

Spirit loss wasn't special

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Staff Writer

The Stouffville Spirit's winning streak was brief, to say the least.

One game to be exact.

Hoping to salvage what has been a disappointing regular season in the Ontario Junior Hockey League's Central Division, the Spirit reverted back to its losing ways falling 3-2 to the St. Michael's Buzzers at the Stouffville Arena Thursday.

They trailed 2-0 after one period and 3-1 through two and couldn't score on six power-plays.

Brandon Walker scored a goal just past the midway point of the third period that enabled the Spirit to cut their deficit to within a goal.

The Spirit had a good opportunity to force overtime when defenceman Pat McEachen took a shot that struck the goalpost late in the contest.

Craig McDowell accounted for the Spirit's first goal.

The Buzzers outshot the Spirit 37-27.

"We had a bad start, but I thought we battled back," Spirit head coach Mark Joslin said. "Brett (Joslin, Mark's son) got into a fight (with Andrew Hackett) early in the second period and it seemed to light a spark from there. But we couldn't capitalize on our power play.

"You can't have a bad start against a team like St. Mike's and our special teams need to be addressed. We will be addressing our special teams during practices this weekend."

If there were any positives to

be taken from the game, Joslin felt the play of goalkeeper Kori Coelho enabled his club to stay in contention. Especially in the first period in which the Buzzers outshot the Spirit 15-4.

Defenceman Jarred Seymour and forwards Jake Dellavalle and Jason Heydon sat out with injuries.

With one victory, three shootout wins, three shootout losses and 23 losses, the Spirit resume league play Thursday when they host the Hamilton Red Wings at 7:30 p.m.

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

Mason on pre-game show

Sun-Tribune editor Jim Mason will guest on a Spirit pre-game show Dec. 11 on WhiStle Radio. Daryl Macklem hosts.

The show will be broadcast from the Stouffville Arena lobby from 7 p.m. Mason, a director with the Spirit for 11 seasons, retired in 2007.

WhiStle, at 102.7 FM and whistleradio.com, broadcasts most Spirit games.

Police, Spirit in the cards

York Regional Police hockey cards featuring Spirit players will be distributed at the team's Dec. 11 home game against the Wellington Dukes.

The cards have players from one of seven York Region junior hockey teams on them along with safety tips and character messages.

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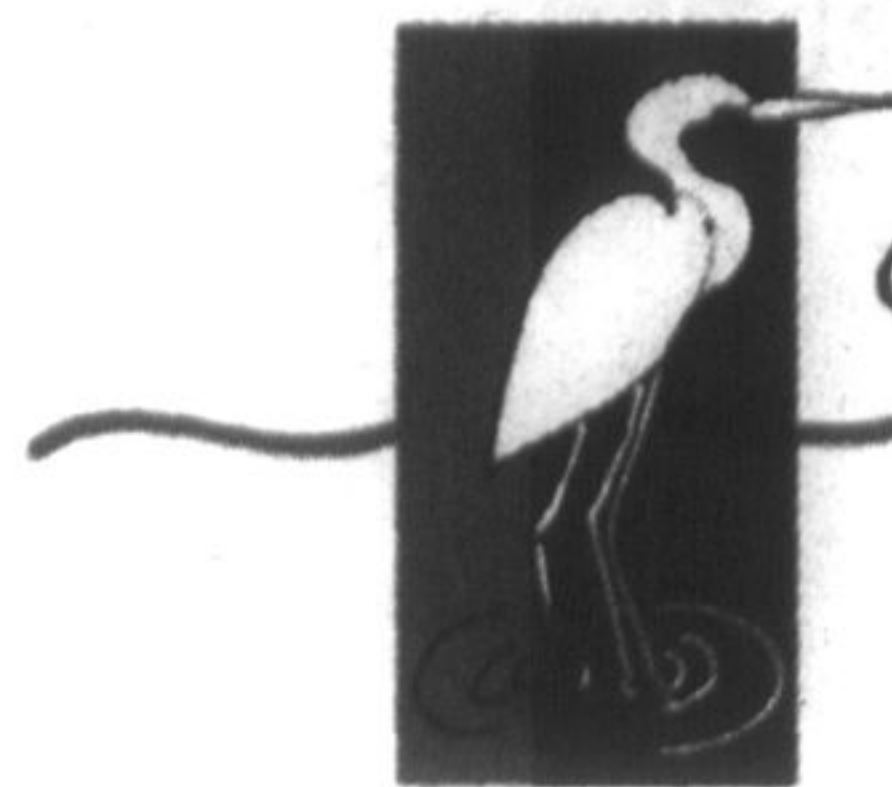
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73,000 people in York Region live in poverty*

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- "One child in five - or 39,000 in York Region alone - under the age of 18 has a diagnosable mental health issue." - The York Centre for Children, Youth & Families
- "Every month more than 5,000 York Region residents use emergency food programs." - York Region Food Network
- "2,200 stroke survivors in York Region who have difficulty with speech, reading, writing and comprehension need help to gain independence." - York-Durham Aphasia Centre
- "Approximately 13,400 people with a developmental disability are waiting for services." - The Centre for Dreams

And did you know.... there are more than 1,100 registered charities serving residents in York Region?

York Region charities are working to deal with issues that affect us, our families, our neighbours, and residents within our community. They provide programs and services in areas of healthcare and mental health, social assistance, environment, arts and culture, children, youth and families, seniors, and education.

"Making Your Mark", a full day symposium that brought together representatives from York Region charities, highlighted the many social issues the region faces. Participants gained practical advice from experts in the fields of social marketing, volunteer development, fundraising and media relations. All to help each charity enhance their ability to help those in need.

Presented by the York Region Community Foundation (YRCF) and hosted by Enbridge, this event brought together people working with many issues but sharing a common goal, to improve our communities.

YRCF wishes to thank the charities for their commitment to York Region, the people who serve as Board members and volunteers to charities, and the donors and philanthropists who support YRCF and the charities throughout the Region.

YRCF thanks the sponsors listed below. Their support made this inaugural Charities Workshop possible.

*from the York Region Plan to Address Homelessness

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