

Weekender

Sports

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Markham back in scoring form

By FRANK KING
 Sports Editor

Now that's more like it. All season long, fans of the Markham District High School (MDHS) football Senior Marauders have been waiting for their team to show its 1986 championship form.

Up 'til last week, they've been disappointed. After all, this year's edition actually lost a York Region league game, and had scored just one touchdown in three outings.

But all that seemed to change Friday afternoon, when the squad hit the road and scored three touchdowns en route to a 20-0 burial of Newmarket High School.

Rookie quarterback Tony Mara started the offence, capping a long first-quarter drive with a five-yard gallop into the end zone.

Rob Edmondson kicked the convert.

Markham hit again early in the fourth quarter, when Mara connected with veteran receiver Jim Butler for a 45-yard pass-and-run play. Three plays later, running back Scott Hitchcock plunged over for the TD.

Finally, newcomer Chris Goodale scored his first major as a Senior when he rambled into the end-zone on a 25-yard sweep.

But don't think the Marauders were brilliant all game. Indeed, the offence looked awful in the second quarter after Warren Queensborough recovered a fumble on Newmarket's two-yard line.

Mara and company had four tries to gain those two miserable yards. But they may as well have been a mile away, for all the success they had.

"The team had a sort of mental breakdown," said offensive coordinator Ed Curry. "It was not playing very well."

But in the end, the statistics said Markham did have a better game than Newmarket. It piled up 328 yards (just 67 in the air, though) and 23 first downs.

Individually, Hitchcock led the ground game by picking up 147 yards on 21 carries. Goodale actually beat Hitchcock's seven-yards-per-carry average by rushing 100 yards on 14 carries.

Meanwhile, the Myron Dnes defence gave up just 129 yards and seven first downs. Veteran Dean Powell led the linemen with seven tackles and one QB sack.

Rookies Aldean Slowly and Brent Colclough had five tackles apiece, while freshmen Toby McHale and Peter Powell (yes, he's Dean's younger brother) collected four each.

Still, not all the statistics were encouraging. Mara's passing ratio was downright depressing—just four completions (two to Butler) in 18 attempts.

And the Marauders continued their disturbing tendency for penalties. They caught the referee's eye 11 times, while Newmarket picked up only four infractions.

"One of the problems on offence is, due to injuries and suspensions, we've never started the same line before," Curry explained.

The centre position is a good example. In just four games, Darryl May, Wade Lee, Toby McHale, Tom Walton and Mike Lavary have been utilized.

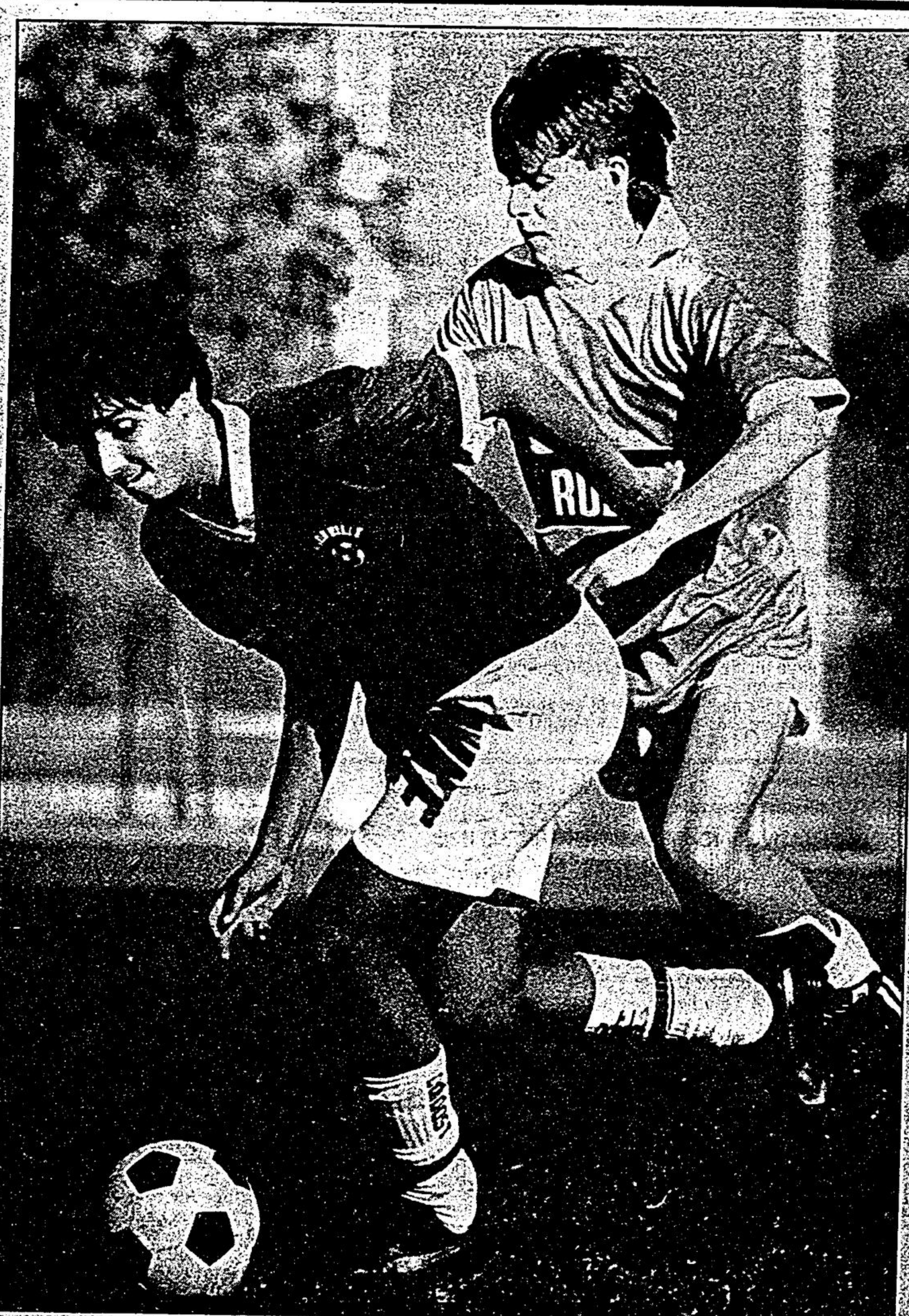
Catching the coach's eye with their strong play was tackle Jamie Clarke and guards Eric Katigbak & Kevin Ely.

