

GET ON BUS TO WELLINGTON, FANS

The Stouffville Spirit is chartering a bus to take its fans to Game 3 in the Ontario Junior Hockey League semifinals in Wellington tomorrow night.

The bus leaves Stouffville at 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$20.

You can sign up for the bus at tonight's game at the Stouffville Arena.

Wellington leads the series 1-0, thanks to a 2-1 win in overtime Sunday.

MacDonald returns to Spirit tonight

From page 1.

affair with only six penalty minutes handed out in front of 737 onlookers.

The Spirit took an early 1-0 first-period lead on a goal by Christian Finch. That would be shortlived as the Dukes countered with a goal just four minutes later to tie the game.

After no goals were scored in the second and third periods, the game was decided just over two minutes into overtime on a goal by Joe Zarbo.

It could easily have been a higher scoring affair were it not for the play of Spirit netminder Jon Hall, who handled 40 of 42 shots, and Dukes netminder Jordan Ruby, who stopped 20 of 21 chances.

"We could have won the game," Donovan said. "We had our chances (to score). One shot and we could have won. But both goalies played well, they each made at least six good saves during regulation time. It would have been nice to steal one (game) on the road."

In looking to the remainder of the series, Donovan thinks his club will have to play the game with the same degree of intensity as it did against the Hurricanes.

Paramount, he said, is for his club to play a disciplined game and keep any miscues to a minimum.

"They (Wellington) are a lot like Newmarket in that they play a disciplined and methodical game," he said.

"They have a good goalie in Jordan Ruby, he's one of the top netminders at our level. Their forwards move the puck well, they're smart and defensively, they play good team defence. They're a good all-round team. That's why they have a good record (first place in the East Division)," Donovan said.

While the Spirit took solace in that they gave the Dukes a run for the money in the first

game, their hopes for tonight's second game are fuelled by the expected return of Kennedy, MacDonald and Savory to their lineup.

With the Siskins being eliminated by Alliston Sunday night, MacDonald can now play with the Spirit for the remainder of the season. When acquired by the Spirit from the Pickering Panthers, MacDonald was put on a Jr. C card, meaning he could only play 10 regular season games with the Spirit. He had to be with the Siskins if any conflicts occurred until their season came to an end.

The 20-year-old from Newmarket had seven points in as many playoff games with the Spirit this year.

Donovan's players echo his optimism.

"I thought we were a bit tired," said Spirit defenceman Jack Caradonna. "But we're not worried. If we play our game we're confident we can win."

After tonight's second game, the series returns to Wellington Friday and then comes back to the Stouffville Arena Sunday. A fifth game, if required, would be played at Wellington Tuesday. The Spirit would host a sixth game March 31. If a seventh game is necessary, Wellington would host it April 1. All start times are 7:30 p.m.

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

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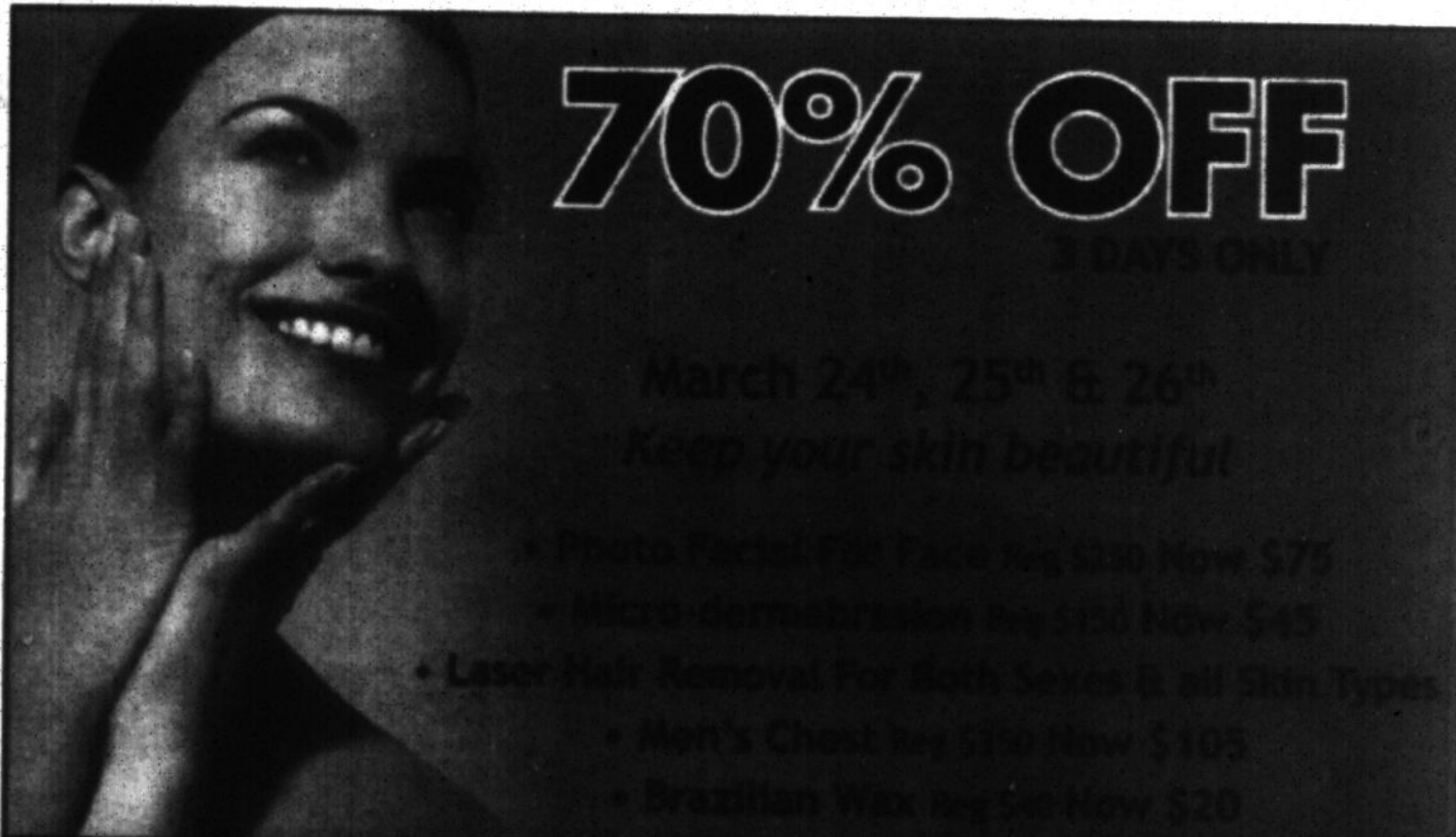
(Back Row L-R) Kyle Todd - Jason Stronach - Kirstie Humbruff - Scott Burrows - Patrick Duncalf - Rick Glenn - Mike Feasby - Jane Alden - Bryan Wang
(Front Row L-R) John Boothby - Bob Boadway - Quincy Boadway - Clay Huntley - Mark Kernohan - Missing Ken Burrows

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