

JR. A NOTEBOOK: Wellington Dukes in Stouffville Saturday

Spirit breaks out of scoring slump in Buffalo

LAST WEEK: Friday: Trenton Golden Hawks 4 vs. Stouffville Spirit 0. Tuesday: Spirit 5 vs. Buffalo Jr. Sabres 2. Spirit record: eight wins, one shootout win, one overtime loss, one shootout loss, 13 losses, 20 points. Fourth place in North Division, Ontario Junior Hockey League.

COMING UP: Saturday: vs Wellington Dukes at Stouffville Arena, 7 p.m.

GAME NOTES: To score goals it only makes sense that you have to direct any shot on the opposing goalkeeper. That's what Stouffville Spirit head coach Jeff Perrin had been trying to preach to his club during a recent scoring drought, including a 4-0 road loss to the Trenton Golden Hawks Friday.

But when the Spirit took to the road for a cross-border tilt against the West Division-leading Buffalo Junior Sabres Tuesday, some good things happened when they got the puck on net. A four-goal outburst in the second period enabled the Spirit to break a three-game losing streak with a 5-2 victory.

Trailing 1-0 after the opening period, the

Spirit erupted with four straight goals to take a 4-1 lead through 40 minutes. Spirit captain Matt Heffeman scored twice, including one on a power-play effort near the midway point. Tyler Challis and Peyton Backus each added single tallies. Carrying that momentum into the third period, the Spirit padded their lead to 5-1 on a goal by Matthew Dunlop near the midway mark. Just under two minutes later, Buffalo cut the Spirit's lead to 5-2 on a goal by Michael Ederer. But that would be as close as they would get. Dylan Gamble accounted for the game's first goal for Buffalo, who lost their fifth straight game.

In Trenton, the Golden Hawks broke open a scoreless tie through 20 minutes with goals from Ryan Kinsella and Tyler Donaldson to take a 2-0 lead into the second intermission. The Golden Hawks added their final two goals in the third period with Brady Wiffen and Hunter Fargey scoring near the midway mark. Golden Hawks' netminder Denny Dubblestyn stopped all 23 shots directed at him to record the shutout. The Golden Hawks directed 28

shots on Daniel Mannella. For the Spirit, the loss marked the third time this season they were shut out. The win by the Golden Hawks was their sixth in the last seven outings.

INSIDER: The Spirit suffered one injury in Tuesday's win when forward Mike Morgan incurred a lower body injury. Perrin said Morgan remains doubtful for Saturday's tilt against the Wellington Dukes. Forward Daryl Thomson is still a couple of weeks from returning to action. Perrin noted his leg is healed but it's now a matter of trying to build the muscle back up.

Former Spirit coach and current Newmarket Hurricanes general manager and head coach Brian Perrin will assist Wellington Dukes general manager and head coach Marty Abrams in directing the OJHL North-East Conference All-Star team at the 2013 Central Canada Cup All-Star Challenge in Terrebonne, Que. from Dec. 27 to 29. Perrin is the older brother of Spirit head coach and fellow Whitchurch-Stouffville resident Jeff Perrin.

GENERALLY SPEAKING: "When you get a

chance you have to put the puck on net and four went in," said Perrin of his club's success against Buffalo. "We had our chances in the first period but we couldn't finish. In the second period we put the puck on net and the puck went in."

"We don't have any natural scorers that will get 30 to 40 goals, so we have to score the way we did Tuesday."

Reflecting on his club's recent scoring drought, Perrin was quick to point out all teams' experience that dilemma at some point during the marathon of a season.

At the same time, he noted for his club to put too much thought into scoring goals it could jeopardize what they do at the other end of the rink.

"Every team goes through that. Some nights you will score and some you won't no matter what you do."

"If we concentrate too much on trying to score, other parts of our game will go somewhere else. We want to play a solid team game."

Looking ahead to Saturday's home game

against the Wellington Dukes, Perrin hopes his team will recall what happened to them when they met earlier in the season which resulted in a 4-0 road loss Sept. 27.

At the same time though, he acknowledged the Dukes, who currently occupy third place in a highly competitive East Division, won't roll over.

Especially since they possess a highly skilled and experienced roster that's gearing up to host the Dudley-Hewitt Cup this season.

"They're a good team that works hard, they're disciplined and well coached," said Perrin. "We have to do something to limit their scoring chances and score when we get chances."

"Every game you need a break here and there and part of that is done when you create your own breaks."

