

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

SPORTS

Shootout win propels Spirit into busy week

LAST WEEK: Friday - lost 7-3 against Markham Waxers; Sunday - won 4-3 in shootout against Newmarket Hurricanes. Tied for fourth place in Central Division with two points (one shootout victory and two losses).

COMING UP: Tonight, home to Toronto Junior Canadiens, 7:30 p.m.; Friday at St. Michael's Buzzers, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday vs. Toronto Junior Canadiens, 9:30 a.m. at Bowmanville (Governor's Showcase game); Monday at Cobourg, 7 p.m.

GAME NOTES: For the Stouffville Spirit, turnabout was fair play as they avenged their regular season and home-opening 6-2 loss last week against the Newmarket Hurricanes by defeating them Sunday in their home opener 4-3 in a shootout. Matt McCann scored the game-winning goal in the shootout. Dustin Laren took the first shootout attempt for the Spirit but was foiled. After the Hurricanes countered with a goal, Massimo Lamacchia took the Spirit's second shootout attempt and scored. Stouffville resident Jamie Wise took the Hurricanes' second attempt but was thwarted and set the stage for McCann's heroics. Glen McCarron took the Hurricanes' third attempt but was foiled by Spirit goalie Joe Moore, who stopped 29 of 32 shots in the contest to help preserve the club's first win of the season. The game took a bizarre twist in the seventh minute of play when the ice conditions at the Ray Twinney complex were deemed unsafe by the officiating crew. After a delay of about 40 minutes, play resumed at the adjoining Twinney complex rink with the Hurricanes leading 1-0. The Hurricanes deposited another goal before the period concluded and padded their margin with a goal in the second stanza. But with just under four minutes remaining in the frame, Lamacchia put the Spirit on the board to cut their deficit to 3-1 entering the third period. That seemed to light a spark as McCann and Jason Heydon, with his first Jr. A marker with just under two minutes left in regulation



time, scored the lone goals of the third period to force overtime. The victory by the Spirit came on the heels of a 7-3 loss Friday in the Markham Waxers' home opener at Markham Centennial Arena. The Spirit dug themselves into a deep hole, trailing 3-0 through one period. But unanswered goals by Laren and McCann, on a power play, cut the deficit to within a goal entering the third period. But the Waxers erupted with three unanswered goals to regain some breathing room. Lamacchia, with a shorthanded marker, enabled the Spirit to cut their deficit to 6-3. But the Waxers countered with one more goal to round out the scoring. The Waxers outshot the Spirit 51-33.

NOTEBOOK: As a means of creating spark on the forward units, Joslin inserted Heydon on a line with Justin Hulshof and his brother Kurtis Hulshof. With the three players averaging close to six-feet, three-inches in height, Joslin felt the trio utilized their physical presence in a big way. Another move saw Lamacchia play on a line with Laren and McCann. Defenceman Reed Smith suffered a charley horse in Friday's loss. Spirit general manager and associate coach Mark Joslin anticipated Smith could be out for one or two weeks.

GENERALLY SPEAKING: "We (Spirit coaching staff) told the guys before the game that we owed these guys (Hurricanes) something because they ruined our home opener last week. We got the



STAFF PHOTO/SUSIE KOCKERSCHIEDT

Newmarket Hurricanes' Glen McCarron (centre) looks as Stouffville Spirit Donald Maloney falls in Newmarket Sunday. The Hurricanes lost their home opener 4-3 in a shootout after thumping the Spirit 6-2 in the season opener in Stouffville last Thursday night.

monkey off our backs. It was important for us to get that win," Joslin said after the Spirit posted their first victory of the season Sunday.

Despite feeling his club were not doing the little things or getting the bounces that resulted in losses, Joslin felt something positive would happen in Sunday's contest. This, despite being down 3-0 late in the second period.

