



**PITCH IN
CANADA**



Cheskey holds own at Masters World Cup

Rob Cheskey finished around the middle of the pack in his three individual events at the recent Masters World Cup cross-country ski championships in Brusson, Italy.



Rob Cheskey

The 51-year-old Miltonian placed 33rd in a field of 60 men's 50 to 54-year-old competitors in both the 10 and 30-kilometre classic races and was 41st out of 80 on the 45km skate course.

Now a three-time Masters World Cup competitor, Cheskey also anchored a relay team that was 13th out of 15 squads.

Given that the level of competition was at its peak, his results were on par with those delivered in both 1998 in Lake Placid and 2002 in Quebec City.

Cheskey capped his first trip overseas by taking in the Olympic 'pursuit' race in Pregelato.

Sgarbossa and Raiders rally from epic OT loss

Dejection, elation and total exhaustion.

Campbellville's Rob Sgarbossa and his Georgetown Raiders experienced a healthy dose of all three to kick off what's already been a roller coaster Western Conference semifinal series with Hamilton.

The second round best-of-seven set began in truly memorable and seemingly unending fashion, as the host Red Wings needed quadruple overtime to finally put away Georgetown 4-3 Thursday night at Chedoke Arena.

Sgarbossa assisted on two equalizers in the marathon clash, including one late in the second period by Ryan Lee. The teams would stay deadlocked for an unbelievable 77 more minutes until Hamilton defenceman Tyler Kelloway buried a wrist shot 5:41 into the fourth extra session — ending game one just shy of the four-and-a-half hour mark.

"It was crazy. By the end there we were laughing and saying, 'Oh my God, when is this thing going to end?'" recalled 19-year-old Sgarbossa, a point-a-game assistant captain with Georgetown. "And to play that long and not win is pretty heartbreaking."

However, he and the Raiders showed no ill effects from the series-

opening letdown at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena Saturday evening — bombing their steel-town rivals 9-3.

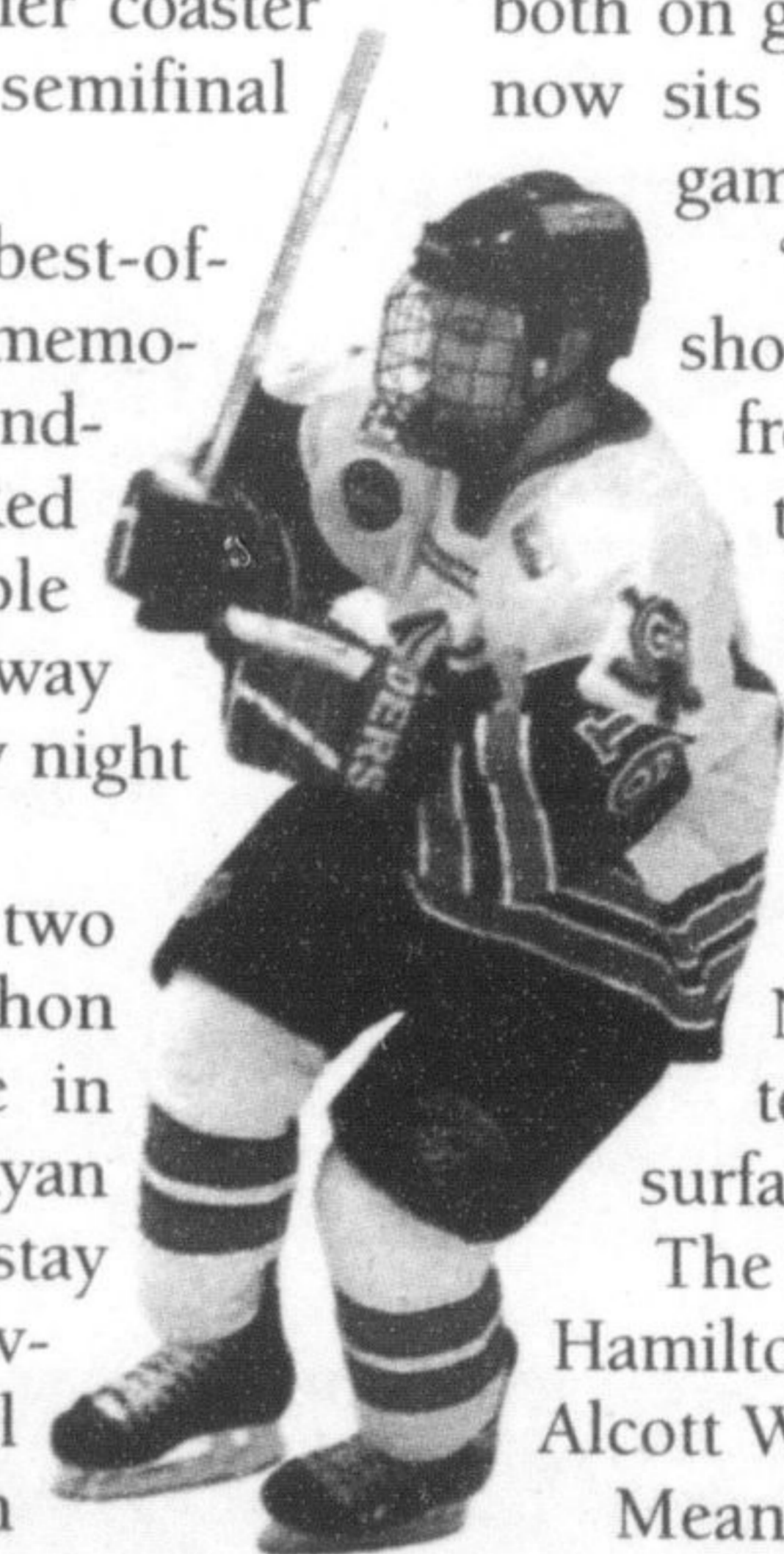
Sgarbossa picked up another two assists in the commanding victory — both on goals by Mike Gurtler — and now sits with eight helpers in eight games.

