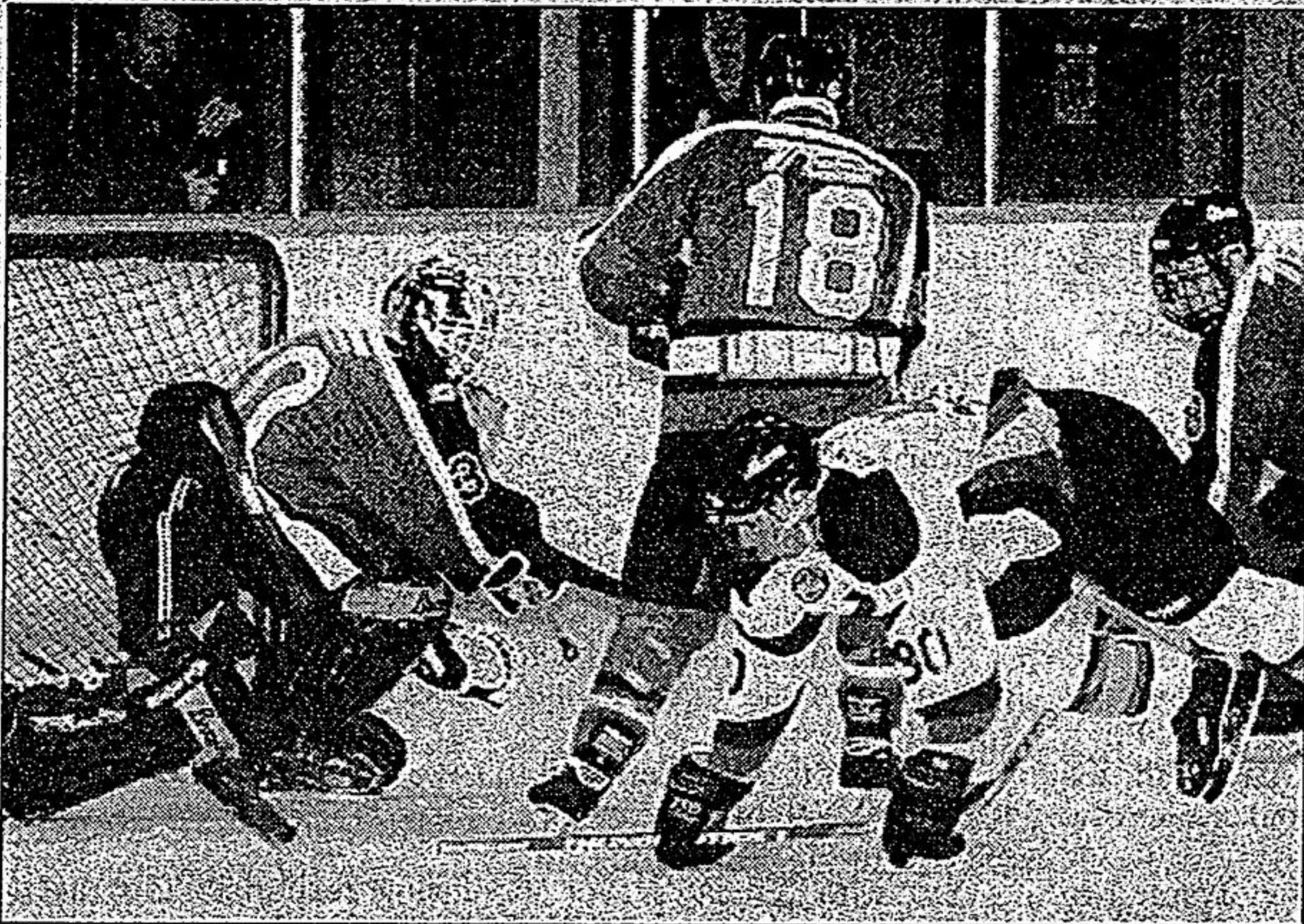


SPORTS: Spirit losing ways comes to a halt

Knuff a big hit in victory



STAFF PHOTO/SIOERD WITTEVEEN

Spirit of Stouffville forward David Zelasko (90), lands in front of the Wexford Raiders goal during action in Thursday's Provincial Junior A Hockey League contest at the rec centre. The Spirit won the game 6-4.

BY BRUCE STAPLEY
CORRESPONDENT

Knuff already!

That was the lament of the visiting Wexford Raiders Thursday at the rec centre as the Spirit of Stouffville ended a four-game losing streak with a 6-4 victory in the Provincial Junior A Hockey League contest.

An elbow from Spirit forward Rob Knuff in the direction of Wexford's wandering goalkeeper Jamie Bruno at the game's mid way mark with the Spirit ahead 3-1 proved to be the turning point.

A dazed Bruno was forced to leave the game, with the Spirit going on to score two goals, one shorthanded, within minutes of the brawl resulting from the injury.

Kevin Edgar, whose two goals gave him a team leading 17 on the season, suggested the disruption served to hype up the Spirit.

"You don't like to see that kind of thing happen but I think it gave us a little lift," Edgar said of the battle of the giants that saw Spirit winger Jesse Johnston and Wexford's Mike Abbott, go to it in the aftermath of the collision between Knuff and Bruno.

