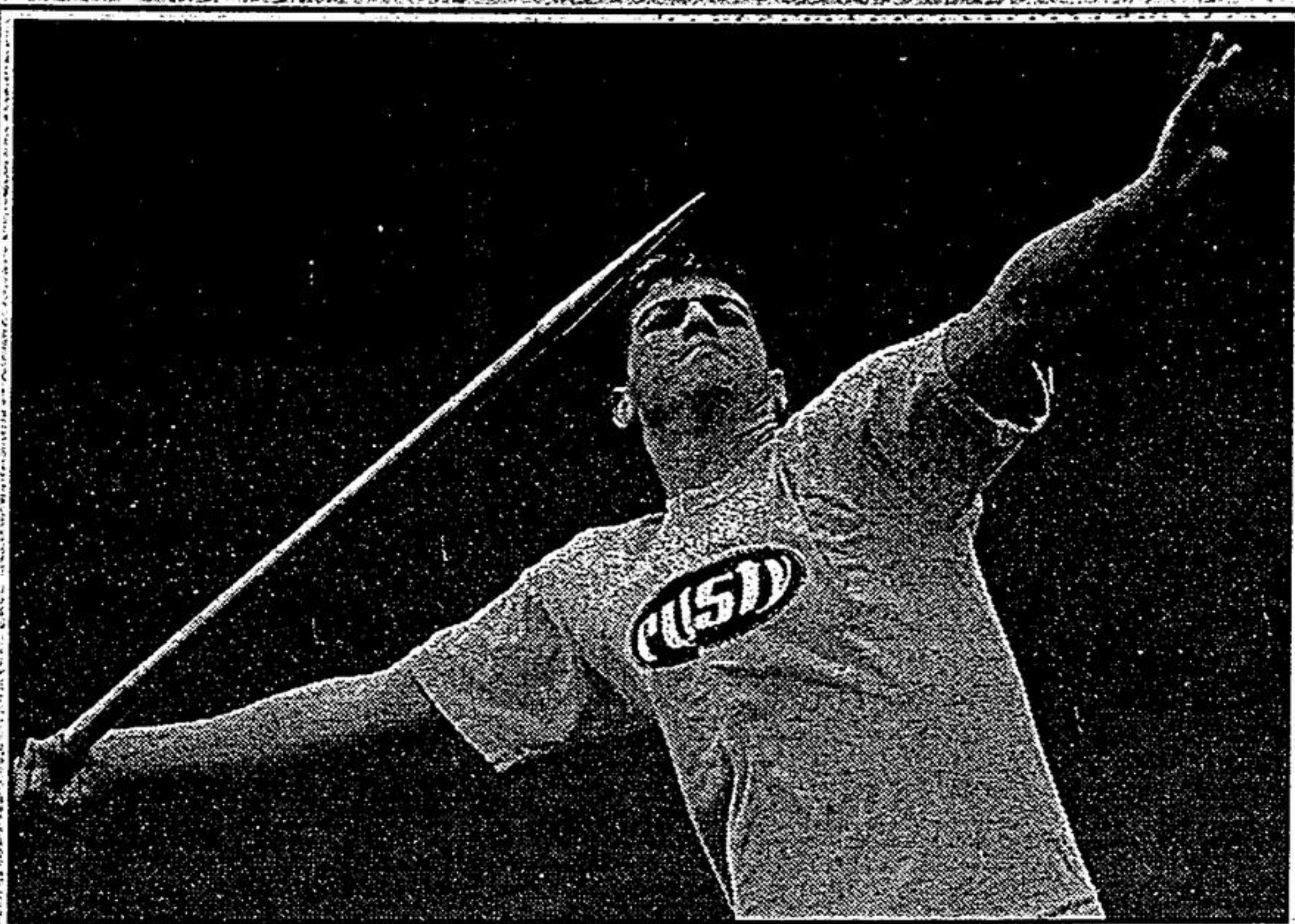


SAHL titles are on the line

Sports



SETTING SOME LOFTY GOALS: Stouffville District Secondary School's Shaun Caramanico, 18, gets set to unleash this javelin toss as he prepares for the upcoming outdoor track and field season at Stouffville District Secondary School on Tuesday.