"It was a huge win for us and showed that we can rebound from adversity," remarked the third-year centre, whose Raiders knocked off the Royal Bank Cup host Streetsville Derbys in round one. "We took the body well and slowed them down. Now we've got to find a way to do that on the bigger ice surface in Hamilton."

The series continued last night in Hamilton, with game four back at Alcott Wednesday evening.

Meanwhile, Miltonian Kevin Parker and his Port Hope Predators had a golden opportunity to put a 2-0 hammerlock on their Eastern Conference semifinal series with Wellington Sunday night.

However, Wellington rallied from a 3-0 deficit to eke out a 4-3 win and knot the series at one win apiece. Parker and the Predators — who clinched the East title with a five-game series win over Wellington last year — took the first contest 2-1 Friday. Game three is Thursday in Port Hope.



Rob Sgarbossa

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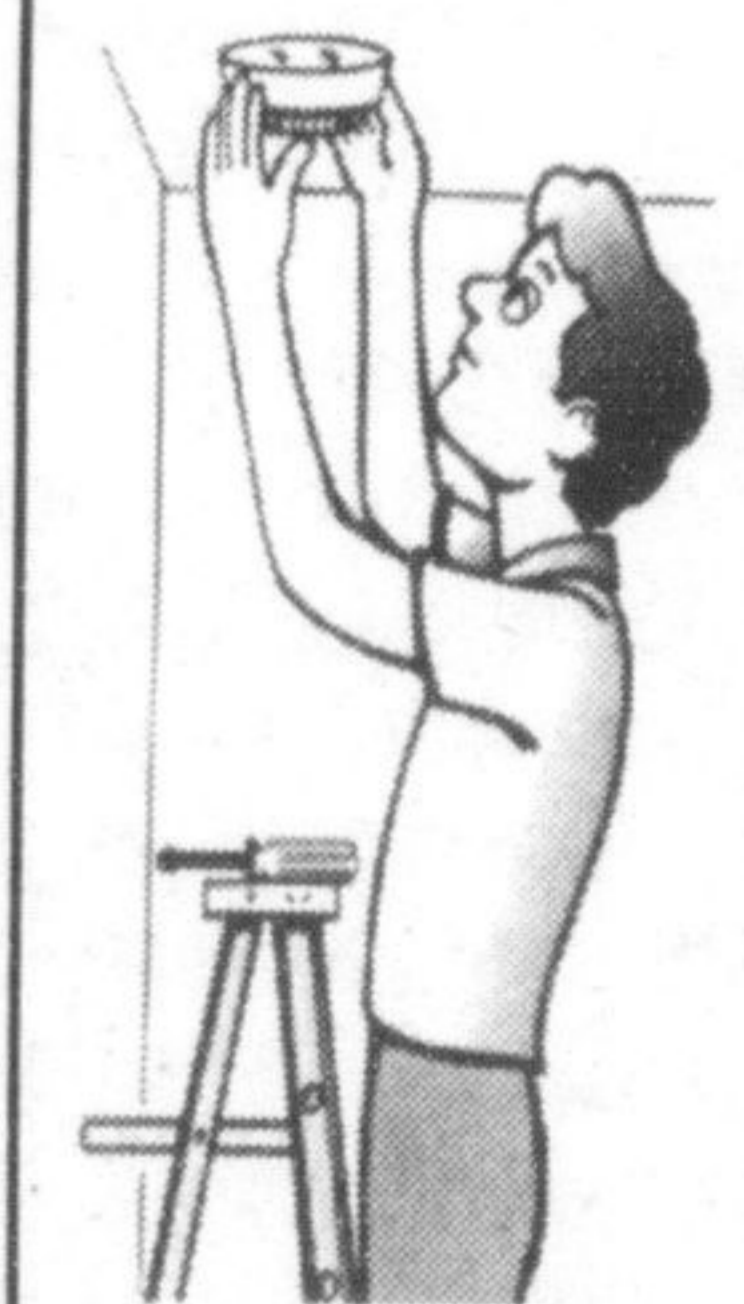
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