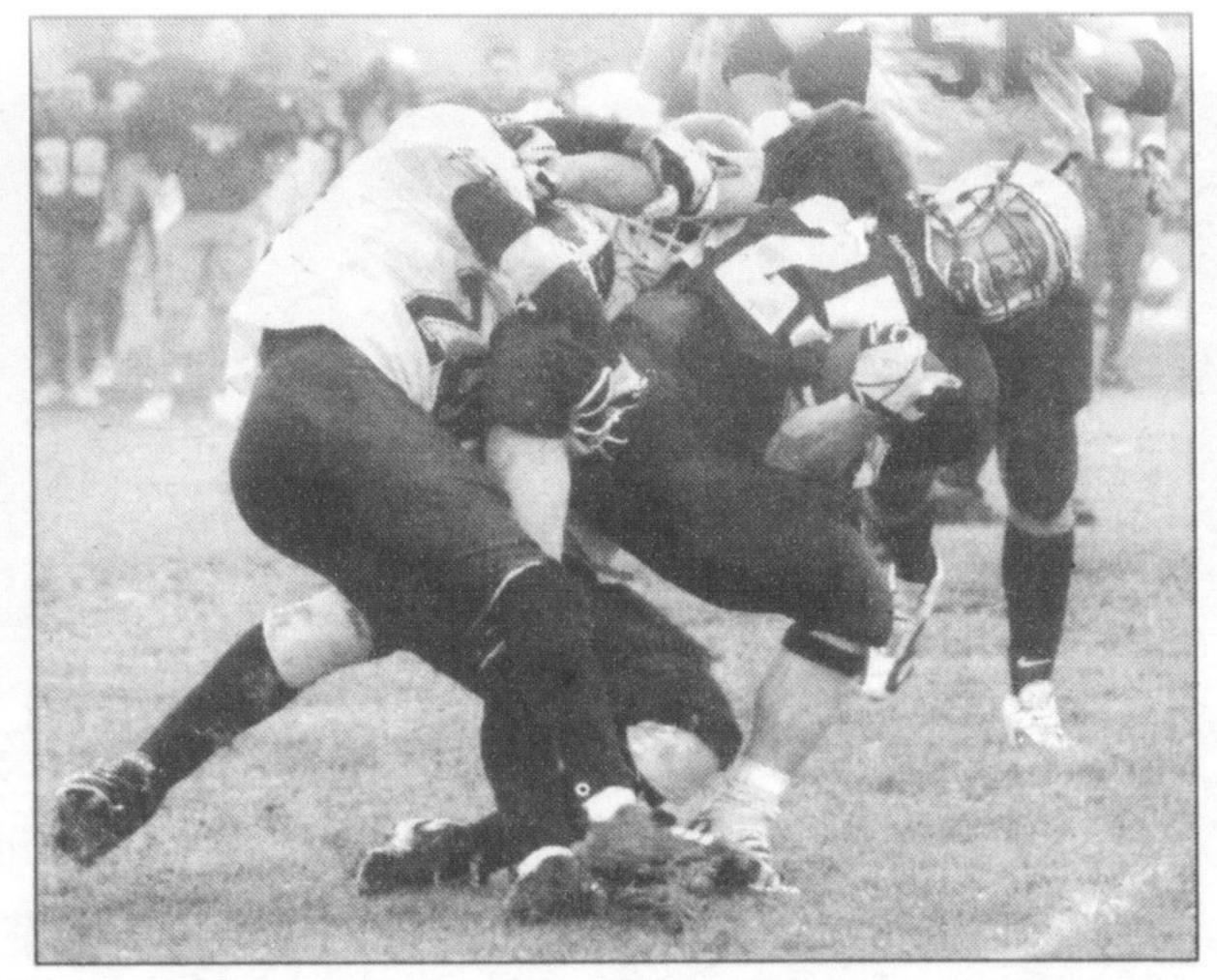
Blocked field goal does in Marauders IceHawks'

from CHAMPIONSHIP on page A19

The Hawkeyes put together a drive of their own before stalling on fourth down at the Milton 20-yard line early in the fourth quarter. A field goal would have tied the score, but astonishingly Oshawa opted for the fake. The Marauders were ready for it, having seen the play executed several times on film, and Jason Payne ran down Phil Dixon, forcing him to throw a wild pass to the end zone.