Photo by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Stars shine bright

The Stouffville Stars peewee and atom B rep girls' hockey teams will both go into this weekend's provincial championship tournament with the hopes of adding to what has already been a successful season.

The two Whitchurch-Stouffville Girls Hockey Association (WSGHA) rep level teams both made it as far as the playoff finals after finishing first in North Metro Girls Hockey League play this season.

The peewee Stars finished in first place in the North Metro league standings with a record of 13 wins against only four losses and five ties.

In the league playoffs, the Stouffville girls prevailed 1-0 over Brampton in the semi-finals before being stopped 6-2 by North York in the finals.

The atom Stars ended up tied with their Durham rivals at the end of the regular schedule, but the Durham squad was given the nod because of a greater number of victories. The Stars defeated Aurora in the playoff semi-final. In their

playoff championship final with Durham, the two closely matched teams were unable to settle the issue after an overtime period. The Durham team finally prevailed in the seventh round of the heart-stopping shootout.

The Stars won the important game between the teams when they downed Durham to advance to this weekend's provincial finals in a qualifier earlier this year.

At the Brampton Easter Tournament last weekend, the peewee Stars won two of their three games played, with both wins coming on shutouts by Janet Harpley. The Stars blanked Brantford 2-0 in their first game. Goals came from Dia George, from Laura Mahoney and Andrea Meyer, and Christine Hartnoll, with assists by Christina Davis and Meyer. Game two saw the Stars edged 5-4 by Belleville.

Goals came from Hartnoll (two), Becky Grieve and Caitlin Smart. Assists:

■ Please see page 18 ■

It will be the Blues, Maple Leafs, Devils and Flames, with the Sharks and Nords playing back up, in tonight's Stouffville Amateur Hockey League (SAHL) championship finals at the Rec Centre.

The Occasions Catering Blues will be out to add a postseason title to their regular season crown when they face off against the third place Rand Pools Maple Leafs in the Over 40 Division final at 8 p.m.

The Under 40 Division final, set for 9 p.m., will see the third place Mackenzie Insurance Devils facing the surprising Fullerton Flames, who ended up a distant tenth.

The Nordiques and the Boyd's Sports Sharks will meet in the Under 40 consolation championship at 7 p.m. The Nords and Sharks tied for first place, with the Nords getting the nod due to a higher goals total.

The Over 40 match up was determined after Sunday's fourth and final playoff round-robin games which saw the Blues defeat the Houston Ford Flyers to run their post season record to a near-perfect three wins and a tie. Meanwhile, the Ken May Real Estate Whalers and the last place VEC Enterprises Ducks were making it exciting as to who would meet the Blues in tonight's final at 8 p.m. The Leafs snuck in the door despite falling to the Ducks, who handed them their only playoff defeat.

The Whalers, fourth in the season standings, then defeated the Black Hawks to match the Leafs with three wins and a loss. However, the Whalers failed to score enough goals to keep the Leafs from advancing to the finals in accordance with the league's playoff tie breaking formula.

The Under 40 division finalists were decided after Wednesday's third and final playoff round-robin games. The Flames

continued their Cinderella post season run when they edged the Sharks 2-1 on Bob Osborne's goal with less than half a minute left in the game. It was the first playoff loss for the Sharks, knocking them out of championship round contention.

The Devils also won all three post season contests to qualify for the finals.

In the hunt for the right to contest the Under 40 Consolation match, the ninth-place Kings came close to knocking the Nords out of the picture altogether when they took an early 2-0 lead in Wednesday's final round-robin match up.

But the Nords rallied for a 4-2 win.

Today is also the final registration day for the 1998-99 SAHL season.

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DON VALLEY NORTH LEXUS - TOYOTA ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



LANA SMITH

Lana Smith has been serving up aces recently and it paid off for her in a big way recently when she was awarded a tennis scholarship.

The 18-year-old Markham native who recently completed her studies at Brother Andre Catholic High School, announced her intention to attend Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma this fall.

Smith was the most valuable player on Brother Andre's tennis team in three of four years. And in 1996, she reached the York Region finals.

