

# SPORTS

## Spirit is high for opening of training camp

*The Spirit of Stouffville will open training camp tomorrow*

BY BRUCE STAPLEY  
CORRESPONDENT

The Spirit of Stouffville begin training for the coming season tomorrow evening with a host of returnees and a pair of new comers.

The Spirit's opening training session of the 1998-99 OHA Provincial Jr. A Hockey

League campaign will be restricted to veterans only, with the exception of recently signed defencemen Justin Graham and Beau Llewellyn.

The main camp gets under way Saturday and Sunday.

"Wednesday will give the coaching staff a chance to feel each other out," said new Spirit head coach Brian Perrin, who will be flanked by assistant coaches Ken Burrows and Craig Donovan. Scott Stevenson is the team's strength and conditioning coach.

Perrin said as many as 16 members of the 1997-98 squad should be on the ice tomorrow. Graham and Llewellyn are the first new players to sign on with the team.

"We'll have some more sign-

ings to be announced later," said Perrin.

Graham, a 17-year-old Bradford resident, was with the York-Simcoe Express midgets last season.

Perrin said the six-foot, 195-pounder is a dependable defenceman who likes to control the corners.

"He's strong physically, and tough in the corners," said Perrin. "He makes the sure plays, he's a play-it-safe defenceman."

Llewellyn, 16, was with the Toronto Red Wings bantams last year. The Oro Station resident stands six foot one inch and weighs in at around 175 pounds. Perrin expects the fast-skating teen to help set up the offence.

"Beau's an offensive defenceman," noted Perrin. "He likes to join in on the rush. And he has really good footspeed."

Players from last year's Spirit club intent on staying with the team include high scoring winger Kevin Edgar, defencemen Jason Ellis, Steve Pocock, Phil Vito, Craig Giuliani, Kyle Harrison, forwards Scott Martin, Mike Micheff, Phil Barski, Randy Stolec, Ricky Rideout, Dave Zelasko, Joe Byles, Brandon Crossen, and Jason Fontanna, goal keepers Cory Lloyd and Andrew Harper.

Perrin said the high number

of veterans gives the team a strong base to work with.

"We probably have the most returning players of any team in the league."

The coach said he and his assistants have been busy since the spring lining up talent.