"When Massimo scored (to cut the Spirit deficit to 3-1) it brought life to our bench and we fed off of that. When we came back to tie the game with around two minutes left, I had a feeling we would get the two points because we battled back," he said.

The Newmarket dressing room wasn't as

happy, understandably.

"We worked our (butts) off to get a 3-0 lead then got totally complacent," head coach and general manager Brian Perrin said after the loss to Stouffville. "It was brutal."

Perrin was head coach in Stouffville for several years.

"That was a tough one, for sure," said Newmarket veteran forward Andrew Buck of coughing up a three-goal lead. "It's better to get that out of the way now."

INSIDER: For live scoring and updates, go to pointstreak.com

For more on the Spirit, go to: stouffvillespirit.com

-Mike Hayakawa

Players wanted for basketball, volleyball club

Chris Campbell knows there are no house league or rep youth basketball teams in Whitchurch-Stouffville registered provincially.

It's the same for volleyball.

With the population growing, Campbell thinks the time is right to launch his Stouffville Stingers youth basketball and volleyball programs.

Boys and girls wishing to play in the new programs can get more information Sept. 20 and 27 when the Stingers hold auditions at Stouffville District Secondary School.

The volleyball programs will begin with high school-aged players from noon to 1 p.m. followed by elementary school-aged players from 1 to 2 p.m. on both days.

The basketball program will follow, with tryouts for novice to major bantams from 2 to 3 p.m. and midget to juniors from 3 to 4 p.m.

"In Basketball Ontario, there are no rep organizations in Stouffville itself so we want to turn our basketball expertise to that area and have Stouffville well represented," Campbell said. "We want to take Stouffville-area youngsters and have them be a part of the Stouffville Stingers."

With seven coaches ready to assist in the basketball programs, Campbell hopes they can have three boys and three girls' rep teams, ranging in ages from 10 to 12, to start with.

For the house league program, he hopes to get 60 to 70 boys and girls.

For the volleyball program, instructors with university-playing experience are willing to help coach. Campbell hopes to have at least three teams playing.

For further information, call Campbell at 416-786-0387 or e-mail: info@stingerball.ca

-Mike Hayakawa

Mennos, Aurora open fastball semis in Stouffville tonight

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Staff Writer

With a little co-operation from Mother Nature, the Stouffville Mennos are slated to begin their Oshawa City and District Fastball League semifinals tonight.

The Mennos host Aurora Shoeless Joe's in the first game of their best-of-three series at 8:30 p.m. in Stouffville Memorial Park.

The series is scheduled to resume in Aurora Tuesday at 8:30 p.m.

Should a third game be required, it will be

played next Thursday.

Aurora advanced to the semifinals after defeating the Markham Majors 5-0 in the third and deciding game of their quarter-final series Monday at Markham Centennial Park.

Stouffville, which swept the Oshawa Inter-

mediates in the first round, was third and Aurora second in the regular season standings.

The other semifinal, has the Oshawa Ravens playing the Lake Simcoe Lightning. It was to start last night. Oshawa finished first and the Sharon-based Lightning fifth.

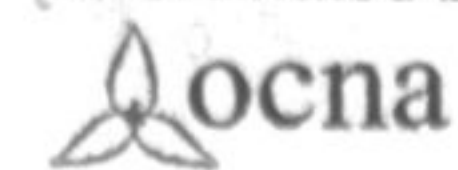
OUR YOUTH... REACHING OUT AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE

If you know a young person, aged 6 to 17, who is involved in worthwhile community service; a special person who is contributing while living with a limitation; a youth who has performed an act of heroism; or a 'good kid' who shows a commitment to making life better for others, doing more than is normally expected of someone their age - help us recognize their contribution - nominate them today!

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Nominations are now being accepted for the Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year Awards

The strength of our community lies in solid citizens. Today's youth are tomorrow's leaders.

Nominations will be accepted until November 30, 2008

Contact this newspaper or the Ontario Community Newspapers Association at www.ocna.org or 905.639.8720