

SPORTS: Milton blown out of Stouffville, 11-2

Spirit win streak hits five

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With the Ontario Junior Hockey League regular season winding down the Stouffville Spirit couldn't have picked a better time to go on a roll.

The Spirit skated off with their fifth straight victory after routing the West Division cellar-dwelling Milton Icehawks 11-2 at the Stouffville Arena Thursday.

Chris Porter opened the scoring just past the midway point of the first period followed by a pair of goals from Declan Gunovski to stake the Spirit to a 3-0 lead after 20 minutes.

Unanswered tallies from Dylan Savory and Adam Vanderluis within the first five minutes of the second period staked the Spirit to a 5-0 lead.

After the Icehawks scored their first goal of the game to get on the scoreboard, the Spirit regained their five-goal cushion when Matt Neal lit the red light just past the midway point.

But the Icehawks countered with what would be their final goal of the game to cut the Spirit's lead to 6-2 entering the third period.

The Spirit's power-play units came to the front in the final 20 minutes as Christian Finch scored a pair of extra strength goals and Paul Geiger added one in a five-goal outburst.

Billy Lovatsis and Neal, with his second goal of the game, rounded out the scoring.

Finch, a converted defencemen, also had four assists. Michigan-bound defenceman Brennan Serville had three.

Spirit netminder Mike Sheremeta stopped 11 of 13 shots while Stouffville peppered the Icehawks' net with 41 attempts.



CHRISTIAN FINCH: Spirit forward has six-point night in snow-delayed win at Stouffville Arena.

The game was an hour late in starting, thanks to Milton's bus getting stuck in traffic on Hwy. 401 in the middle of a snowstorm. Many fans went home instead of waiting.

Firmly entrenched in third place in the North Division standings with 19 wins, two overtime wins, one shootout win against 10 losses, three overtime losses and two shootout losses for 49 points, the Spirit were to have played the Huntsville Otters in Huntsville yesterday and in Mississauga against the Chargers today at 8 p.m. The Chargers are scheduled to play at the Stouffville Arena Thursday at 7:40 p.m.

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

Minor bantams riding hot streak

MINOR HOCKEY

The Stouffville minor bantam Clippers extended their unbeaten streak to four games with a 5-0 road win over Innisfil in Ontario Minor Hockey Association action Tuesday.

Taylor Peterson and Nic Rabito each scored twice for the Clippers, who jumped out to a 2-0 lead after one period and extended it to 4-0 through two.

Mitch Witherspoon accounted for the other Clippers' marker in the first period.

Duncan Allen and Jordan Brillinger each collected a pair of assists while Ben Sear, Chris Evelyn, Jeremy Hughes and Josh Carlin each had one.

Clippers' netminder Andre Ward handled every shot directed his way to post the shutout.

The victory raised the Clippers' record to 20-5-3 on the season.

The Clippers are scheduled to conclude their regular season against Newmarket at the Magna Centre in Newmarket Monday at 7:30 p.m.

Major atom Clippers tie one on with East Gwillimbury

Adam Bain scored a goal to enable the Stouffville major atom Clippers to earn a 1-1 tie against host East Gwillimbury in Ontario Minor Hockey Association action Thursday.

William Keith and McKayla Major each collected one assist.

The Clippers also received some solid netminding from Craig Oldham to help preserve the tie.

Sporting an 18-8-6 record, the Clippers are scheduled to resume league play at Richmond Hill Sunday at 4 p.m.

Late goal saves day for AE squad

Justin Pelowich-Pickup scored with just over 90 seconds remaining in regulation time to enable the Stouffville minor bantam AE Clippers to salvage a 2-2 tie against host Newmarket in OMHA action Thursday.

Tyler Wright scored the Clippers' first goal in the opening period.

Carter King, Jackson Newlands and Liam Timewell each collected assists.

B.J. Ivanovski played a solid game in goal to help preserve the tie.

Now 13-11-6 on the season, the Clippers will conclude their regular season against Georgina in Keswick today at 7 p.m.

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