

# Spirit suffer fourth straight loss

**LAST WEEK:** Friday, Lindsay Muskies 6 vs. Stouffville Spirit 1. Spirit record: five wins, one shootout win, one overtime loss, eight losses, 13 points. Fourth place in North Division.

**COMING UP:** Tomorrow at Milton IceHawks, 7:30 p.m. Sunday vs. Trenton Golden Hawks at Stouffville Arena, 2:30 p.m.

**GAME NOTES:** When the Stouffville Spirit took to the road for their Ontario Junior Hockey League contest against the Lindsay Muskies, head coach Jeff Perrin showed up.

But in his estimation, the players didn't. At least in the way they performed after incurring their fourth straight setback in a 6-1 decision against the last-place Muskies.

After a scoreless opening period, the Spirit broke the ice on a goal by rookie Carter Cummings just under three minutes into the second stanza.

But from there, things went south on the Spirit as the Muskies scored three unanswered goals to take a 3-1 lead after 40 minutes. Former Spirit forward Stefan vonEngelbrechten tied the game just prior to the midway point on the power play. Just a few minutes later, the Muskies took the lead for good when they capitalized on another odd-man advantage when Peter Barral lit the red light on the first of his two back-to-back markers. The Muskies carried that momentum into the third period as Joseph Vocino, Jake Ryan and vonEngelbrechten, with his second goal of the game, rounded out the scoring for the last-place Muskies, who trail the fourth-place Spirit by just one point in the North Division standings. The Spirit outshot the Muskies 45-40.

**INSIDER:** Spirit team captain Matt Heffernan and forward Peyton Backus are scheduled to be attending the Team Canada East final selection camp to be held in Oakville. The camp began Monday and will conclude Friday. The players hope to earn a berth on the Team Canada East team that will participate in the 2013 World Junior A Challenge to be held in Yarmouth, N.S. from Nov. 4 to 10. Former Spirit forward and Stouffville resident Chris Porter collected one

goal and one assist in helping American International College Yellow Jackets to a 4-1 win over Sacred Heart University in West Springfield, Mass. Saturday. Porter is in his second year with the Yellow Jackets, who are 1-1 on the season. Also on the collegiate scene, former Spirit forward Matt Neal had a goal and one assist in Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's 4-2 win over the University of New Hampshire in Troy, N.Y. Saturday. Neal is currently in his junior year. The Spirit's power-play units are operating at a 21.15 per cent efficiency rating which is seventh highest in the league as of Monday's statistics. In penalty killing, though, the Spirit are operating at a 76.92 per cent rating which is 19th in the league.

**GENERALLY SPEAKING:** "We sucked, plain and simple," Perrin said of his club's performance against Lindsay. "They (Lindsay) got a couple of goals and they woke up and we didn't. We just weren't there." While Perrin acknowledged the club's heartbreaking 7-5 loss to the Toronto Lakeshore Patriots the night before might have emotionally drained his charges, he speculated they might have taken their game with a last-place team like the Muskies for granted.

As for what he has to do to shake his club out of its doldrums, Perrin said they just have to keep forging ahead and continue to work on the basics.

"We definitely have to execute better. We just have to keep working on things and hope things turn around," he said. "Hopefully they will clue in soon on what has to be done."

In facing the Milton IceHawks for a second time this season after losing to them in their home opener (a 3-2 loss Sept. 12), Perrin feels they can be beaten.

"We just have to be ready to compete, plain and simple."

For more on the Spirit, log on to [stouffvillespirit.com](http://stouffvillespirit.com) or catch up on Twitter with the Stouffville Spirit Jr A Hockey Club.

—Michael Hayakawa

## Atom A Stars shine again

Make it two for two for the Stouffville-Markham Stars atom A girls' hockey team.

Coming off a gold medal in their first tournament of the season, the Stars skated off with their second tournament crown when they took to the ice at the Kitchener Bauer 2013 Hockey Tournament that was capped off with a 2-0 win over North Bay in Sunday's championship final.

After battling North Bay to a 1-1 tie in their tournament opening tilt, the Stars downed North Halton 2-1 before suffering their lone blemish with a 2-0 loss against Belleville.

But the Stars rebounded to blank Leaside/Toronto 6-0 to garner a berth in the semifinal where they edged North Halton 1-0 to reach the final.

Stars' head coach Brad Morris attributed his club's success to their resolve which stemmed from a total team effort.

"Twice we had to score in the last minute of play to secure a win or tie," he cited. "The effort from every single young player was incredible."

Assisting Morris on the bench were: Andrew Arseneau, Stephanie MacRae and Doug Arseneault.

## SHORTS ON SPORTS

Other team members contributing to the club's tournament title run included: Rachel Beach, Alexia Stratos, Olivia Pridham, Teghan MacRae, Emily Redshaw, Megan Thompson, Caitlin Hollands, Martine Falzone, Katrina McBain, Meghan Arseneault, Karina Mofat, Emma Arseneau, Hannah Hembruff, Sarah Capodagli, Taya Leonard and Hannah Morris.

### Runner helps school to team title

Brittany Dunbar ran her way to an 83rd place finish at the Ontario University Athletics women's cross country championships at the Chedoke Golf Club in Hamilton Saturday.

The Stouffville resident and Stouffville District Secondary School graduate completed the six kilometre course in a time of 27:29.8.

A kinseology major, Dunbar helped her Brock University Badgers women's team finish 11th overall.



# BIG

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