

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

SPORTS

Inconsistency plagues Spirit
in weekend hockey actionJuniors defeat Newmarket
5-2, but sings Blues in
loss at Collingwood

Would the real Stouffville Spirit please stand up?

Is it the Provincial Jr. A Hockey League squad that beats first-place teams like Wexford and Newmarket or the one that loses to clubs beneath it in the standings, like Oshawa, Huntsville and Collingwood?

Take last week, when the Spirit dumped Newmarket and North York yet sandwiched a loss to then cellar-dwelling Collingwood in between. (See standings on page 19.)

"We just seem to play to the other team's level," said third-year centre Ty Raine. "It's a young team and the vets have to step up and get everybody up for those games. Then again, we're so young our only 20-year-old (Sean Gray) is a rookie. This is a very young team."

Average age is just over 17 and goalie Dan McWhinney is the lone 19-year-old.

Raine, a Unionville resident, will play in the league all-star game Wednesday in Cobourg.

The Spirit hosts Huntsville tonight



TY RAINE Veteran forward was selected to play in Provincial Junior A Hockey League's all-star game Jan. 26.

and visits Thornhill Saturday.

Four unanswered second-period goals led the Spirit to a 5-2 win over the first-place Newmarket Hurricanes Saturday night at the Stouffville Arena.

Spirit netminder Steve Ellipelli had a huge game and was named MGH Office Repairs player of the game.

The Spirit outshot Newmarket 34-30 and chased starting netminder

Josh Sturrock after two periods.

After a scoreless first period, Newmarket scored first in the second followed by the quartet of Spirit goals.

The rookie line of Brandon Walker, Michael Aiello and Scott Brown had two goals.

Jeff Barbieri, Randy Johnston, Aiello, Raine and Walker scored. Brown and Rob Groom had two assists each.

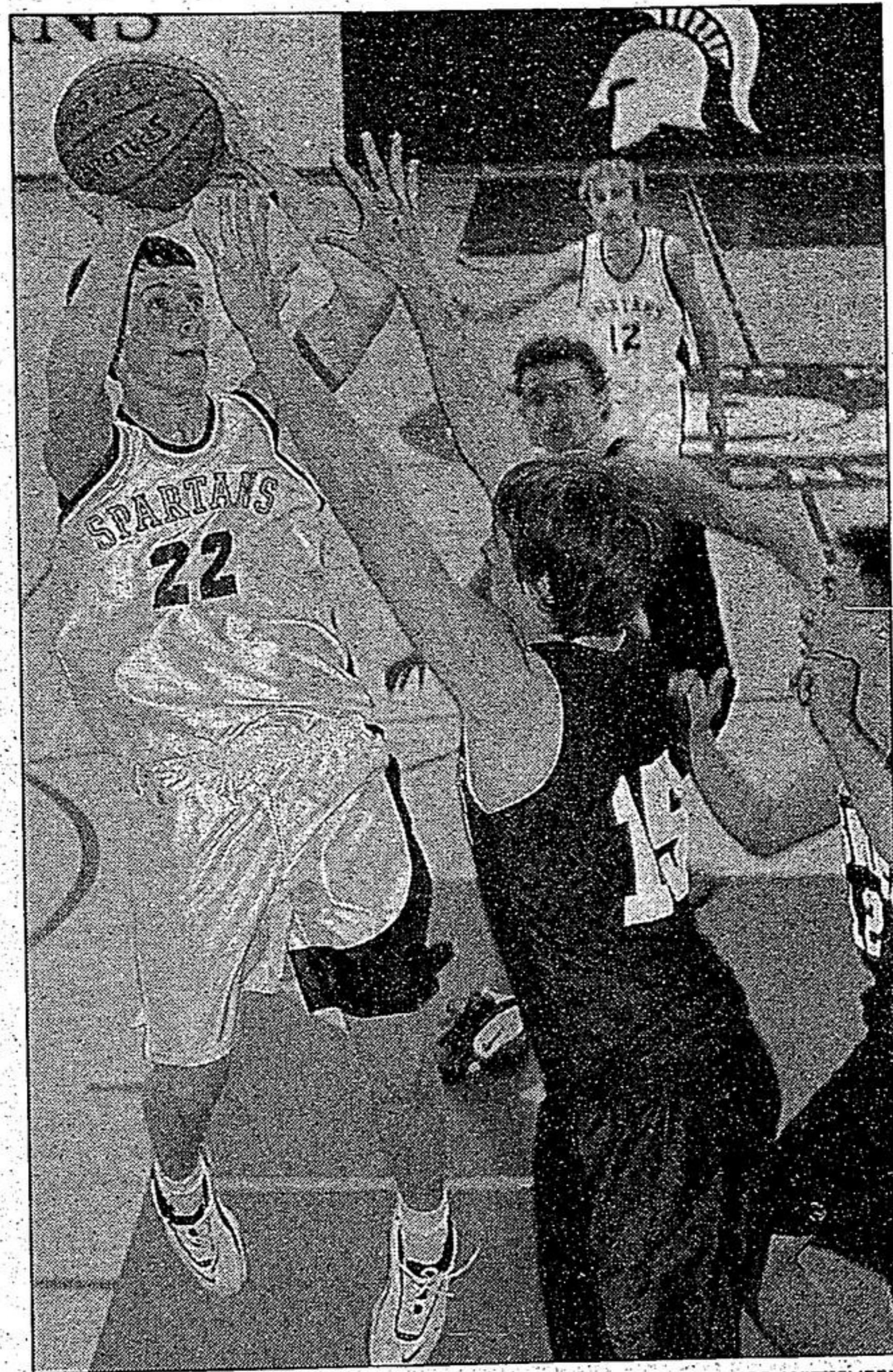
The Spirit watched a 2-0 lead turn into a 3-2 loss Friday to the Collingwood Blues in Collingwood.