For more on the Spirit, log on to: www.stouffvillespirit.com or catch up on Twitter with the Stouffville Spirit Jr. A Hockey Club.

- Michael Hayakawa

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Inserts for Thur., Nov. 28, 2013

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Runner helps UBC win crown

Michael Bourgeois helped the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds men's cross country team finish eighth and combined with the women's team to successfully defend their title at the NAA championships in Lawrence, Kansas Saturday.

The Stouffville resident and third-year student majoring in kinesiology was the sixth runner on the Thunderbirds' team to complete the 8-kilometre course.

Overall, Bourgeois finished 120th in a time of 26:06.73.

Wise second in nation

Jamie Wise was on a scoring spree for the Ryerson University men's hockey team last weekend.

The 22-year-old Stouffville resident delivered a pair of goals and collected a pair of helpers in propelling the Rams to a 9-7 road win over Nipissing in Ontario University Athletics action in North Bay Friday.

Playing Laurentian University the following day, the second-year Rams forward had a goal and two assists in a 6-4 win in Sudbury.

The two victories by the Rams enabled them to extend their winning streak to four games and put them in second place in the OUA West Division with a 9-4-0-18 record.

Wise has seven goals and 15

assists in 11 games and is tied with Thornhill resident and Western University's Daniel Erlich in second place in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport scoring race.

Pee wee AE Clippers take title

Ryan Cusack scored a pair of goals to propel the Stouffville pee- wee AE Clippers to a 5-3 win over the Barrie Colts in the final of the Cobourg Power Play Tournament Sunday.

Liam Sitlani, Mathieu Kovac and Michael Creeggan added single tallies for the Clippers. Nick Olidis and Robert Hume each collected a pair of assists while Nathan Tratnik, Christopher Leinwand, Brandon Smith, Jack Boston and Franco Minaudo each had one. Ethan Volpe was in goal for the Clippers.

The Clippers got off to a good start in the tournament by routing the host Cobourg Cougars 8-2.

Kovac recorded the hat trick while Smith added a pair of goals and had one assist to ignite the Clippers' offence. Mitchell Risto, Leinwand and Olidis each had single tallies. Tim Arnold, Boston, Sitlani, Tratnik, Jacob Turney and Jack Valteau had assists.

Facing the Orangeville Flyers in their second outing, the Clippers got a goal from Kovac to salvage a 1-1 tie. Creeggan earned an assist.

Buoyed by a solid net minding effort from Evan Farrell and a bal-

anced scoring attack, the Clippers blanked the Pickering Panthers 5-0.

Smith, Risto, Ryan Cusack, Kovac and Olidis each scored once.

Hume and Minaudo each earned two assists while Kovac, Valteau, Turney and Smith each had one.

The Clippers' lone setback in the tourney came in their final round-robin game when they came out on the short end of a 2-1 decision against the Hamilton Tigers. Hume had the goal for the Clippers.

The Clippers advanced to the semifinal where they required a shootout to edge the Guelph Gryphons 4-3. Trailing 3-2 with 33 seconds remaining in regulation time, the Clippers pulled goalkeeper Evan Farrell in favour of an extra attacker and got the equalizer to force overtime.

"Overall the kids had solid games, with lots of back checking and winning the battles in the corners," said Clippers head coach Brad Boston. "Everyone gave a 100 per cent effort when they were on the ice and never quit," he said.

Assisting Boston were Mark Turney and Aniel Sitlani.

Water Depot chipping in

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association, in conjunction with the Water Depot, will be conducting a minor hockey day at their store on 5946 Main St. Dec. 8 from noon to 3 p.m.

The goal of the event is to raise funds for families in Stouffville who have youths that would like to play hockey but are financially strapped.

This event will feature games and prizes. The day will include the shooting board from the Hockey Hall Of Fame. You can test your shooting skills, and win fabulous prizes, including an autographed Wendel Clark jersey.

All funds raised will go to the WSMHA.

You could also win a VIP hockey day in Toronto.

This includes a tour of the Hockey Hall Of Fame, two tickets to a private suite at a Toronto Maple Leafs game at the Air Canada Centre, dinner, and overnight accommodations.

Coaching volunteers needed

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association is looking for six to nine volunteers to contribute an hour or two per week to assist with its house league practices.

Volunteers must be at least 15 years of age and capable of directing skating and basic hockey skill drills under the supervision of a head coach.

These activities qualify as student community service hours.

Qualified candidates are asked to contact Charlene Mason at the association's office at: 905-642-2835.