Hockey Spartans win opener, advance thanks to forfelt lamie Hewitt had specific

Jamie Hewitt had specific instructions for his Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans junior boys' hockey team prior to the start of their first York Region Athletic Association tier one quarter-final playoff game against host St. Joan of Arc (Vaughan) Wednesday.

Noting St. Joan of Arc was icing the minimum 10 skaters and one goalie, the Spartans head coach wanted his players to forecheck hard, finish their checks and work a cycle game in the early going.

Adhering to Hewitt's advice, the Spartans skated off with a 4-1 win.

Cody Scott, Chris Jarrett, Matt Dunlop and Chad Burrows scored for the Spartans, who held a 1-0 lead after one period and 3-0 through two.

That victory also turned out to be the only game the Spartans would have to play against St. Joan of Arc in the two-game, three-point quarter-final series.

With the second game scheduled to have been played at the Clippers Sports Complex Thursday, St. Joan of Arc announced they forfeited the contest due to their

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inability to field a full roster.

"I would have liked to have played the second game," Hewitt said. "But our guys played excellent despite being off for a long period of time."

As a result of the forfeit, the Spartans win the series and advance to the semifinals where they will play a two-game, three-point series against Newmarket High School.

With the Spartans being the second overall seed, they will have home ice advantage and host the first game tentatively scheduled for Tuesday at the Clippers Sports Complex at 2:30 p.m.

Seniors, juniors cage wins

The Spartans senior and junior boys' basketball teams advanced to the YRAA tier two quarter-finals after posting victories in their respective round of 16 games at home Thursday.

In the senior tilt, the Spartan seniors defeated Langstaff (Richmond Hill) 61-42.

Nicholas McEwan led the Spartans with 20 points while Jeremy Brownridge and Jesse Lofthouse each had 13.

Earlier that day, the Spartan juniors downed Toronto District Christian 45-33.

With the victories, the Spartan seniors will face the winner of the Stephen Lewis (Richmond Hill) and Toronto District Christian School (Woodbridge) quarter-final match-up that will be played Tuesday.

Depending on who wins that game, the Spartans could play at home or on the road Feb. 17.

The Spartan juniors, meanwhile, host Unionville Thursday at 4 p.m.



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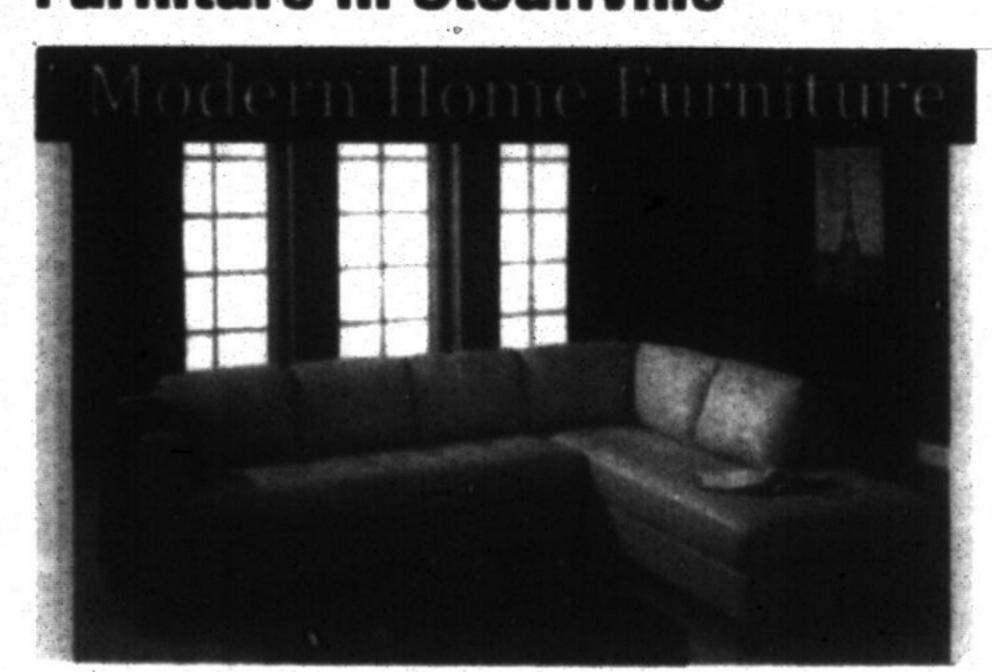






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