



23 Outdoor rink a tradition
78 years later

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Stouffville Sun-Tribune

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2005 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 44 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST

Chinese medicine on hot seat at hearings

'Charlatans' putting patients at risk

BY CHRIS TRABER
Staff Writer

An increasing number of unskilled "charlatans" practising acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine are putting patients at risk, Markham MPP Tony Wong heard during a provincial hearing Thursday.

"How does the consumer know who is a qualified herbalist, acupuncturist or doctor of traditional Chinese medicine?" asked North York's Paul Des Rosiers, a California-trained and licensed practitioner of Chinese medicine.

NO REGULATIONS

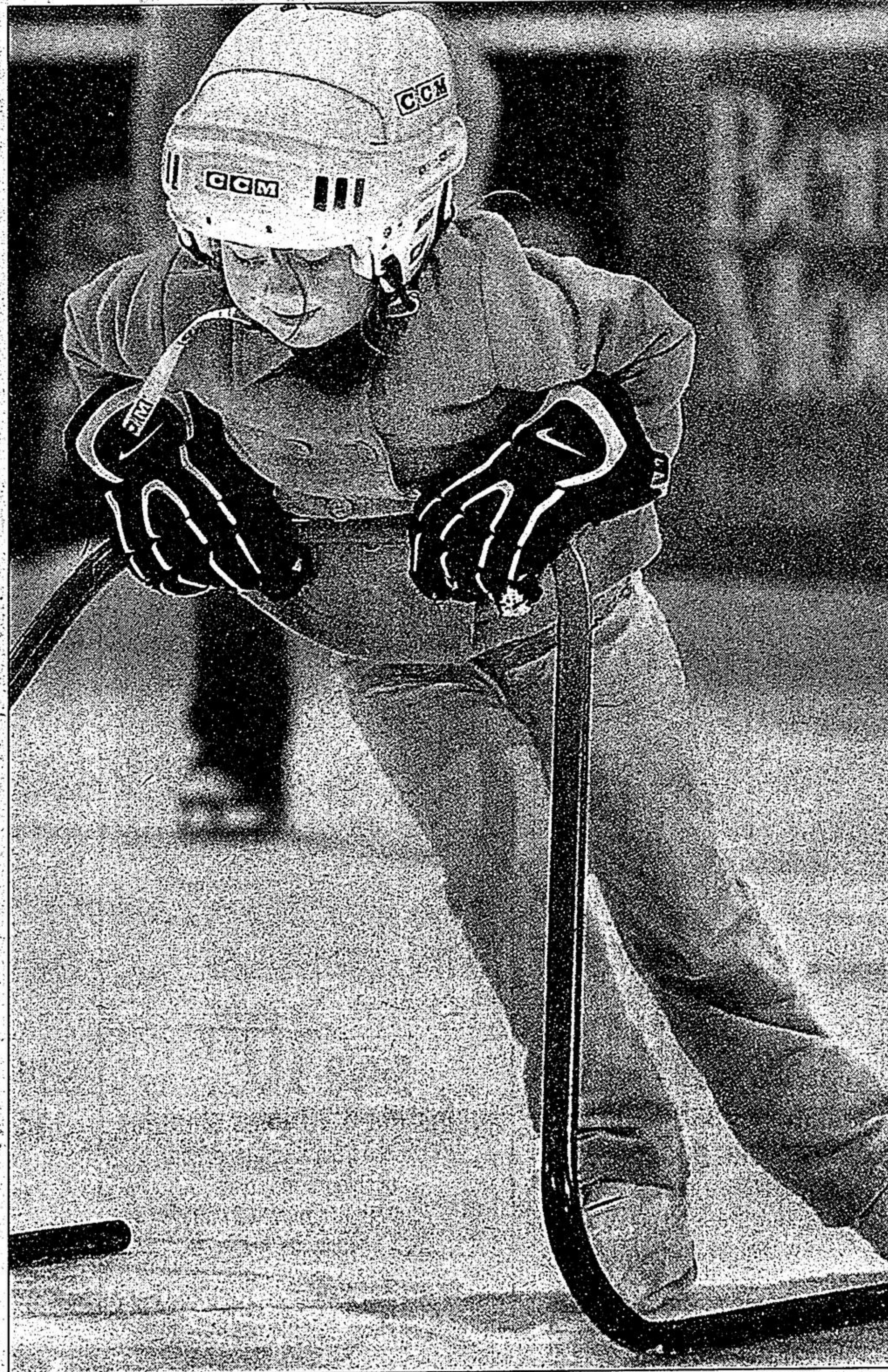
"We all have to look at this branch of medicine and dissect it," he said. "There are scams and financial special interest groups, charlatans, because there are no standards or regulations. No one wants to take responsibility."

Unskilled practitioners represent a significant risk to the public said another scheduled presenter.

"An incorrect diagnosis or prescription can cause headaches, hypertension, internal bleeding and, in some cases, death," said Mary Wu, president of the Toronto School of Traditional Chinese Medicine. "There are no standards. Practitioners need to be

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Eye for ice



STAFF PHOTO/MIKE BARRETT

Victoria Marsh, 5, of Stouffville makes her way around the ice during the daily March break public skate at the Stouffville Arena Thursday. Most students return to school Monday.

SEARCH ON FOR MORE POWER

Cancelled towers, power plant raised blackout possibilities

BY ROY GREEN
Staff Writer

Citizen groups in York Region have been successful, in just the last two weeks, in foiling plans for a \$500-million gas-fired power plant in Vaughan and a \$60-million hydro transmission line stretching from Markham to Newmarket.

But even as they celebrate, York Region may be facing a potential power deficit that could produce blackouts or brownouts within a few years. And, short of a review of alternatives now getting under way, there are no plans in place to address this looming deficit.

In fact, major players in the debate seem more interested in shifting the responsibility for solving the problem.

NORTH OF BLOOMINGTON AT RISK

A study done by Hydro One and local distribution companies claims the area north of Bloomington Road is at risk of service disruptions or brownouts unless more power is available by the winter of 2006-07.

While the Ontario Power Authority has been charged with finding sources for sustainable energy in Ontario, that agency was only created in January and it wasn't until this week it named a consultant to deal with York Region's growing need for more electricity.

Hydro One's answer — doubling the capacity of the 115 kV hydro corridor running

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