Playing the sport since she was four years old, Smith has been a member of the Markham Tennis Club for 10 years and is the club's junior pro this year. In the winter time, Smith is an instructor at the Richmond Hill Tennis Club.

DON VALLEY NORTH LEXUS - TOYOTA
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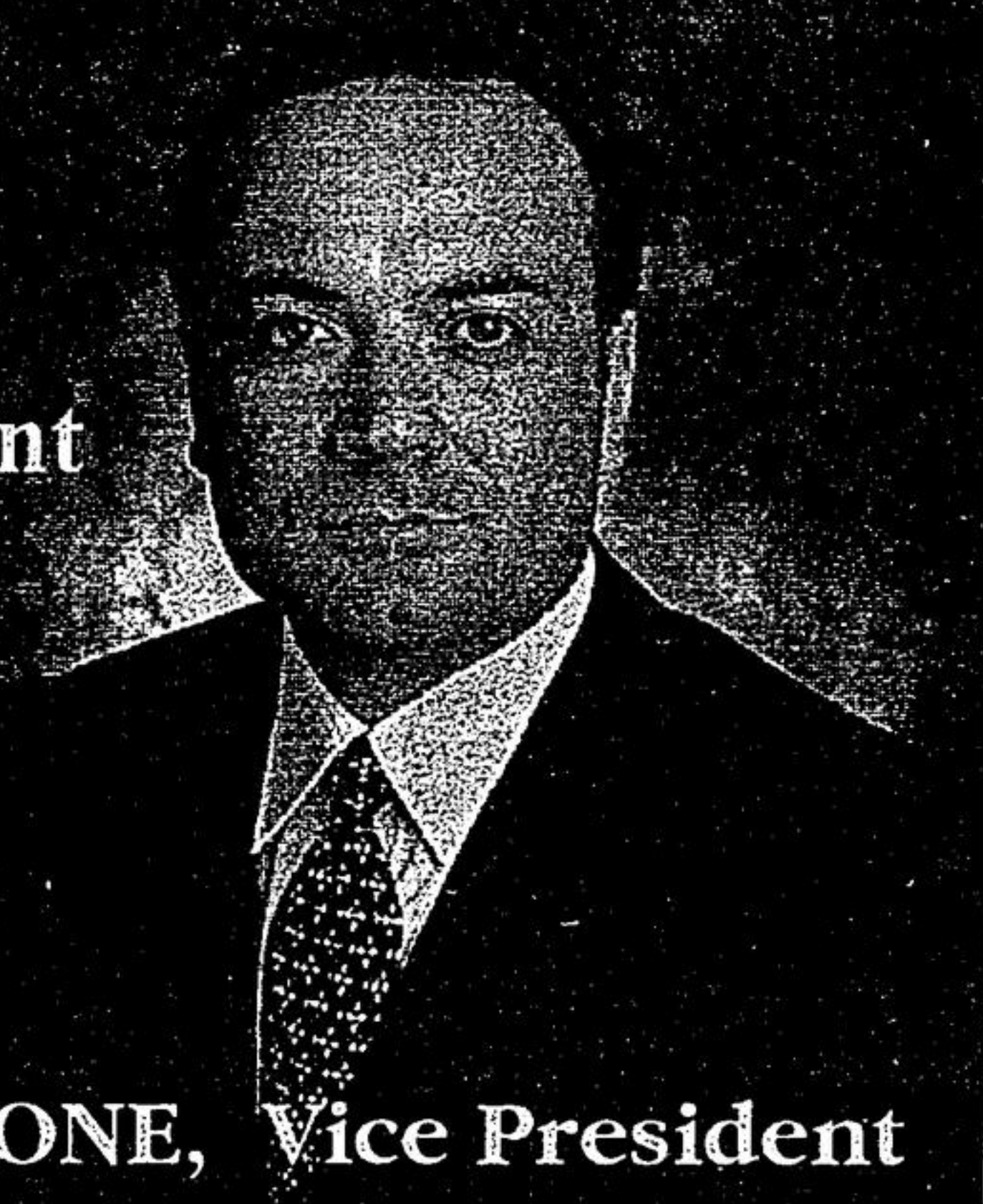


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