

**SPORTS:** Spirit fall below .500 mark with third straight loss

# Lack of consistency plagues Spirit

The Spirit of Stouffville's inability to come up with 60 minutes of consistent hockey was their undoing as they fell 6-3 to the Markham Waxers in a Provincial Junior A Hockey League game played Thursday night at the rec centre.

The host squad recovered from an early swoon to erase a 3-0 first-period deficit, closing the gap to 3-2 in the second.

They seemed ready to pull even early in the third before the Waxers put the game away with a trio of markers, the third coming on a clearing shot with the Markham crew playing shorthanded.

"You have to play 60 minutes to win," said Spirit assistant coach Ken Burrows, who suggested a strong start is essential to beat the third-place Waxers.

"Even though we played a good second period we blew the game in the first. Then we had a chance to win it in the third, but we couldn't do it."

Mike Tucciarone put the Spirit on the board late in the first period with his seventh goal of the season on a set up by Kevin Edgar and Dave Zelasko.

Zelasko counted his 13th on a power play to bring the Spirit to within a goal mid way through the second stanza. Justin Graham had the assist.

Graham closed out the Stouffville scoring with his second goal of the campaign with the Waxers two men short with the game already out of hand well into the third.

It was the third straight defeat for the Spirit, whose record slipped to seven wins, eight losses and an overtime defeat. The Stouffville club still sits in fifth place in the Central Conference with 15 points.

The Spirit were without the services of Central Conference scoring leader Phil Barski. The centremen was resting a nagging leg injury that has been plaguing him since early in the season. Barski, however, expects to be back in the lineup when the Spirit host the Wexford Raiders at the rec centre on Nov. 5.

The Spirit were to travel to Collingwood to take on the Blues last night.

**Spiritually speaking:** The Central Conference-leading Newmarket Hurricanes lost its first game of the season on Thursday to the Couchiching Terriers 4-2. The second-place Terriers have lost just two times this season.