"It could have worked against us or for us," said Spirit head coach Brian Perrin of the second-period disruption.

The coach said he thought Knuff's errant elbow was unintentional and that Bruno was hurt when he ended up on the bottom of the frenzied pile up that followed.

The Spirit led 2-1 after the first period on power play goals by Edgar and Jeff Cochrane, who was back in the Stouffville lineup after suffering a concussion against the Collingwood Blues last Friday night.

Jason Ellis's low drive from the point eluded a screened Bruno to make it 3-1 shortly before the second period flare up.

Ellis struck again when he deflected a shot by J.D. Smithson, and Brendan McCann counted his fifth of the year while Knuff was still serving his five-minute elbowing major.

The Raiders scored late in the period, then cut

the Spirit lead to 5-3 at the mid point of the third. The visitors narrowed the gap to one with two minutes to play on their third straight power-play goal.

But Kevin Edgar slam-dunked his second marker of the game into an empty Raiders net in the dying seconds.

Winger Scott Martin had three assists for the Spirit. Smithson had a pair of helpers.

The Spirit held a 31-22 edge in shots on goal.

The win improved the Spirit season record to eight wins, nine losses and an overtime defeat, moving them back into a fifth-place tie with the Aurora Tigers with 15 points, two ahead of Wexford.

Ellis, whose goals were his third and fourth of the season, also added an assist to move into fourth place on the team in total points with 16.

The Spirit captain credits Cochrane, his defence partner who also has four goals, with his strong offensive showing.

"I have total confidence in him," said Ellis.

The game marked the return of centre Phil Barski, who had missed the past two games with a nagging leg ailment.

Barski picked up an assist to give him 38 points, three behind Edgar, who is second in the Central Conference scoring race just behind Couchiching's Jason Bullock.

"We got some great efforts from some guys who have been quiet lately," said Barski.

Perrin said the Spirit seemed to respond to a team meeting Monday where he encouraged his players to put their losing ways behind them.

"We decided we were going to start the season over again tonight," said Perrin, who said his team "did all the little things right" to earn the win over Wexford.

The Spirit are in Durham to play the Wolves tonight.

Spiritually speaking, Stouffville resident Brad Clubine has decided to play with the juvenile Clippers for the rest of the season. The centremen had two goals and three assists in 14 games with the Spirit.

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WHEN: Thursday, November 12, 1998 at 7:30 p.m.
WHERE: Stouffville Christian Blind Mission, (Stouffville Rd. At Kennedy)




Thelma Creighton, Administrator
Ken Prentice, CFP Managing Owner

Seating is limited...RSVP to Ken or Thelma at 905-642-9507


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CORRECTION NOTICE

We wish to draw your attention to the following in our current "Early Holiday Sale" Flyer.

Page 9 Item #2, Kamik Limited Edition Boots, 87-3131X
Selection may vary by location and only limited quantities are available. No rainchecks will be issued.

Page 24 Item # 6, 1/4" Air Die Grinder, 58-7905-0
Copy reads: 9.0 SCFM at 90 PSI
Should read: 6.1 SCFM at 90 PSI

Item #7, Air Hammer, 58-7907-6
Copy reads: 13 SCFM at 90 PSI
Should read: 6 SCFM at 90 PSI
The illustration is also incorrect and shows an impact wrench instead of an Air Hammer.

We wish to draw your attention to the following in our current "Great Gifts, Great Prices" flyer.

Page 20 85-pc. 1/4 and 3/8" Drive Socket Set, 58-9998-6
Copy reads: Reg. 139.99, Sale 99.99, Save 40%
Should read: Reg. 149.99, Sale 99.99, Save 33%

Page 27 4 Gauge Booster Cables, 11-1219-0
Copy reads: Reg. 44.99, Sale 34.99
Should read: Reg. 44.99, Sale 38.19, Save 15%

Page 31 Computer Code Readers 25-1001X
Copy reads: For most makes
Should read: For most Ford or GM Models

Item #4, Digital Multimeter, 25-1031-2
Copy reads: Reg. 42.99, Sale 29.99, Save 30%
Should read: Reg. 46.49, Sale 32.49, Save 30%

We sincerely regret any inconvenience we may have caused you.

cnote d344/345 - Zone 0

Girls take to the ice this weekend

The girls take over the rec centre ice surfaces this weekend as 500 female players take part in the Stouffville Stars Girls Hockey Tournament.

The competition, the largest ever held by the Stouffville-Markham Girls Hockey Association, sees seven of the participating 32 teams wearing Stouffville Stars colours, one per division.

The action began yesterday and continues today when Stouffville faces Vaughan in the opening Novice B/C match at 8 a.m. on Pad A. The first Pee-wee BB game pits Stouffville against Oshawa at Markham's Mount Joy Arena at the same time.

Pad A is the site of the first Atom BB skirmish between Stouffville and Oshawa at 9 a.m.

The Bantam B flight kicks off with a game between Stouffville and Oakville at 10 a.m. on Pad A.

The preliminary round runs through tonight and tomorrow morning.

The playoff round gets under way at noon tomorrow on Pad A, with the top two teams in each division contesting their respective titles.