

# Spirit wins opener, barely

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA  
Staff Writer

You won't hear any complaints from Stouffville Spirit head coach Dave D'Amazio after his club's 4-3 victory over the Collingwood Blues in Thursday's Provincial Junior A Hockey League regular season opener at the Stouffville Arena.

But he hopes his players learned something for games yesterday in Collingwood and tomorrow in Newmarket.

Inconsistent play from the Spirit helped the Blues claw back from a 4-1 deficit.

Were it not for a timely save by Spirit netminder Trevor O'Neill before time expired, the contest was headed into overtime and possibly a shootout.

The Spirit outshot the Blues 32-24.

"We were a little scambly," D'Amazio said. "When you go 8-0 in the preseason and everything goes your way and you're not facing adversity that's one thing. But I think on Thursday the guys were brought back to reality. Maybe some of the guys had those opening night jitters and when we were up in the game we might have let up a bit."

"I'd call it an ugly win."

Igniting the Spirit offence was the veteran line of Corey Trivino, Mark Sullivan and Randy Johnston. Johnston scored twice while Sullivan contributed a goal and one helper and Trivino three assists. Donovan Munro added the other Spirit marker.

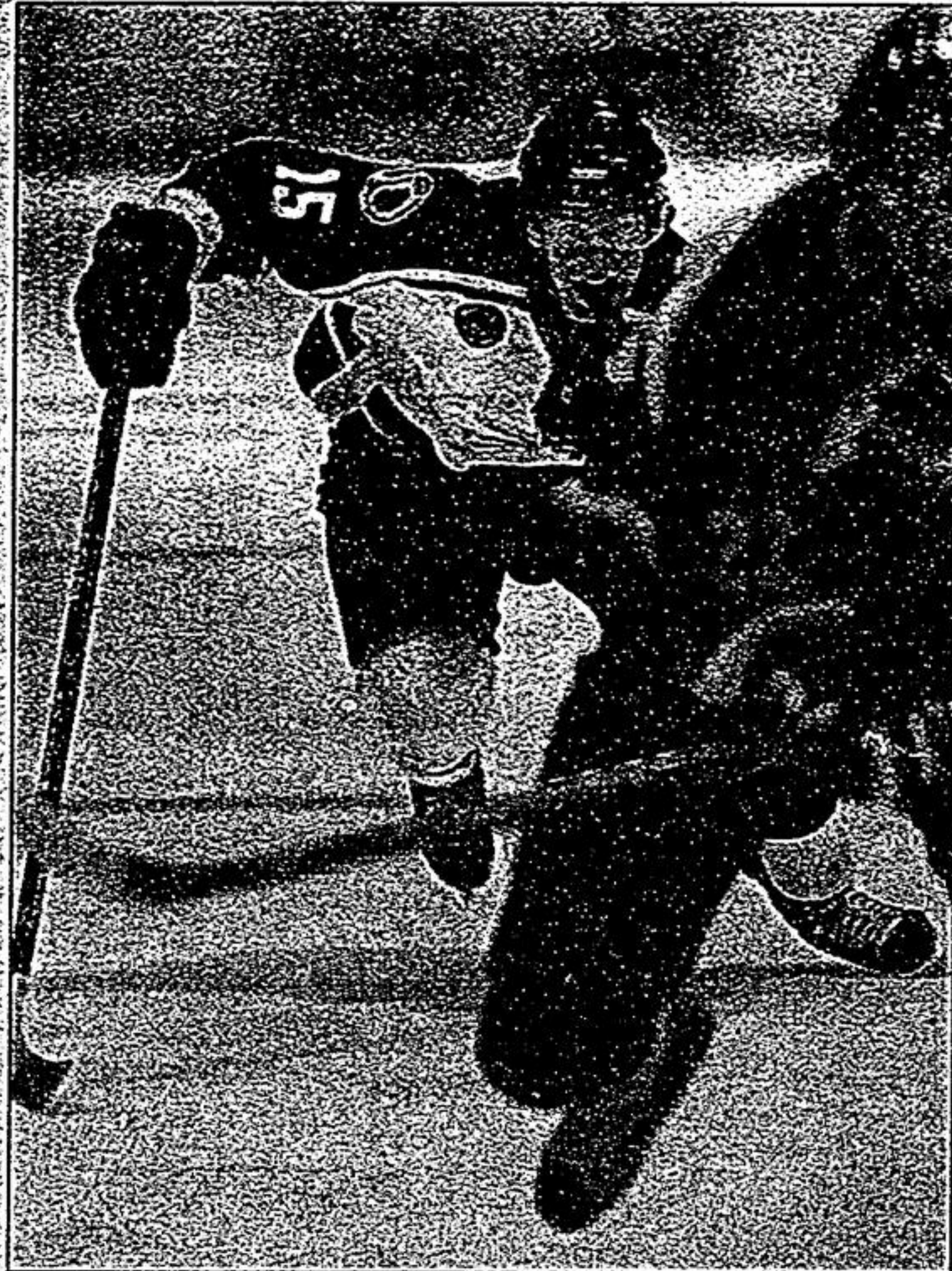
Veteran defenceman Daniel Spivak incurred an upper body injury and will be out for at least one week.

"When we needed to create some offence we did when we used our speed and skill. When we did that I thought we dominated," said D'Amazio.

"But when the chips were down our kids were composed."

The Blues, whose new general manager is ex-Spirit GM Ken Burrows, were tough.

"They're a physical team and tried to take some liberties with some of our new players. But they



STAFF PHOTO/BILL ROBERTS

Stouffville Spirit forward Mike Foy forechecks Collingwood Blue Mike Schwindt during the Spirit's season-opening 4-3 win at the Stouffville Arena Thursday. The Spirit plays at Newmarket Sunday and hosts Aurora Thursday.

played three hard periods," D'Amazio said.

Next Spirit home game is Thursday against the defending national champion Aurora Tigers.

For more on the Spirit, go to [stouffvillespirit.com](http://stouffvillespirit.com)

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# Mustangs make semis of Aurora tourney

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Mustangs under-11 girls' developmental soccer team advanced to the semifinals of last weekend's John Traganitis' Tournament in Aurora, before falling 2-0 to the Clarkson under-12 squad.

Competing in a division comprised primarily of under-12 entries, the Mustangs battled Newmarket under-11s to a 0-0

draw before being blanked 2-0 by the Clarkson under-12s.

But the Mustangs rebounded to edge Barrie under-12s 1-0 on a goal by Victoria Wicks and solid netminding by Emma Wood.

The win enabled the Mustangs to advance to the semifinal.

The Mustangs were coached by Grant Nairn and Gary McGil-

vray and managed by Heather Bergman.

Other team members included Victoria Campanale, Rebecca Deforest, Cassie Ferguson, Shannon Grinnell, Mackenzie Harrington, Emily Kaunismaa, Jennifer King, Sarah McGilvray, Heather McGukin, Carly Murray, Courtney Nairn, Robyn Paxton, Victoria Power and Sarah Storey.

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