

Stouffville residents making jump from midget AAA

Spirit signs 8 newcomers, loses top scorer, asst. coach

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When the Stouffville Spirit take to the ice for the 2013-14 Ontario Junior Hockey League season, they will be without one familiar face behind the bench.

On the ice they will be without two players from last year's squad.

Steve Sedore has left the Spirit coaching staff to rejoin the Georgina Ice of the Central Ontario Junior C Hockey League.

Also leaving the Spirit are forwards Dylan Savory and Mackenzie Wood, who will both be joining the Niagara Falls Canucks of the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League.

The original general manager and head coach of the Ice before serving as an assistant coach with the Newmarket Hurricanes and

Spirit last season, Sedore will wear several hats in his return to Georgina.

This time around he will be the club's vice-president and head coach in replacing Clive Moody — a former Spirit GM.

Spirit head coach Jeff Perrin said Sedore returned to the Ice to assist the club straighten out some off and on-ice issues.

SEDORE BACK IN GEORGINA

"(Georgina) lost a lot of money last year and he went back to try and turn things around," he said.

Coaching the forwards last season with the Spirit, Sedore also served as a great buffer between the coaching staff and players.

"He was good with the kids and he liked to joke around with them. He was good at keep-

ing the players loose. It will be tough to replace him," Perrin said. "He's a nice guy."

It was a second time around in Stouffville for Sedore, who was the second head coach in Spirit history, in the late 1990s.

For the time being, Brad Barton remains on staff to assist Perrin.

"We haven't talked yet if we will replace Steve (Sedore)," Perrin said.

The leading scorer for the Spirit last season with 22 goals and 26 assists, Savory's decision to join the Canucks was school related.

"He's moving on with his life and that's good," Perrin said of the Oshawa product.

As for Wood, who had five goals and five assists in 43 regular season games, Perrin felt a change of scenery might enable the Simcoe resident to improve his fortunes.

"He needed a change," Perrin said. "Things didn't work out last year for him here in Stouffville."

The Spirit recently signed eight players, including five forwards and three defencemen, for the upcoming season.

The forwards included Stouffville residents Spencer Roberts, Connor Miller, Christopher Brill-Morgan, Nick Thomakos and Liam O'Dette.

The nephew of former NHL player Gary Roberts, Spencer along with Miller, Brill-Morgan and O'Dette played last season with the Markham Waxers AAA midgets.

Last season with the Waxers, Roberts amassed 18 goals and 23 assists in 69 games, Miller 24 goals, 32 assists in 61 games, O'Dette 22 goals, 15 assists in 63 games and Brill-Morgan 21 goals, 26 assists in 68 games.

The five-foot, seven-inch, 155-pound Thomakos was with the Central Ontario Wolves AAA minor midgets last season.

The defencemen signed by the Spirit included Brady Baker, Cameron Lintner and Kyler Challis.

Lintner played last season with the Barrie Colts AAA midgets and Midland Flyers junior C club and Challis the Port Perry Mojacks junior Cs.

GARY ROBERTS' NEPHEW

Challis was also a 12th round pick of the Plymouth Whalers in the 2012 Ontario Hockey League priority selection.

A 14th round draft selection of the London Knights in the 2013 OHL draft, the six-foot, 175-pound Baker played with Thomakos on the Central Ontario Wolves AAA minor midgets.

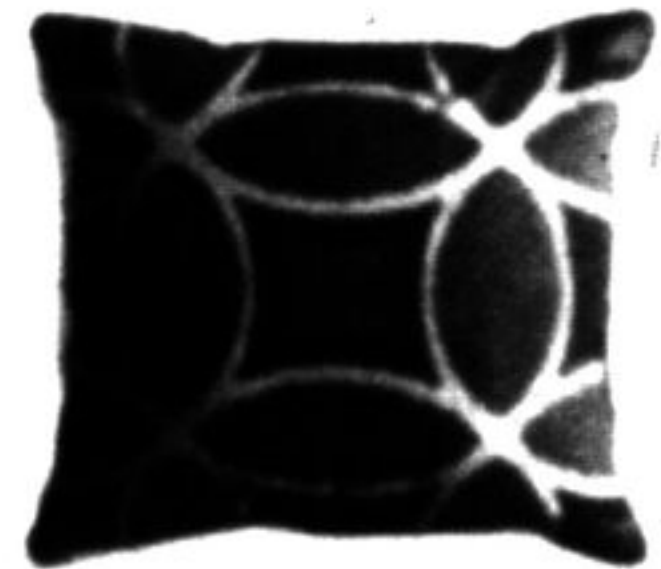
Baker and Thomakos are also 1997-born players.

