

Senior Spartans suffer first loss on ice

The Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans senior boys hockey team suffered its first loss of the York Region Athletic Association season Wednesday when it fell 6-1 to Cardinal Carter Catholic High School (Aurora) at Stouffville Arena.

Alex Bruno scored the lone goal for the Spartans, who fell to 2-1 on the season.

Special teams buoy Spirit victory

Three shorthanded, three power play goals down Collingwood

Was there a full moon over Stouffville Thursday? It felt like it at the Stouffville Arena.

The Stouffville Spirit defeated the Collingwood Blues 6-5 in a Provincial Jr. A Hockey League game that featured plenty of bizarre twists.

Improving its North Conference record to 15-10-2-1, the Spirit occupies third place while Collingwood is in fifth at 6-23-2-0.

The Spirit scored its first three goals on the power play and the last three shorthanded, including Ty Raine's winner with 52 seconds left in regulation time. Jake Van Allen was serving a five-

minute penalty for hitting from behind at the time.

Spirit forwards Rick Schrank and Scott Brown scored in the last minute of the second period while killing Cory Battista's five-minute major for boarding.

Simon Gysbers, Patrick Lee and Randy Johnston had the power-play goals.

Defenceman Jody Halas and Sean Gray had two assists each.

Spirit netminder Dan McWhinney and Collingwood counterpart Keith Fink dazzled the crowd with some amazing saves.

REFEREE TAKES ILL

Referee Rob MacGregor was taken to Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket after the first period, suffering from heart palpitations.

That left the two linesmen to officiate the game, and they had

their hands full.

The Spirit had period leads of 2-1 and 5-4, but Collingwood continually battled back.

"Definitely one of the worst officiated games I've played in here," said Raine, a three-year veteran. "After the ref went out, it seemed we were always killing a penalty and we couldn't get a power play."

A Collingwood goal that appeared to be gloved in during the second period was allowed.

Brown was named player of the game.

The same teams were scheduled to meet last night in Collingwood.

The Spirit hosts the Oshawa Legionaires Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

For more on the Spirit log on to stouffvillespirit.com

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Shopper's heaven-on-earth newly opened on Hwy 7 in the old White Rose building!

When Nicole Rabouin first opened her Pine Ridge Garden Gallery location in Pickering 11 years ago, her dream for many years had been to share superb-quality, yet affordable garden & décor products from around the world with people across Ontario, from decorators of all ages & tastes, to avid gardeners with many needs.

Now that she has opened her sparkling-clean Unionville location, she has been amazed and overwhelmed by the response from the local market. "I knew that by keeping such a classy environment, and by bringing in unique and hard-to-find items that customers would automatically be drawn to our store. What I did not realize was just how much magic it would hold for people, and how quickly word could travel about our garden 'haven'." Says Nicole. "In fact, when the first shipment of Christmas ornaments arrived, they were sold out and more had to be ordered right away."

Not only do the products make this store so special, but the quality of service provided by the friendly and knowledgeable staff gives it that added touch to make shopping at Pine Ridge such a gratifying experience, and leaves customers fully satisfied. Even the Mayor, Don Cousens, was so impressed by Garden Gallery's staff, service & layout that he would like to do his shopping there, especially if Santa does!

During the Grand Opening, Nicole gave sincere appreciation to her dedicated staff which included Rick Pecman, her hard-working and long-time manager of both locations, Diane Rabouin, Nicole's sister, who has stood by her for many years, the newly-hired but very experienced Vicki Taylor-Scott, certified Horticulturalist and President of the Uxbridge Horticultural Society, Helen Fruck, assistant manager & knowledgeable Horticulturalist, and Nicole's two children and heirs to the Garden Gallery throne, Melissa & Sean Ciampaglia.

"Because it is a much nicer and cleaner store than it has ever been," states Nicole. "I'd like everyone in Markham & Unionville to come in to my new location at least once to enjoy the experience. I know you'll be back!"

Pine Ridge Garden Gallery owner - Nicole Rabouin poses with Mayor Don Cousens and guests at her Unionville location's Grand Opening scratch & save party November 25th.



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