

# Spirit in the driver's seat



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

## HE'S A HIGH FLYER

Brother Andre Catholic High School's Marcus Macri (9) goes flying through the air after being tripped up by Stouffville District Secondary School's Joe Lombardo in Monday's YRAA senior boys' hockey contest at the rec centre. The visiting Cardinals won the game 9-1. On Tuesday, the Cardinals defeated Westmount 13-2 and extended their unbeaten streak to 37 games.

Jon Smyth's goal with 25 seconds remaining in the third period propelled the Spirit of Stouffville to a 4-3 win over the host Aurora Tigers and a three games-to-none lead in the team's first-round Provincial Junior A Hockey League best-of-seven playoff series Tuesday.

With the score tied at 1-1 after one period, the Spirit jumped out to a 3-1 lead on power-play goals by J.D. Smithson and Anthony Minicucci.

The Tigers roared back with two goals, including one with just 27 seconds left in the second period and one to start the third frame to even the count before Smyth's late heroics.

The Spirit can wrap up the series today at the rec centre at 7:30 p.m.

## Waxers suffer loss and injuries

The Markham Waxers gave a good effort and executed well against the North York Rangers in Monday's third game of the best-of-seven Provincial Junior A Hockey League first-round playoff series.

But the Waxers failed to finish off their plays which, in turn, resulted in a 3-1 loss at Centennial Arena.



JON SMYTH

Scored game-winning goal for Spirit on Tuesday

Trailing 2-0 through the first two periods, James Regan scored a goal two minutes into the final period to cut the Waxers' deficit.

But that would be as close as they would get.

Although the Waxers still hold a 2-1 lead in the series, they will be without the services of Kevin Tompkins and Alex Stoyan. Tompkins sliced his forearm on his first shift and took 15 stitches. He will be out at least two weeks.

Stoyan had a fibreglass sliver removed from behind his knee after an MRI revealed its presence. He will be out for an indefinite period.

After yesterday's fourth game in North York, the series resumes at Centennial Arena tomorrow at 8 p.m.

## Masterton earns medals

Tracy Masterton returned home with four medals after taking to the slopes during the recent Canadian Special Olympics 2000 Winter Games at Camp Fortune in Chelsea, Quebec.

Making her debut at these games, the 22-year-old Unionville native won gold in the slalom, silver in the super G and a pair of bronze medals in the giant slalom and downhill.

## Spirit Day at McDonald's

McDonald's Restaurants in Stouffville will hold a one-day fundraising program in support of the Spirit of Stouffville Junior A hockey team.

On Saturday from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., 15 per cent of all sales will be used to support the team.

Players will be on hand to sign autographs and pass on hockey tips from 9:30 to 10:20 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m.

## Unionville teams in sync

Two Unionville Skating Club synchro teams advanced to the Y2K Canadian Synchronized

Championships and one to the provincial championships after earning qualifying marks at the recent Central Ontario Sectionals in North York.

The Village Express novices and Elite Express juniors, both coached by Tracey Jones and Wendy Clevely-Shultz, advanced to the Canadian championships after finishing third and fourth respectively. The nationals will be held in Kitchener March 2-5.

The Enchanted Express juveniles, coached by Sandra Osbaldeston, finished third and qualified for the Ontario Championships.

## A gym dandy effort

Three members of the Academy of Sport and Fitness vaulted their way to good performances at the recent IGI Chicago Style Gymnastics Meet in Chicago, Illinois.

Danielle Hicks, 13, won a bronze on beam in Level 10 Elite while Marci Bernholtz, 11, finished fourth in the same division.

In Level 8, Jennifer Horowitz finished fourth overall and was second on bars.



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