

# Spirit held upper hand on Terriers

*Victory marred by ugly incidents at end of contest*

Stouffville Spirit officials were calling for action from the Provincial Jr. A Hockey League against the Couchiching Terriers following a *Slap Shot*-like finish to their playoff game Thursday at the Stouffville Arena.

Rob Groom scored with 2:24 to play to lift the Spirit to a 3-2 win over the Terriers in front of 500 fans.

The Spirit led the best-of-seven North Conference quarterfinal 2-1.

Player of the game Ty Raine assisted on the winner and scored the Spirit's first two goals. Randy Johnston, the third member of the newly constructed line with Groom and Raine, had three assists.

Then came the fireworks. With 2.5 seconds to play, Raine was jumped and repeatedly punched by Couchiching's Marcus Booth, who received the only penalties from the incident and was sent to the dressing room.



**TY RAINE:** Scored twice and assisted on game-winner for Spirit in Thursday's 3-2 playoff win over Couchiching.

As time expired, all players on the ice — including four Spirit 16-year-olds — paired off in a line brawl. Couchiching received the only instigator penalty from this incident and 11 of the 19 post-game infractions called by referee Robert Padt.

**HALT GAME**

"I'm disappointed the referee didn't call the game with two sec-

onds to play," said Spirit coach Brian Perrin. "You could see it coming."

Spirit general manager Ken Burrows did not want to go into details on the issue and feels confident the league will take appropriate action on the issue.

"What they (Couchiching) did, I had no idea. The OHA will look at it," he said.

**SUPERVISOR TO FILE REPORT**

A league supervisor told Spirit officials he would be filing a report on the incidents.

Video was also to be submitted to the league head office in Cambridge by the Spirit.

The Terriers received 21 of the 34 penalties called in the contest.

Both goaltenders — Stouffville's Dan McWhinney and Couchiching's Marc Stuart — played well. Couchiching, which held a 2-0 lead late in the first period, was outshot 28-24.

Game 4 was scheduled for last night in Orillia, with Game 5 Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at the Stouffville Arena.

For more information, log on to [www.stouffvillespirit.com](http://www.stouffvillespirit.com)

# Juniors cage berth in YRAA final

**Hockey juniors finish first**

The Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans junior boys' basketball team advanced to the York Region Athletic Association tier two final with a 64-38 win over Keswick High School Thursday in Markham.

Kyle Law had a team-high 19 points for the Spartans.

The Spartans will meet Cardinal Carter Catholic High School (Aurora) in the final Wednesday at St. Augustine Catholic High School (Markham). Game time is 5 p.m.

The first-place Spartan junior boys' hockey team won its YRAA regular season finale Wednesday 5-3 win over visiting Huron Heights Secondary School (Newmarket).

Brendan Wise scored twice for the Spartans. Malcolm Forbes, Nathan James and Luke Bartell added singles. The Spartans will face Father Bressani Catholic High School (Woodbridge) in a quarterfinal playoff game Monday at the Stouffville Arena at 2 p.m.

**THE PLAYOFFS!**

**Sunday at 7:30pm**

**VS.**

**Couchiching Terriers**

**Game 5, Best of 7 North Conference quarterfinals**

**Stouffville Arena**

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