"They all showed well at rookie camp and even when we watched them play last year," Perrin said.

The Spirit's main camp is scheduled to begin Aug. 12.

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strawberry FESTIVAL

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Whitchurch-Stouffville Strawberry Festival Event Schedule Update

Pie and Jam Contest Drop Off is at 5pm on Friday June 28th at Latham Hall, NOT 3PM.

The Award Ceremony for the Pie & Jam contest is **Saturday morning** at 11:30am, just after the Baby Contest.

The Bridge and Euchre Tournament was incorrectly billed and should be **The Bridge and Bid Euchre Tournament.**

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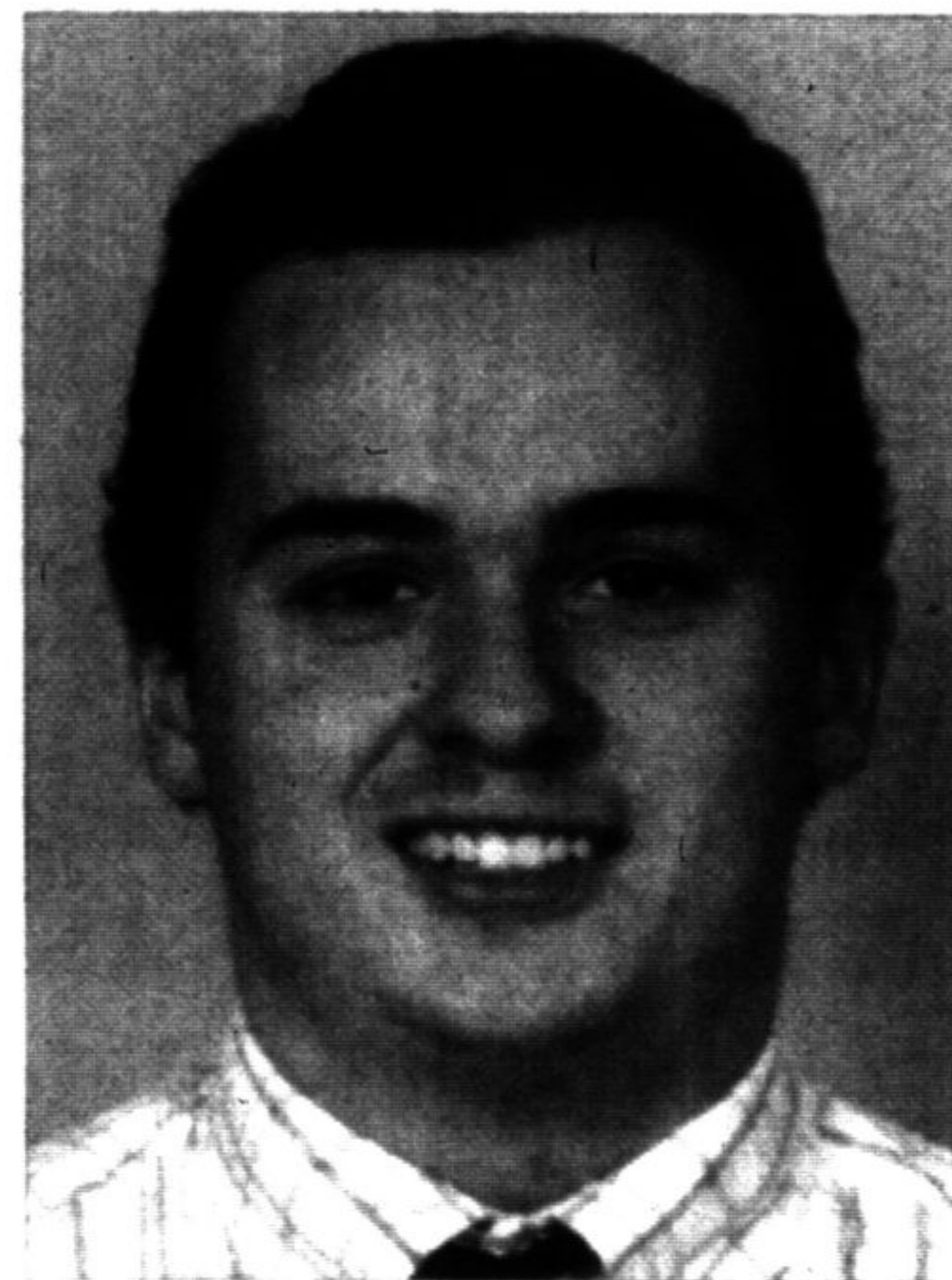
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After three seasons with the Stouffville Spirit, Dylan Savory has been dealt to the Niagara Falls Canucks of the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League. He led the Spirit in scoring this past season.

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