

# SPORTS

## Zago is stingy in net as Spirit defeat Raiders

BY BRUCE STAPLEY  
CORRESPONDENT

Spirit of Stouffville goalkeeper Rob Zago felt under the weather before Thursday night's game against the Wexford Raiders at the rec centre.

But it was the Raiders who ended up feeling the ill effects as Zago put on a display of classic netminding to lead the Spirit to a 4-2 victory in a fast paced, hard played contest.

The 18-year-old backstop defused the potent Raiders attack, stopping 33 shots. He was particularly brilliant in the second period when the visitors held a 20-6 advantage in shots on goal and threatened to run the host squad out of the building. But they had to settle for just two goals, one on a power play.

"I felt sick all day," said Zago, "I had stomach pains before the game, but I didn't say anything."

While acknowledging his heavy workload, Zago insisted on sharing the glory with his defence corps.

"I got a lot of help from my defence, especially in the third period," said Zago. "It was one of those games where everything goes right. They (Wexford) were shooting from everywhere, and that's hard for a goalie."

The Spirit jumped out to a 2-0 first-period lead on goals

by Andrew Francone, his first since joining the team earlier this month, and Jesse Johnston, who netted his seventh of the year on a power play.

But the Raiders came out charging in the second, storming the Stouffville net and creating numerous two on one breaks. Zago held his own until the visitors finally clicked on a power play with seven and a half minutes left in the period. Dave Zelasko's power-play marker restored the Spirit's two-goal lead as the period wound down.

But the Raiders struck again with 18 seconds to play.

Brendan McCann clinched it with his 14th of the season on a fancy deke with two minutes on the clock.

The game marked a breakthrough for Francone, who teamed up with linemates Phil Barski and Kevin Edgar to create the majority of the Spirit scoring opportunities.

Francone said he was able to capitalize when his high-scoring linemates received extra coverage from the Raiders.

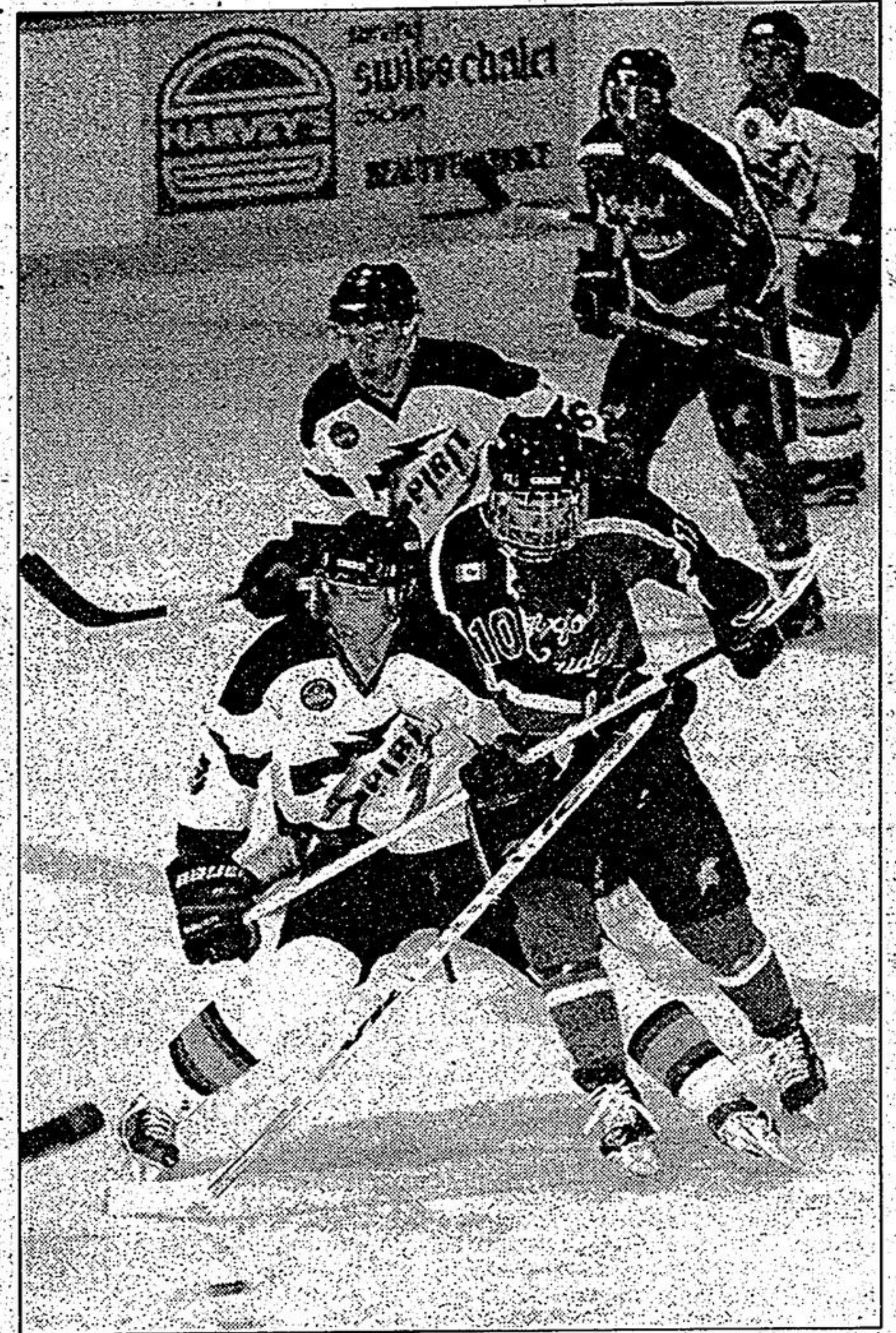
"They were covering Edgar and Barski and left a lot of open ice for me."

