

Rookie steps to the front to give a Spirited performance

Stouffville tames Aurora 4-2 despite loss of star to OHL Petes

The Stouffville Spirit lost a good one Thursday morning and won a big one Thursday night.

Mike Ramsay, the junior A hockey team's second leading pointgetter, signed early in the day with the Peterborough Petes of the Ontario Hockey League.

The Spirit immediately found a replacement for Ramsay on the team's top line, with captain Anthony Minicucci and J.D. Smithson.

Rookie Kevin Jarman, 16, scored two goals — one came on his first shift on the big line, at 1:49 of the first period — to help the Spirit beat the Aurora Tigers 4-2 in a Provincial Junior A Hockey League game at the Stouffville Arena before 400 spectators.

The win improved the Spirit's record to 18-14-5-1, good for fourth place in the North Conference. Aurora (23-13-2-1) is in third. Each team won three of the six games played between the neighbouring towns in the season series that is now complete.

The Spirit hosts the North York Rangers tonight at 8:30 at the arena, and visits the Huntsville Wildcats tomorrow night. The Oct. 25 game with North York, postponed due to a power outage in Stouffville, will be played 7:45 p.m. Tuesday in Uxbridge.

"We knew for three or four days that Mike (Ramsay) could be going," said Jarman, a resident

of Aurora who was named Brimell Toyota/KIA of Agincourt player of the game. "And we knew we had to rally around that for the rest of the season."

The Spirit jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the second period and held on for the win. Curtis Cribbie had another big game in net for the Spirit, which was outshot 25-24.

For head coach Brian Perrin and his assistant, Craig Donovan, now in their fourth season in Stouffville, it was their 100th win with the team.

Perrin had mixed emotions about losing Ramsay, who had 54 points in 33 games this year, on roster deadline day for both the OHA and OHL.

"We want to put players to the next level here," said Perrin. "But I just wish the OHL could have been a little more patient and waited until next year to take Mike."

"For Mike, it was an opportunity he couldn't refuse. But I think he owes a lot of gratitude to his teammates for helping him achieve this success."

Smithson earned three assists before being tossed out for fighting late in the second period. Minicucci and Michael Commisso had the other Spirit goals.

Peterborough also signed Alex Vasserman, recently acquired by Couchiching from Parry Sound, on Thursday. Aurora lost its leading scorer, David Clarkson, to Belleville of the OHL.

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING: The Spirit signed a pair of former Huntsville Wildcats Thursday. Craig Stern, a 20-year-old defenceman from Minnesota, played for the Tupelo T-Rex of the American Western league last fall. The rights to Matt Raymond, a 17-year-old forward from Orillia, were purchased from Huntsville...Ramsay didn't play Thursday but Vasserman did as Peterborough lost 4-2 to the Brampton Battalion. Ex-Spirit defenceman Grant Buckley of Stouffville plays for the Battalion.



KEVIN JARMAN
Player of game leads Spirit to win over his home town.

Bantam Stars get bronzed

SPORTS DIGEST

The Markham-Stouffville North Pointe Chev Olds-Dr. B. Frackowiak-

Tim Hortons Markham-Dr. Betty Cragg-W.Freeland Holdings-Dr. Gail Morris bantam AA Stars skated home with the bronze medal from the recent 21st annual Mississauga Chiefs Hockey Tournament.



Markham claimed the medal after edging the London Devilettes 2-1 in the consolation final.

In round-robin play, the Stars posted wins over the Durham West Lightning 2-0 and the Aurora Panthers 3-1 and battled the host Chiefs to a 1-1 draw. The club's lone setback came at the hands of the eventual tournament champion Chatham Outlaws.

Scoring for the Stars were: Stephanie Giliberto, Lindsay Brown, Emily Gamble, Laurie McLellan, Sarah Magee and Cassie Sparks. Earning assists were: Lindsay Morris-Pocock, Ashley Lucas, Shannon Hagarty, Jessica Lister, Erin Carter, Christina Quartarone, Renee Blanchard and Jessi McDermott. Liz Knox and Danielle Beattie shared goaltending duties.

Youths kick up a storm

Moshee Kelyana scored the game's lone goal and Neil Bryan posted a shutout to propel the Unionville-Milliken Strikers under-11 boys to a 1-0 win over East York in the final of the recent Ontario Thunder Hawks indoor soccer tournament.

In reaching the final, Joshua Gonsalves' goal allowed Unionville-Milliken to defeat West Toronto 1-0 in its opener. Gonsalves scored again in

the team's second game, a 2-1 loss to Dixie. But the Strikers rallied to down Mississauga 4-1 to advance to the semi-finals on three goals by Gonsalves and one from Kelvin Ng.

Facing Waterloo in the semi-final, the Strikers collected goals from Gonsalves and Kelyana to emerge with a 2-1 win.

Other team members contributing to the win included: Anthony Colangelo, Junior Marshall, Andrew Chan, Alex Kozovski, Jordan Holmes, Eric Stainton, Jeffrey Mottashed, Marc Ortali, Philip Fletcher, Seth Goyes, Khalil Rajan and Theron Nicholls.

Novice selects ice tourney title

Backed by a strong goaltending effort from Jordan Hamilton, the Markham Waxers novice selects skated off with the title from the recent Uxbridge Bruins tournament with a 5-0 win over Richmond Hill in the championship final.



The Waxers advanced to the finals after battling Brantford to a 3-3 tie and defeating Newcastle 5-1.

Scoring for the Waxers were: Scott Murphy five goals, two assists; Robbie Keyzers two goals, one assist; Adam Murphy two goals, two assists; Michael Luciano two goals; David Paivel one goal, two assists; Jesse Longo one goal, one assist; Sam Tetsos, Michael Cutler and Nicholas Porter one assist.

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