Carson Devine and Raine scored for the Spirit.

Shots were even at 31-31.

SPIRITED NOTES: Ex-Spirit forward Kevin Lord, now with Newmarket, is home after brain surgery last week in Toronto. Spirit winger and good friend Rick Schrank shaved his head in Lord's honour, as did Jeff Moor, another ex-Stouffville player now in Newmarket...Tonight is Summitview Public School night with the Spirit...Orchard Park school visits for Feb. 3 game.

For more information on the Spirit, log onto: www.stouffvillespirit.com.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Shooting for two

Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans' Curtis Reesor (22) unleashes this jump shot over the outstretched arms of Dr. J.M. Denison Secondary School Huskies' defenders Ryan O'Sullivan (15) and Joey Su, in Tuesday's York Region Athletic Association senior boys' tier two basketball contest at Stouffville. The Spartans prevailed 59-41. Justin Reesor was high scorer for the Spartans with 16 points. The win improved the Spartans' record to 7-2 on the season.

Bantam Clippers
into second round
of OMHA playoffs

For the first time in three years, the Stouffville bantam Clippers advanced to the second round of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association playoffs after defeating Richmond Hill in their six-point series.

Losing the series opener 3-0, the Clippers rallied to win the next three outings by a 15-8 margin that was capped off with a 5-0 win in the fourth game Sunday.

Igniting the Clippers' offence was forward Luke Bartell, who scored three goals, including one in the series clincher, and five assists in the series.

Other scorers in the final game included: Brad Maxwell with two goals; David Hoover one goal, one assist and Jonathan Stansfield one goal. Jason Hewlett, James Beare, Mike Sooley and Brian Davie each earned one assist. Matt Bourguignon posted the shutout.

Other players who contributed to the club's success in the series were goalie Dillan Stewart, Matt Benincasa, who had three goals; Malcolm Forbes and Jeff Kavluk, two goals and two assists each; Alex Gregerson and Chris Boake two assists each; Matt Raguseo one assist; Joe Beare and Kyle Cussion.

Winning 10 of their last 12 outings, the Clippers will face TNT in the second round.

The Stouffville bantam select Clippers made their tournament debut in Flamborough, finishing second after a 6-1 loss to Brampton in the title tilt.

The Clippers opened the tournament with a 6-1 win over Scott Park (Hamilton) and followed that with victories over the Brampton Sharpshooters 4-3 and host Flamborough 2-1.

Scoring for the Clippers in the tournament were: Alex Powell three goals; Jeff Raymer two goals, three assists; Shawn Zarudny two goals; Chris Armstrong and Brandon Cautius one goal, three assists; Carter Kroan one goal, two assists; Connor Steven one goal, one assist; Bruce Preston and Jamie Gregory one goal each; Greg Keen, Beau Mondesir and Marten Cushing two assists Kyle Sharp and Brian Hendry shared netminding duties.

Atom AEs earn win, tie

The Stouffville atom AE Clippers earned three out of a possible four points recently after they doubled the Markham Waxers 6-3 and battling the Ajax Knights to a 3-3 tie.

Scoring for the Clippers in the two games were Andrew Baggs three goals; Daniel Szabo and Hayden

Bantam selects settle for silver
in debut at Flamborough

MINOR HOCKEY

Gibson two goals; Jake Dobson one goal, two assists; Andrew Muirhead one goal; one assist; Chris Matsoukas two assists; Michael Tapiero, Zack Stevenson, Hayden Burton, Victoria Henri, Michael Liscio, Robbie Hart and Josh Manson with one each.

Kevin DeRocchis was in the net for both games.



Novice AEs finish strong

The Stouffville novice AE Clippers concluded their regular season on a strong note, winning three of four games.

Backed by a superb netminding effort from Mason Cooper and goals

from Taylor Peterson and Cody Femia, the Clippers blanked Uxbridge 2-0.

The Clippers then faced Innisfil and received two goals from Peterson and singles from Zack Bousquet and Adam Doren in a 4-3 victory.

Jesse McSwiggan collected two helpers while John O'Boyle, Matt Armstrong, Spencer Tait, Femia and Sheldon Dobney had one each.

Bousquet wielded a hot stick against East Gwillimbury as he scored twice while Dobney and Doren recorded singles in a 4-2 win.

O'Boyle earned one assist.

The lone setback for the Clippers came against Clarington, a 5-0 loss.

Tyke selects down Waxers

Tyler Wright and Ben Sear each scored twice to lead the Stouffville tyke select Clippers to a 7-3 exhibition win over the Markham Waxers Sunday.

Jeremy Hughes had a goal and one assist while Mitchell Witherspoon and Shane Beaulieu added single tallies.

Tyler Ryan and Chad Harbour each collected two assists while Lukas Burkholder, Tyler Wright, Josh Carlin and Carter King had singles.

Andrew Riopel was the winning goalie.