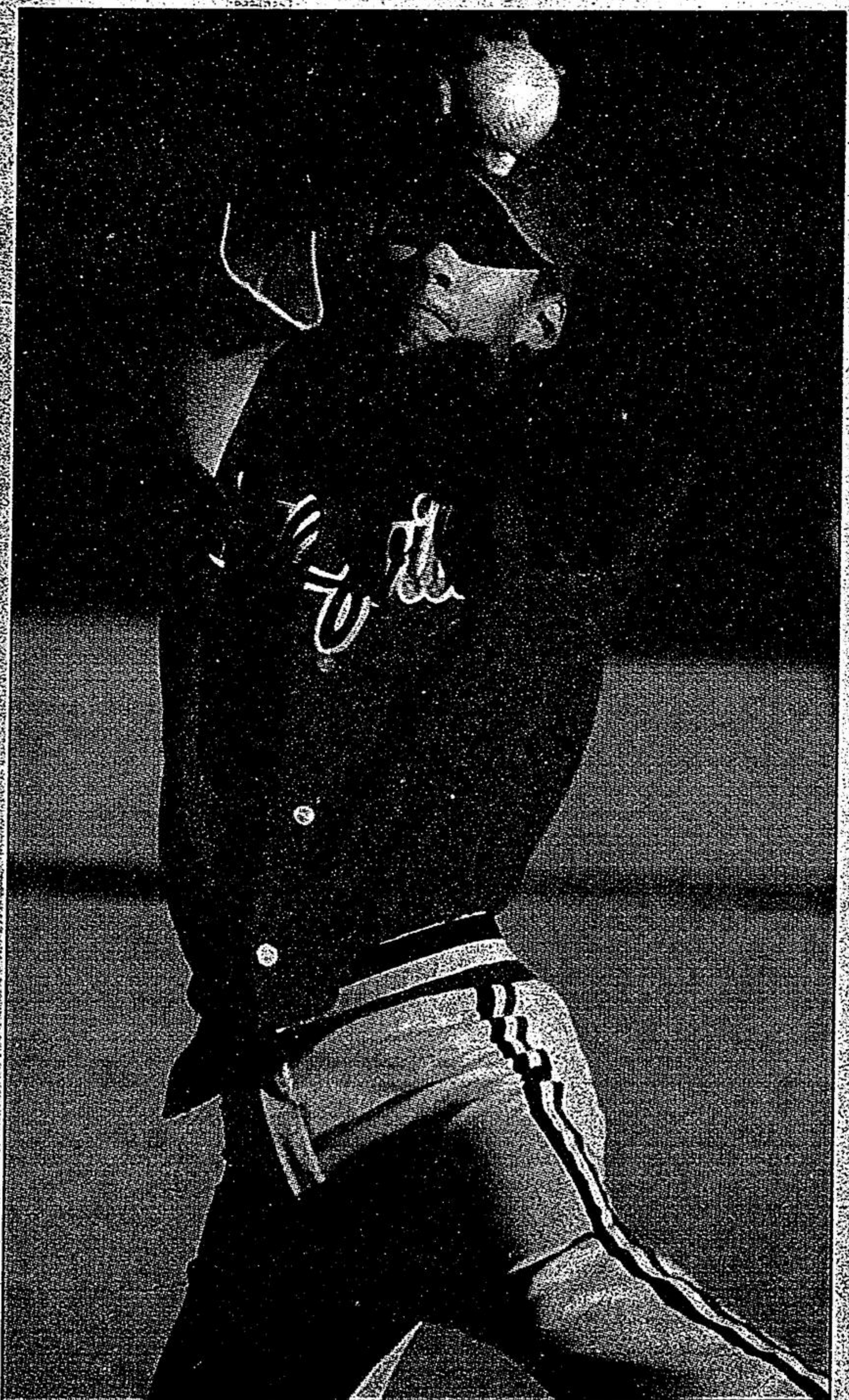
"It's been hockey ever since April. It's quite the challenge just to recruit players. We've talked to a lot of kids and been to a lot of houses."

Beginning next week, the Spirit are to hold sessions Tuesday and Thursday evenings through the end of August. An exhibition game is to be arranged for sometime near the end of the month.

The Spirit open their fourth season Sept. 17 at home against the Durham Huskies. The Huskies are one of seven former Metro Jr. A League clubs in the newly formed Central Conference. The Aurora Tigers, Collingwood Blues, Couchiching Terriers and Newmarket Hurricanes round out the conference.

All games are to be played on Thursdays and weekends this season.

Fans are welcome at Spirit training sessions. Tomorrow's opening session gets under way at 6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday will see the players on the ice from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

### HERE'S THE PITCH

Stouffville pitcher Greg Dalgarno prepares to unleash this offering to a Vaughan Vikings batter in this peeewee boys' fastball game at the town park diamond on Thursday.

## Koert outduels Baranieski in Rebels' 1-0 win over Mennos

It was a pitching clinic Wednesday night at the ballpark in Clarendon.

The host Clarendon Rebels rode Paul Koert's one hitter to a 1-0 victory over Byron Baranieski and the Stouffville Mennos in an Oshawa City and District Softball

League game played in front of a crowd that was both sizeable and appreciative.

Koert's bid for a no-hitter was stymied in the top of the seventh and final inning, when Rich Burkholder slashed a lead off double. The 19-year-old lefthander

then gave up his first walk of the game to his counterpart Baranieski. Burkholder advanced to third on a fielder's choice, with Koert putting out the fire by recording his second strike out of the inning, and his 10th of the game, to retire Ed Burkholder.

Paul pitched a fantastic game, raved Rebels coach Frank Hendy. "His stuff was really working well."

Hendy credited his players for coming up with a solid team effort to back up Koert. Baranieski wasn't far behind. The lanky righthander surrendered just three hits while

fanning five batters.

The Rebels managed the only run of the game in the third inning when Greg Horne beat out a bunt single, advanced to third on a field-

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