in Keswick Nov. 17 as Kyle Sandiford and Tyler McMaster led the Clippers' offence. The former had two goals and an assist, with the latter accumulating a goal and four set ups. Marcus D'Annunzio had a goal and an assist; Cody Bennett and Jesse Miller each scored once; Andy Gibson and Cam Davis had two assists each; Rob Hooper added an assist. Justin Cheshire was solid in goal.

Miller scored from D'Annunzio in the third period to give the Clippers a 3-3 tie with Whitby in another road match Nov. 21. McMaster and Hooper also scored for Stouffville, with assists also going to Andrew McKay (2) and Matt Wright.

The Clippers rounded out the week with an exhibition win over the MTHL first place Vaughan Raiders at home Nov. 23.

Wright netted a hat trick, with McKay, Hooper and Miller adding singles. Assists went to Robert Steckley, McMaster and Bennett (two each), Gibson, Cameron Davis, Anthony Tsiopolous and Michael Cornacchia. Cheshire and Lucas Hunter shared the netminding duties.



Mite and minor atoms enjoy success on the ice

It was a winning week for the town's mite and minor atom selects teams.

The mighty mites recorded two wins and a tie in exhibition play, including a 6-3 triumph over Team Averill, a squad of Stouffville nine- and 10-year-old girls.

The mites also edged a tough team from Malvern 6-5, then rounded out the week by scoring with 30 seconds to play to earn a 5-5 tie with the Uxbridge tyke selects.

Stouffville coach Dan McEachen was delighted with his team's performance.

"We were behind in all three games this week but the players never gave up. Our goalie Ryan Adrian made big saves in every game."

Picking up points against Team

Sports

Averill were: Patrick McEachen (two goals, two assists), Lee Averill (one goal, two assists), Ethan Werek (one goal, two assists), Zack Stevens (one goal), Kurtis Hulshof (one assist). Cassandra Sparks had all three Team Averill goals.

McEachen hit for three goals and two assists against Malvern.

Other scorers were Werek (two goals, one assist), Averill (two goals, one assist) and Andrew Sanders (one assist each).

It was McEachen again with two goals and two assists in the win over Uxbridge.

Werek had three goals and an assist; Hulshof two assists; Averill

one assist.

Meanwhile, the minor atom select Clippers continued their successful season with a win and a draw.

They downed Richmond Hill on Nov. 21 as David Hogger netted a pair, with singles going to Kurtis Paisley and Keegan Donaghey.

Assists went to Daniel James (2), Chris Rand, Paisley. Goalie Kyle Basset surrendered his lone goal on a penalty shot.

The Clippers used a strong team effort, hard work and effective penalty killing to earn a 3-3 tie with Newmarket the next day.

Hulshof, Justin Brugger and Paisley on a last minute break-away were the Stouffville marksmen.

Rand, Nick Singh and Kyle Buckley assisted.

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