

Hockey Spartans clinch first place in North Division

Craig McDowell ignite Spartan seniors to 5-2 road win Wednesday

The Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans senior boys' hockey team clinched first place in the York Region Athletic Association North Division standings Wednesday with a 5-2 win over host Dr. J.M. Dennison (Newmarket).

Adam Craig and Craig McDowell each scored twice and Brandon Jupp added one.

The Spartans followed that win with a 1-1 tie Thursday against King City Secondary School.

Jupp scored the lone goal for the Spartans, who sport a 7-1-1 mark.

The Spartans conclude regular season play Monday with a game against Cardinal Carter Catholic High School (Aurora) at Bond Lake Community Centre at 2:30 p.m.

By finishing first, the Spartans receive a first-round bye in the playoffs.

Hockey juniors occupy top spot

The Spartan juniors received two goals from Brandon Wise and one from Steve Moller in a 3-1 win over Sacred Heart Catholic High School (Newmarket) Wednesday at the Stouffville Arena.

The win vaulted the Spartans into first place in the East Division with a 6-1-3 mark.

The Spartans resume league play Monday at Keswick High School.

Knox buoys Spartan girls' win

The Spartan girls' hockey team received a stellar netminding performance from Liz Knox and goals from Ashley McLellan and Jaime Sparks Thursday to defeat host Sacred Heart Catholic High School 2-0 in Newmarket.

The win improved the Spartans' record to 6-2-1 and placed them in first place in the tier one standings. However, Aurora and Sacred Heart, who trail the Spartans, still have games in hand and could overtake them.

Having completed their regular season, the Spartans will be at York University Monday and Tuesday to compete in the Beatrice Elite Tournament.

Seniors cage second place

In boys' basketball action, the Spartan seniors concluded their regular season with a 61-38 win over visiting Newmarket High School Thursday.

The win by the Spartans came on the heels of a 53-39 win over Cardinal Carter Catholic High School Tuesday.

Justin Reesor was high scorer for the Spartans with 17 points.

Concluding their regular season with a 9-3 record, the Spartans claimed second place in the North Division tier two standings.

The Spartans host Alexander Mackenzie High School of Richmond Hill in a quarter-final game Tuesday at 5:15 p.m.

For more information on high school sports, log on to: www.yraa.com

Better shooting, more discipline on Spirit coach's wish list

Four straight goals fuel 4-2 victory in playoff opener

Maybe some target practice will be in order at tonight's Stouffville Spirit practice.

The Stouffville Spirit spotted the Couchiching Terriers the first goal then roared back with four straight goals en route to a 4-2 win Thursday at the Stouffville Arena.

The game was the first in the best-of-seven Provincial Jr. A Hockey League North Conference quarterfinal series.

The Spirit also hit five goal posts and missed several open nets.

"We have to bury our chances better," said Spirit



ROB GROOM: Scored two goals and added one assist in Thursday's series-opening win for Spirit.

coach Brian Perrin. "And we have to play our skating game. We can't get caught up in the

stick work and shenanigans."

Rob Groom earned the Gordie Howe hat trick — two goals, an assist and a fighting major — all in the second period. He was named player of the game.

Simon Gysbers and Randy Johnston scored the other goals. Patrick Lee had three assists.

Dan McWhinney earned the win. Couchiching outshot the Spirit 35-34.

Game 2 was played last night in Couchiching with the third game Thursday in Stouffville.

Elsewhere in the North Conference, Newmarket defeated Streetsville 2-1 in their series opener Thursday in Newmarket.

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

Free-throw shooters to regionals

Two Whitchurch-Stouffville residents displayed good shooting form at the Knights of Columbus district free throw shooting championships at Brother Andre Catholic High School in Markham.

Michael Carvalho of Orchard Park Public School captured the boys' 14-year-old division while Patrick Clause of Balantrae Public School won the boys' 10-year-old competition. Carvalho and Clause will


advance to the regional championships in Oshawa Feb. 26.

STOUFFVILLE, MARKHAM

Participants at the district level event were from Stouffville and Markham schools.


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