On defence, the situation is better. The Newmarket win was Markham's third shutout and that's keeping a smile on the face of defensive skipper Dnes.

"My biggest concern right now is the line," he explained. "We're giving up too much yardage on running plays. We were getting killed on their first-half sweeps."

By 'killed' Dnes means that Newmarket actually picked up 48 yards. He made some adjustments for the second half and cut that number in half.

Results of Thursday afternoon's game in Newmarket against Huron Heights weren't available at Weekender press time.



Unionville Juniors victorious

Carl Campitelli's Unionville High School Junior boys soccer team upped its winning record to 3-1-1 with a 2-0 win over St. Robert's Tuesday afternoon.

Here, Oliver Heath battles for control of the ball. Simon Shelton did all the scoring and Vikash Bhatti had the shutout.

Stouffville unbeatable?

By ALAN SHACKLETON

Six and counting. A 36-32 win at home for the Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) basketball Midget girls over Sacred Heart Wednesday afternoon improved the team's record to 6-0 on the season.

The lengthy undefeated streak gives the Midget Spartans a firm grip on top spot in the York Region North division.

"This was the toughest game we've played this year," said coach Bill McKnight. "The girls had to work very hard to keep their record intact."

Anne and Susan Baston, with 14 and 12 points respectively, paced the attack. Michelle Hofstee and Julie Colman both added four points.

The Junior Spartans also had a

big day against Sacred Heart, earning an easy 43-21 win. Debra Sanderson held the hot hand, celebrating her 16th birthday by scoring 11 points.

"Debra was really hot; every time she touched the ball she seemed to score," said coach Adel Kamel.

Entering the second half the Spartans held a slim 13-12 lead, but they exploded for 30 points, including 21 in the final quarter, to take the game away.

"We lost our last two games by a basket and that was one of the reasons we were still pushing so hard at the end," Kamel said.

"I hope the Sacred Heart coach doesn't think we ran up the score, but it was important for us to play a full game and never let up."

The very next Stouffville's record at 3-0, and they are still on the hunt for a playoff spot.

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Anne Beech was high scorer for the Juniors with 12 points. Michelle Hall had nine points, all in the second half.

"Anne played an excellent game and her rebounding was superb," Kamel said. "On defence, Karen Carr was very strong. She was always hustling and stealing the ball."

While the Midget and Junior Spartans are having good seasons, the times have been tougher for the Seniors.

On Tuesday, they travelled to Newmarket and lost 41-25 to Huron Heights. Sonya Klein (with eight points) and Mary Sled (seven) were the top shooters.

The Seniors get a chance to avenge the loss Monday afternoon when they host Huron Heights in a return engagement.

Juniors win 7-0

A scoring spree it wasn't, but the Markham District High School (MDHS) football Junior Marauders accomplished just enough to knock off Newmarket 7-0 last Friday.

The game's offence was pretty much limited to a series of first-quarter plays which began with a Markham punt.

Newmarket fumbled that punt on its three-yard line, and Graham Angliss scooped it up. Two plays later John Stronach galloped into the end zone, then Calvin Headley booted the convert.

The victory gives MDHS top spot in the York Region loop, with four wins and no losses this season. But coach Jim George is toying the cautious line.

"We're undefeated, but we could easily be in third place with a 2-2 record," he said. "We only beat King City by three points, and this Newmarket game was a battle of the defences. We only won because we had one more break."

And as far as winning the league goes, George said, it's a toss-up between us, King City and Newmarket. Any team can beat another, that's how close it is this season.

The coach was impressed with his defence (coached by Senior grads Angelo Varsamis and Mike Manikas), particularly Ron Gulfguis, Angliss and Brad May.

But on the other hand, "I was surprised with the pass rush. A couple of times the linemen were down the field looking for an interception."

Offensively, "the line still needs work. They hesitate a bit."

Results of Thursday afternoon's battle in Newmarket against Huron Heights weren't available at Weekender press time.