



TAKING A HANDS ON APPROACH: Stouffville District Secondary School defender Danny Jenkin (right), reaches in to try and take the ball away from this Father Michael McGivney player during action in Tuesday's YRAA junior boys' basketball game at Stouffville District Secondary School. Father Michael McGivney won the game 72-42.
Photo by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Spirit put in outstanding effort to upset Collingwood

BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

The proof was in the pudding. The Spirit of Stouffville responded to an infusion of natural nutrition, pre-game dessert and pep talk as they shut down the division leading Collingwood Blues 6-3 in a Provincial Junior A Hockey League game at the Rec Centre Thursday.

The Spirit exploded for four third period goals to erase a 3-2 deficit and win the game going away.

The game marked the first ever Provincial league start for goal tender Andrew Harper, a Stouffville minor hockey product.

The Spirit's big line of Kevin Edgar, Darcy King and Mike Micheff combined for 10 points.

Edgar had two goals and two assists, Micheff had a pair of goals and one helper, while King scored into an empty Blues net while adding two assists as well. Jason Ellis had the other goal.

While the Spirit were paid a

visit by a local natural nutritionist before the game, Harper augmented his pregame diet with a serving of chocolate pudding courtesy of Spirit official Bob McKinnon.



KEVIN EDGAR

But it was captain Jeff Marshall's dressing room wake up chat that inspired the team after five straight home ice defeats, according to King. "He (Marshall) came into the room and said a few things,"

acknowledged King. "It caused a lot of guys to pick it up tonight."

Harper, who faced 30 shots, said he was overcome by nerves at the start of the game.

"It was the most nervous I've ever been, being back home here in Stouffville after playing the

Sports

last few seasons in Richmond Hill (AAA Stars)," said Harper.

He said it was as if a 20-pound weight was lifted off his shoulder at the final buzzer.

"I felt like the guys had a lot of confidence in me tonight."

Coach Dan Larmer praised Harper, while calling the game "the best 60 minutes we've played since our home opener. Harper was outstanding. Not a bad start to his Junior career."

Spirit assistant coach John Peron credited the line of Kyle Chapman, Ed Kearney and Scott Martin for holding Eastern Conference scoring leader David Deaves to one point, a goal scored during a Spirit line change. "They were strong," Peron said of the trio.

The Spirit, who were to travel to Couchiching last night to play the Terriers, close out 1997 in Aurora against the Tigers Sunday.

Major peewees occupy top spot

The Stouffville Barker Roofing major peewee Clippers jumped into first place in the York Simcoe League's eastern division with a 3-2 win over the Markham Waxers at Milliken Mills Arena on Dec. 9.



Tied 1-1 at the end of the first period and down 2-1 after two, the Clippers rallied for two goals in the third to win it.

In an exhibition match with Aurora's 'AA' level team on Dec. 10, the Clippers suffered a 6-2 loss.

The Clippers, however, battled Schomberg to a 1-1 draw in league play on Dec. 13, then dumped Whitby 5-1 the following day to close out the week.

Scoring for the Clippers over the week were: Robert Hooper (two goals), Cody Bennett, Josh Brillinger, Cameron Davis (one goal, two assists each), Anthony Tsiopoulos, Andy Gibson, Mike Cornacchia and Matt Wright (one goal, one assist each), Brian Taylor (one goal), Andrew McKay, Robert Steckley, Tyler McMaster and Jesse Miller (one assist each).

MAJOR ATOMS WIN CLOSE ONE

Josh Spang, Justin Lyons and Gabe Barnett scored to give the major atom

Clippers a hard fought 3-2 victory over a Sutton team that had lost only two games all season Sunday at the Rec Centre.

The Clippers employed a full team effort to pick up the win over the near-invincible Sutton squad.

Earlier in the week, the Clippers put forth a strong effort, but were still shaded 1-0 by Angus in a road contest.

DON VALLEY NORTH LEXUS - TOYOTA ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



JASON GOLDENBERG

Jason Goldenberg has been a key factor in the recent success of the Markham Waxers' junior A club.

The 17 year old right winger amassed a hat trick in leading the Waxers to a 6-2 win over the Pittsburgh Junior Penguins last Friday.

A second year member of the Waxers, Goldenberg currently leads the Waxers in scoring with 28 goals and 24 assists.

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