

# 2-0 Spirit hosts Lindsay tonight

The Provincial Junior A Hockey League regular season has not begun yet.

But the Stouffville Spirit are trying to set a positive tone after winning their first two pre-season tilts last weekend.

The Spirit played host to the Markham Waxers last Saturday and skated off with a convincing 5-1 win.

In Lindsay Sunday, the Spirit and host Muskies took matters into a shootout before Stouffville prevailed 3-2.

Jonathan Minardi scored twice in the victory over the Waxers while Dustin Laren, Craig McDowell and Ethan Werek each added singles. London Knights prospect German Tsatura handled netminding duties.

In Sunday's contest, Australian product Jarred Seymour scored the game-winning marker in the shootout while Eric Mignardi handled netminding duties for the Spirit.

Trailing 2-0 halfway through the second period, the Spirit tied the game on goals by Adam Sgulia and Kyle Miller.

The Spirit will host the Muskies tonight at the Stouffville Arena at 7:30 p.m. and play in Markham Friday.

The Spirit are seeking a family to billet a player for the upcoming season. Anyone interested should call Spirit general manager Matt Gibson at 416-275-7567.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

Spirit graduates Steve Kopolnas and Konrad Bruetsch are attending Lakehead University in Thunder Bay and trying out for the varsity hockey team.

Kopolnas played in Spiritland the last two seasons, while Bruetsch was playing pro in Switzerland.

Ex-Spirit forward Dan Speer plays for Lakehead.

### Mennos opens post-season in Bradford tonight

The Stouffville Mennos begins the first round of its Oshawa City and District Fastball league playoff series tonight on the road.

The Mennos plays a best-of-three series against the Bradford Sox.

Finishing the regular season in second place, the Sox will have home field advantage against the Mennos, who finished seventh.

The Mennos will have home field advantage for the second game Sept. 4 at Memorial Park. Game time is 8:30 p.m.

A third game, if required, would be at Bradford Sept. 6.

### Rough ride for Barbie at Sunset Speedway

The Barbie at Wal-Mart stock car driven by Ashley Taws led 27 of 50 laps in an Ontario Sportsman Series feature race at Sunset Speedway near Barrie last Saturday.

Unfortunately for the 23-year-old rookie from Whitchurch-Stouffville, she didn't get the results she wanted.

After finishing ninth in the first 50-lap race, Taws's vehicle looked worse for wear as it incurred body damage.

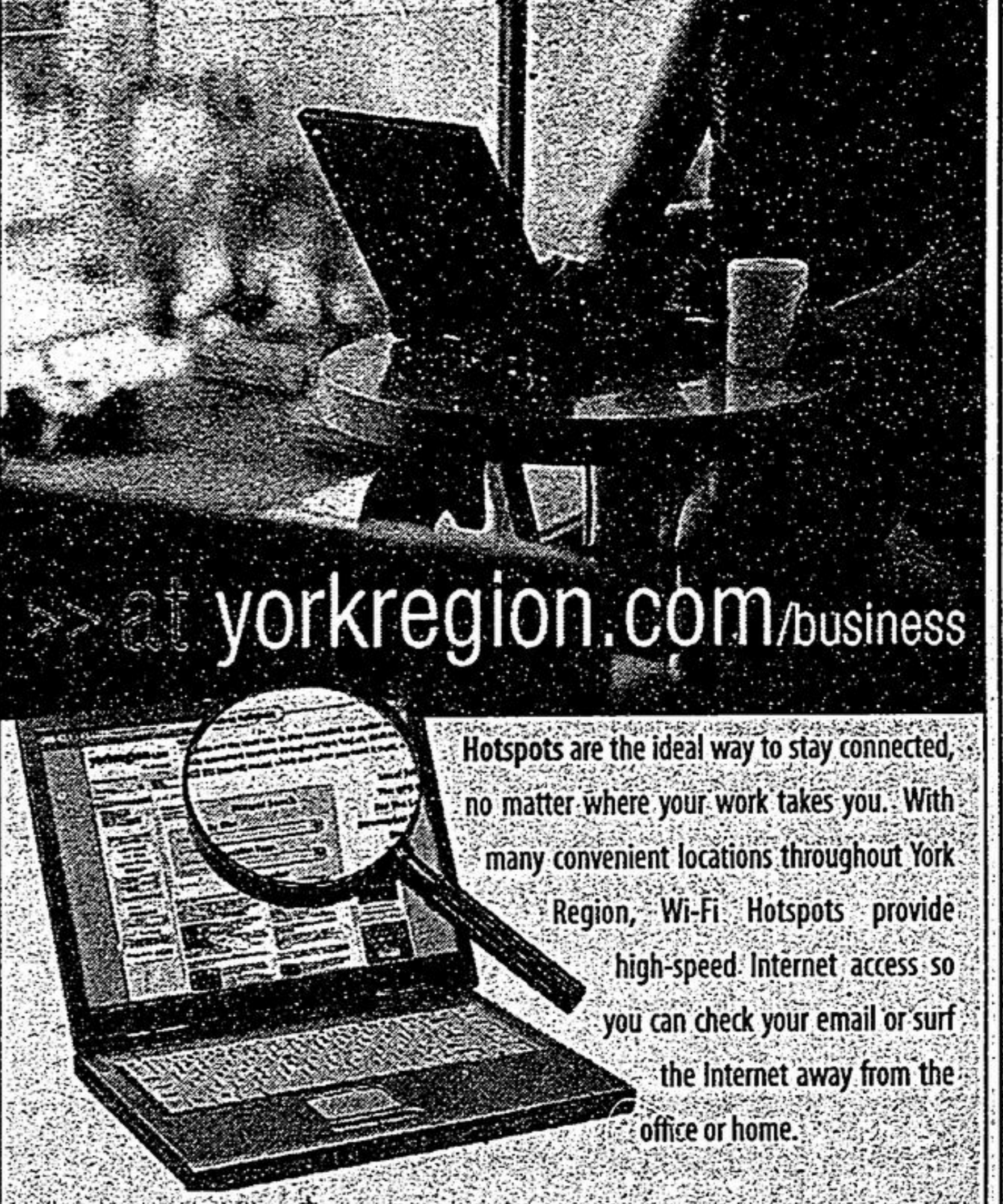
With the DJK Racing crew making the required repairs to get the Barbie car ready for the second 50-lap race, Taws seized the lead and held it for the first 27 laps.

But she caught backmarkers and did not know the fast way around. As a result, she got trapped and was eventually overtaken.

Even after a restart, Taws could not regain the lead and finished seventh.

"I didn't finish where I wanted to," Taws said, "but I've shown that the Barbie car is fast and I can drive it fast. I've still got lots to learn about oval racing, especially strategy, but I'm really happy with my progress."

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