Milton started out again, hoping to eat up the clock, but on the third play the ball came loose in the backfield, possibly the result of slippery conditions from the constant rain, and Oshawa recovered it, turning it into a touchdown several plays later. The convert was blocked and heading into the last five minutes of regulation time, the Hawkeyes led 20-17.

Milton's first reply stalled, and then the defense forced Oshawa to punt, giving the Marauders one last chance with under three minutes remaining on the clock. On fourth down, a



GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION Marauders Jon Nedelijkovic gets tackled by Oshawa's Delroy George in Saturday's NFC final.

he held onto it himself for another. A Marauder fumble, recovered by Spanick, seemingly took Milton out of field goal range, but another completion to Radway set up a 35-yard field goal attempt with just seven seconds left.

A slippery field and an equally slick ball contributed to a poor set-up, and Camastro didn't have a chance. The low kick was easily blocked.

"That's football, it was one hell of a game," said defensive lineman Wayne Sliwinski, who'd seriously contemplated retiring after this season. The 35-year-old league legend was wavering a bit on that earlier decision following the heartbreaking loss. "I'll have to re-evaluate with my wife. I'd play until I was 50 if I could."

Head coach Barry Emo was philosophical and emotional about his team. "It was a phenomenal football game. These were

two very good football teams — someone had to win and someone had to lose. We played our hearts out today, every single guy gave every-

scrambling Spanick connected with Radway for a first down, and then thing he had to give."

Porenta starting to make up lost ground



Jennifer Porenta

experience will be given preference.

Ravaged by illness and injury over the past two years, Jennifer Porenta has lost a fair amount of ground in the

But with some solid training in recent months, the 21-year-old Milton swimmer made at least a bit of that back recently in Montreal — with a credible showing at the national championships that served as trials for the Pan Pacific Championships.

While not in serious contention to qualify with so many setbacks as of

late, Porenta did enjoy a significant measure of encouragement in the form of a personal best 2:02.17 lead-off leg split in the Toronto Swim Club's 4x200m freestyle relay triumph.

Besting her old mark of 2:02.60, the local swimmer helped her squad finish within three tenths of a second of a Canadian record. Given that 2:02.10 was good enough to make the Pan Pacific team in the 200m freestyle the night before, Porenta's split was certainly something to build on.

The same could be said about her 10th place finishes in the 50 and 100m freestyles. While not really that close to her individual records of 26.50s and 56.87s, showings of 26.70s and 57.20s weren't exactly disappointing either.

"Basically, my training has been going really well and my 2:02 split in the relay shows I'm going in the right direction again," said Porenta, who resumes training at the end of the month in preparation for her fourth year at the University of Toronto.

camp now underway

The IceHawks began training camp last night, but have already got an exhibition game under their belt.

Milton kicked off pre-season play with a 6-2 loss to the neighbouring Cougars Friday night at Burlington's Mainway Arena.

Now owned by well-known hockey school operator Rick Heinz of Campbellville and led by general manager Keith Pandovski and head coach Pat Cocklin, the IceHawks currently sport a handful of locals.

Among them is former star forward Matt Price's little brother Jeremy, a Halton Hurricanes' defenceman who's expected to be one of the team's two 16-year-olds this season.

Milton has a two-game home stand this weekend, starting Friday at 7 p.m. against the Streetsville Derbys. Sunday the Orangeville Crushers — new to the Provincial Jr. A League — visit Memorial Arena for a 2:30 p.m. start.

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