

# Another honour for Spirit's DaSilva

They say that lightning doesn't strike twice in the same place.

But in the case of Stouffville Spirit defenceman Ryan DaSilva it certainly felt that way after he received a double dose of good tidings last week.

After earning recognition from the Ontario Junior Hockey League by being named to their All-Prospect First Team Tuesday, the 17-year-old DaSilva received some additional good tidings when he was selected to the league's Second Team All-Star squad last Thursday.

"It's definitely pretty special," DaSilva said upon receiving the news Thursday morning. "When I saw that I was named to the All-Prospekts team that was special.

"But being named to the second all-star team was even more special because it includes not just 1998 and 1999-born players but it draws from the entire league."

In receiving the news of his latest achievement, DaSilva said it was a surprise in some ways. But in other ways, it wasn't.

"Just talking with my coaches, they said I had a chance to be on one of the all-star teams," DaSilva recalled. "But at the same time I did not think I would be named to both the All Prospects and All-Star teams.

"But I was happy with the year that I had even though we just came up short in making the playoffs."

Acquired by the Spirit early in the regular season in a trade with the Orangeville Flyers, DaSilva played an integral role in helping the club with a late second-half spurt that just fell short of a postseason berth.

During his time with the Spirit, DaSilva was the club's third-leading scorer after he collected 51 points that included 17 goals, eight of which were on the power play and five game winners.

His 17 markers was the second-highest among league rearguards while his eight power-play markers and five game winners were tops among defencemen in the league.

In addition, DaSilva was named the league's North-East Conference Player of the Month for December.

DaSilva was quick to point out it coincided with the team's success in the second half of the season after they were winless in their first 10 outings to start the season.

"This is almost like a team award," he said.

Joining DaSilva on the second all-star team were goalkeeper Andrew Masters of the Georgetown Raiders, defenceman Willy Paul (Burlington Cougars) and forwards Thomas Beretta (St. Michael's Buzzers), Jack Jacome (Georgetown Raiders) and Josh Kosack (Oakville Blades).

First team selections included goalkeeper Daniel Urbani (Trenton Golden Hawks), defencemen Patrick Kudla (Oakville Blades) and Brennan Roy (Cobourg Cougars) and forwards Luc Brown (Wellington Dukes), Zach Evancho (Buffalo Jr. Sabres) and Anthony Rinaldi (Kingston Voyageurs).

The OJHL All-Star teams were selected by the league general managers and media members.

—Michael Hayakawa

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