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## LONDON OLYMPICS

# LAST CHANCE AT GOLD FOR COCKBURN?

*Stouffville trampolinist  
on hot streak*

BY MICHAEL HAYAKAWA  
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With the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, England just around the corner, Karen Cockburn thinks she's ready to go for the gold in the women's trampoline competition.

That elusive gold is something the 31-year-old Stouffville resident would love to add to the two silver and one bronze medals from three prior Olympic appearances — in what's probably her Olympic swan song.

But based on her last two World Cup events prior to the Olympics, Cockburn is riding the crest of a wave, winning bronze in an event in Albacete, Spain and silver in Arosa, Switzerland last weekend.

Making the silver medal even more rewarding, Cockburn said, was finishing behind Canadian teammate Rosie MacLennan of King City to make it a 1-2 finish for Canada.

More significantly though, Cockburn and MacLennan finished ahead of competitors she said could be her main Olympic adversaries, Shanshan Huang and Li Dan from China.

"It went so well," Cockburn said of her last two World Cup performances. "To win bronze and silver I

See **COCKBURN**, page 10.



BRIGITTE BOUVIER PHOTO

Three-time Olympic trampoline medallist Karen Cockburn of Stouffville speaks at an event in Ottawa as gymnasts nominated to the 2012 Canadian Olympic Team were announced.

# Overflow mass says bye to Sara

*Car crash victim's death  
'worst nightmare': councillor*

BY SANDRA BOLAN  
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Tears that were held back throughout the hour-long funeral mass for Sara Girard yesterday, flowed freely when the 17-year-old's body was escorted out of St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church to a soloist singing Sarah McLaughlin's In The Arms of an Angel.

Her parents, Joanne and Wayne, clung to each other as they followed their daughter's casket, which was draped in a white and gold cloth, out of the church as hundreds of other mourners openly wept.

"It's hard to put words into such a loss, tragedy," said Councillor Richard Bartley, who attended Sara's funeral on behalf of the town.

"We still have a great, great community. Unfortunately, it takes tragedies to reassure us," he said of those who attended the funeral mass.

The large crowd spilled into the church basement, where mourners watched the proceedings on closed-circuit TV.

Immediately following the service, Mr. Bartley, who has three daughters, called one of them to tell her he loved her.

"As a parent, of course this is your worst nightmare. You think about it every day," he said. "Appreciate what you have because in a blink of an eye, your life changes."

Sara, 17, died Monday afternoon when the van she was riding in was involved in a single-vehicle rollover on Hwy. 11 north of

See **CRASH**, page 5.

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