Zago credited the enthusiastic rec centre crowd for his big performance.

"I really like playing here. The fans were really loud and that got us going."

The Spirit were hoping the win over the sixth-place Raiders would set the stage for a big effort tonight at the rec centre when they go gunning for their first win in three years against the Newmarket Hurricanes. The Spirit travel to Orillia to play the second-place Terriers tomorrow night.

Tonight's game sees all local male and female minor hockey players, figure skating club members and elementary school students admitted for half price. There is to be a raffle for a \$250 kid's bicycle, with the proceeds going to the Children's Wish Foundation. Game time is 7:30 p.m.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEN

Spirit of Stouffville defenceman Justin Graham (left), shoves Wexford Raiders' forward Marco Rosa off the puck in the first period of Thursday's Provincial Junior A Hockey League game at the rec centre. The Spirit prevailed 4-2.



### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
ST. JOHN'S SIDEROAD (Y.R. 26) FROM  
YONGE STREET (Y.R. 1) TO  
WOODBINE AVENUE (Y.R. 8) TOWNS OF  
AURORA AND WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

The Regional Municipality of York is studying transportation problems along St. John's Sideroad (Y.R. 26) from Yonge Street (Y.R. 1) in the Town of Aurora to Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8) in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The fourth Public Meeting is to be held as follows:

**DATE:** Thursday, February 11, 1999  
**TIME:** 6:45 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (Open House)  
7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Presentations/  
Questions/Answers)  
**LOCATION:** Seminar Room (Main Floor)  
York Region Headquarters  
17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket

The meeting has been arranged to provide area residents and interest groups an opportunity to review the technically preferred alternative. The meeting will consist of presentations by the project team followed by a question and answer session. A consultant firm specializing in natural environment features will also make a presentation on the features and functions of the Mackenzie Marsh and the effects of any road improvements.

Comments received at this meeting will be considered prior to the preparation of the Environmental Study Report (ESR). The public will have an opportunity to review the ESR and provide comments, at a later date.

If you have any questions or are unable to attend the Public Meeting and wish to provide comments, please contact:

Mr. Dino Basso, P.Eng.  
Project Manager  
The Regional Municipality of York  
Transportation and Works Department  
17250 Yonge Street, Box 147  
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1  
(905) 895-1200 ext. 5090  
(905) 836-4590 (fax)  
moy.dcb@region.york.on.ca (email)

This meeting is intended for those unable to attend the January 28, 1999 meeting. The presentations will be the same as the ones at the January 28, 1999 meeting. There will be no new information presented.

Osteoporosis strikes 1 in 8 men over 50 years old.



Call 1-800-463-6842 for more information.

This message brought to you as a community service of The Economist/Tribune

**DON VALLEY NORTH LEXUS - TOYOTA**  
**ATHLETE OF THE WEEK**



**DEREK YAMASHITA**

Derek Yamashita did not let a severely sprained ankle incurred late last month get in his way when he took to the Copps Coliseum track to compete at the recent Hamilton Spectator Indoor Games.

The 15-year-old Markham resident won the gold medal in the midget boys' pole vaulting competition with a jump of 3.35 metres.

Also competing in the midget boys' long jump event, Yamashita proceeded to earn a silver medal.

**DON VALLEY NORTH LEXUS - TOYOTA**  
3120 Steeles Ave. E.  
East of the 404 (Pkwy.) 475-0722

## Downhill racing is a family affair

Five children from two Stouffville families are going for the gusto on the slopes this season.

Andrea and Courtney Newmarch, and Michael, Chad and Graham Wilson, are involved in the Southern Ontario Alpine Ski Racing series again this year.

Andrea, 15, and Courtney, 12, are members of the Georgian Peaks Ski Club team.

Andrea, who was with the Devil's Elbow team that won the provincial title two seasons back, went with her Peaks FLS team for two weeks of glacier training in Oregon and another two weeks on new snow at Panorama, B.C. to start the season. The team trains an average of five days a week, with a special arrangement made for schooling.

During four days of heavy-duty competition at Mt. Tremblant, Que. in mid-December, Andrea averaged 26th place out of 75 racers.

On five consecutive days of international competition that saw her race twice a day against 80 other female racers the first week of January, Andrea finished as high as 21st.

Courtney, a member of the Peaks Gold Team, was third in her first tough competitive race of the year at Craigeleith.

The girls' father, Wayne, races with a house league team, while grandfather,



Bruce Stapley

Stan Newmarch, is still with the Southern Ontario Masters and expects to compete at the Canadian Masters Championships at Whistler in April.

The Wilson brothers have all been members of the Devil's Glen Ski Club team since they were seven years old. Michael, 14, was one of eight juvenile level skiers to qualify for the Taschereau Cup at Mt. Tremblant at the beginning of January. He had a second and a third place showing at a competition in Osler Bluff on Jan. 13. Michael was scheduled to travel to Sault Ste. Marie this week for the mid-winter series as he continues his pursuit of making it to the Canadian Alpine Championships in Nakiska, Alta. in March.

Chad, 12, has a first and a second in two outings in Mackenzie League competition this season. Graham, 10, was to compete in his first race of the Nancy Greene League series last weekend.