

## Hot Van Allen in 'right place' with Spirit

Maybe it was the removal of the Mohawk haircut or the semi-recovery from a hand injury.

Whatever, Jake Van Allen can't explain his penchant for piling up points for the Stouffville Spirit.

Van Allen scored his eighth goal of the season at 6:11 of the third period Thursday to tie the Ajax Axemen, then assisted on two more goals in the next four minutes to lead the Spirit to a 5-3 win at the Stouffville Arena. He had two goals in a 5-0 win over Pickering in the Spirit's last game.

The 15-9-1-0 Spirit is in third place in the North Conference of the Provincial Junior A Hockey League, four points behind the Newmarket Hurricanes (17-6-1-0).

Van Allen was named MGH Office

Repairs player of the game both nights.

"I've never really been a goal scorer in minor hockey," said the 17-year-old rookie from Dickson Hill, who played for the Don Mills Flyers minor midgets last season. "I'm just in the right place at the right time, I guess. And the guys I'm playing with are that much better than players I've played with before."

### SIDELINED BY INFECTED FINGER

After a scorching start, Van Allen missed six games last month after injuring the index finger on his right hand. While moving an A-frame sign, he cut the finger. It became infected and swelled extensively. It's still far larger than normal but not affecting his touch.

Van Allen and teammate and Stouffville District Secondary School

classmate Kevin Hayward had Mohawk cuts done last week. Dissatisfied with the look, Van Allen had his cut down to a brushcut before Thursday's game.

The Spirit led 2-1 after one period, on goals by Jordan Mabley and Ty Raine. But Ajax scored twice in the second to lead 3-2. The Spirit outshot Ajax 42-22. Neil Conway earned the win in the Spirit net.

The Spirit was scheduled to play in Huntsville last night, but the Wildcats have ceased operating for the rest of the year, defaulting all games.

The Spirit plays in Vaughan Monday and hosts the Markham Waxers Thursday and Newmarket next Saturday. Newmarket handed the Aurora Tigers (22-1-0-0) their first loss of the season Thursday, 3-2 in Newmarket.

## SDSS off to OFSAA

Stouffville Spartans sweep Oshawa school in Ontario AA high school qualifier

Successful volleyball teams are those that can effectively hit, block and serve.

The Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans senior boys exhibited each of those skills against the visiting G.L. Roberts Secondary School (Oshawa) Lakers in Wednesday's Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association AA qualifier.

By doing so, they made quick work of the Lake Ontario Secondary Schools Athletic Association AA champions to capture the best-of-five set 3-0 (25-17, 27-25, 25-13) and earn a berth in the OFSAA championships, Nov. 21 and 22 at Mentor College in Mississauga.

"All of the elements came together today," said veteran Spartans head coach Jim Fletcher, who will be making his 12th trip to OFSAA with a Stouffville District Secondary School volleyball squad.

Satisfied with his club's overall effort, Fletcher felt the difference stemmed from its ability to serve. That was something it failed to do in Monday's York Region Athletic Association AAA final, a loss to Newmarket's Huron Heights.

*"Win or lose, it's nice to go (to OFSAA). It's the camaraderie and sportsmanship that matters more. Winning isn't the end-all."*

"We served tougher today. That was something we didn't do on Monday," Fletcher said. "But we ran our offence really well."

"It's a diversified offence where we have three hitters all the time and two setters and our setters can hit ... and our middle attack was as strong as it's ever been. I'm really proud of the guys."

Fletcher gave kudos to several team members, including setters Dan Locksley and Sean Hume, middle attacker John Chaput, power hitters Gavin Howe and Nick West, liberos Allan McGrath and Josh Spang and middle hitter Justin Reesor.

Looking ahead to OFSAA, Fletcher hopes the selection

committee will be a little more generous than last year, which saw his club draw just a 10th seed. He's hoping for at least a fifth-place seeding.

Refusing to make any predictions, Fletcher feels if his club can continue to execute its serves, it might be able to make the championship side of the bracket. Regardless of what transpires, Fletcher says it's been a good season.

"Win or lose, it's nice to go (to OFSAA). It's the camaraderie and sportsmanship that matters more. Winning isn't the end-all," he said.

### CARDINALS DEFEATED IN JUNIOR METRO BOWL

Markham's Brother Andre Catholic High School Cardinals



junior football team's participation in the

inaugural Junior Metro Bowl playdowns was short-lived.

The team was eliminated Wednesday after absorbing a 15-12 loss to the St. Michael's College School Kerry Blues in its first-round game at St. Michael's in Toronto.

Scoring touchdowns for the Cardinals were Ted Fair-Gogek, on a third-quarter 14-yard run, and Russel Jackson-Wyatt, on a fourth-quarter 49-yard reception from quarterback Paul Lefaive.

Cardinals head coach and Stouffville resident Rick Maloney felt miscues on his club's part, including three first-half turnovers, proved costly. Maloney attributed the miscues to his club adjusting from four downs to three-down football, a rule introduced for the Metro Bowl.

He also thought his club was at a disadvantage as the Kerry Blues had videotape of his club from last Saturday's York Region final. The Cardinals, meanwhile, were unaware they would be in the Junior Metro Bowl until conclusion of Saturday's YRAA final and did no advance scouting on the Kerry Blues.

The other big factor came with the Kerry Blues enjoying home field advantage.

Members of the Brother Andre team from Stouffville are Chris Normandeau, Salvo Andolina, Anthony Zambri, John Felix, Anthony Soluri, Giancarlo Masciarelli, Damien Kudeliski and Nathan Halliwushka.

**GOALS** 0

**ASSISTS** 0

**NEW FRIENDS** 5

Timbits Hockey isn't about winning or keeping score. It's about learning the basic skills of the game, making new friends, and most importantly, having fun. Every year over 50,000 entry-level players across the country get the chance to discover just how great the game can be. That's why your local Tim Hortons is proud to sponsor Timbits Hockey in Markham.



The first goal is having fun.

**LET'S MAKE CANCER HISTORY**

Canadian Cancer Society / Société canadienne du cancer

For information about cancer services or to make a donation:

1-888-939-3333 • [www.cancer.ca](http://www.cancer.ca)

Dr. Robert Phillips and Rae Ellen, Survivor

The message brought to you as a community service of Economist & Sun/Sun-Tribune