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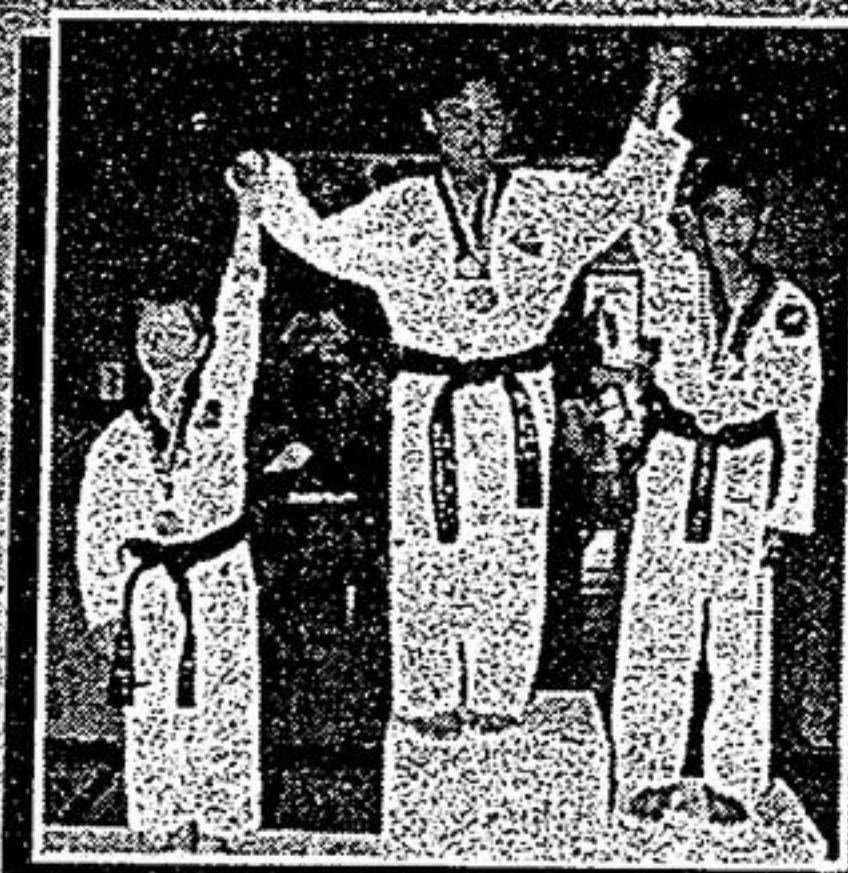
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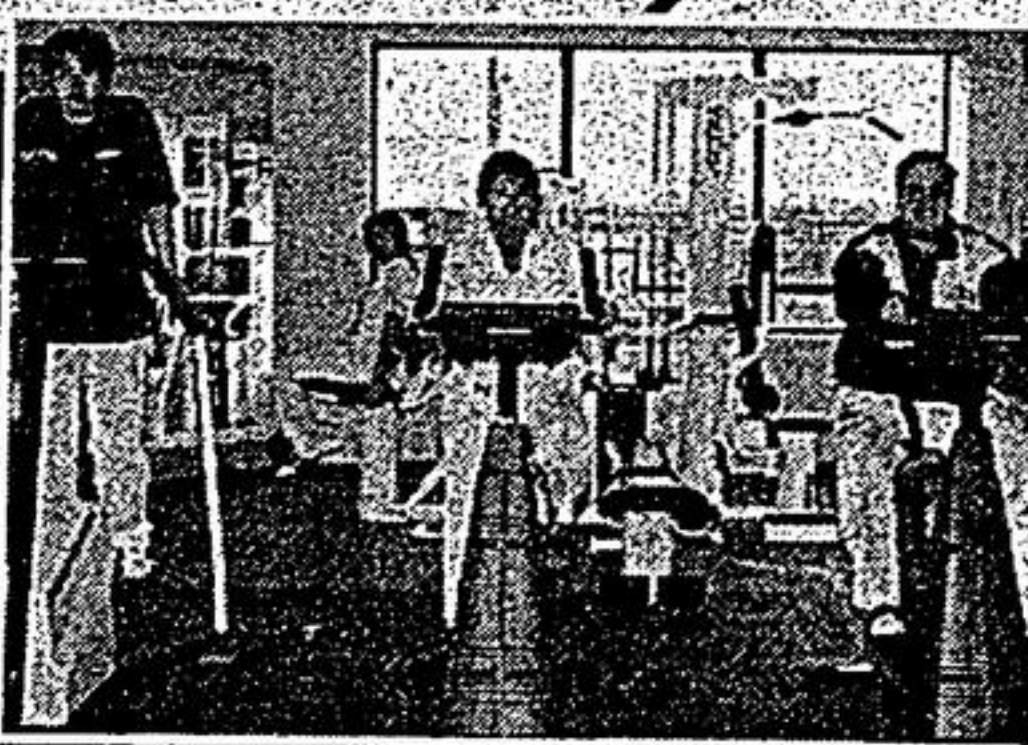
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## School sports programs get help

BY BRUCE STAPLEY CORRESPONDENT

A group of local teens will be cleaning cars for kids today at the rec centre.

The fundraising car wash is in support of Synergy, a program whose aim it is to offer intramural sports programs for local elementary schools.

The idea is the brainchild of Brother Andre Catholic High School students and Stouffville residents Claudia Petramala, Andrea and Nicole Brugger and Daniel Ross.

The quartet hopes to begin with a three-on-three basketball tournament at St. Mark's School in November.

The same event is to be held at the public elementary schools as soon as the current work to rule job action is over.

"Our committee will do all the work," said Petramala. "We'll need one teacher in the gym, that's all."

"We plan to take the top two teams from each school and bring them together for a mass tournament later in the year," said Petramala.

All four committee members have taken a recreational leadership course at Brother Andre.

"We've all had experience doing this sort of thing," said Petramala.

She said the four students plan to run the program on their own time after the school day is over.

The group hopes to add volleyball and floor hockey tournaments to the lineup next school year.

Car owners at today's car wash are being asked to make a donation only.

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