

SPORTS

Spirit rookie, Red Wing mates set for OHL draft

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Staff Writer

Several York Region minor hockey players, including a pair of Stouffville teammates, are expected to be served their draft notice Saturday when the Ontario Hockey League conducts its annual Priority Selection over the Internet.

Among those expected to have their names called in the early going of this year's lottery, which begins at 9 a.m., is forward John McFarland. The Richmond Hill resident played last season with the Toronto Junior Canadiens minor midgets of the Greater Toronto Hockey League.

The Sudbury Wolves are expect-

ed to select McFarland first overall. Compiling 96 goals and 165 points in 76 games, the six-foot, 190-pound McFarland earned the MVP award after leading the Junior Canadiens to the OHL Cup title in March.

Stouffville residents Sam Carrick and Evan Bruno were teammates last season with the Toronto Red Wings minor midgets in the GTHL. Both are on the OHL's pre-draft list.

Carrick, a five-foot, 11-inch forward, had 40 goals and 30 assists in 55 games with the Wings and was a star with the Ontario high school championship team from Stouffville District Secondary School. His brother, Jake, just fin-

ished his rookie season in the OHL at Sault Ste. Marie.

Bruno had 25 goals and 25 assists in 64 Wings' games last season. The five-foot, 10-inch winger also played for Brother Andre Catholic High School of Markham, which played at the Ontario championships.

From the Tier 2 Junior A ranks, Stouffville Spirit rookie forward Darren Archibald is also eligible after compiling 28 goals and 36 assists in 64 regular season games. Undrafted last year, he was a late cut of the Barrie Colts in September.

The Newmarket resident is one of the few 1990-born players in the draft, which is dominated by 1992

birth dates.

Sudbury has the first selection followed by the Erie Otters and Owen Sound Attack.

The draft will go 15 rounds. Players from Ontario and some areas of the United States born between Jan. 1, 1989 and Dec. 31, 1992, are eligible.

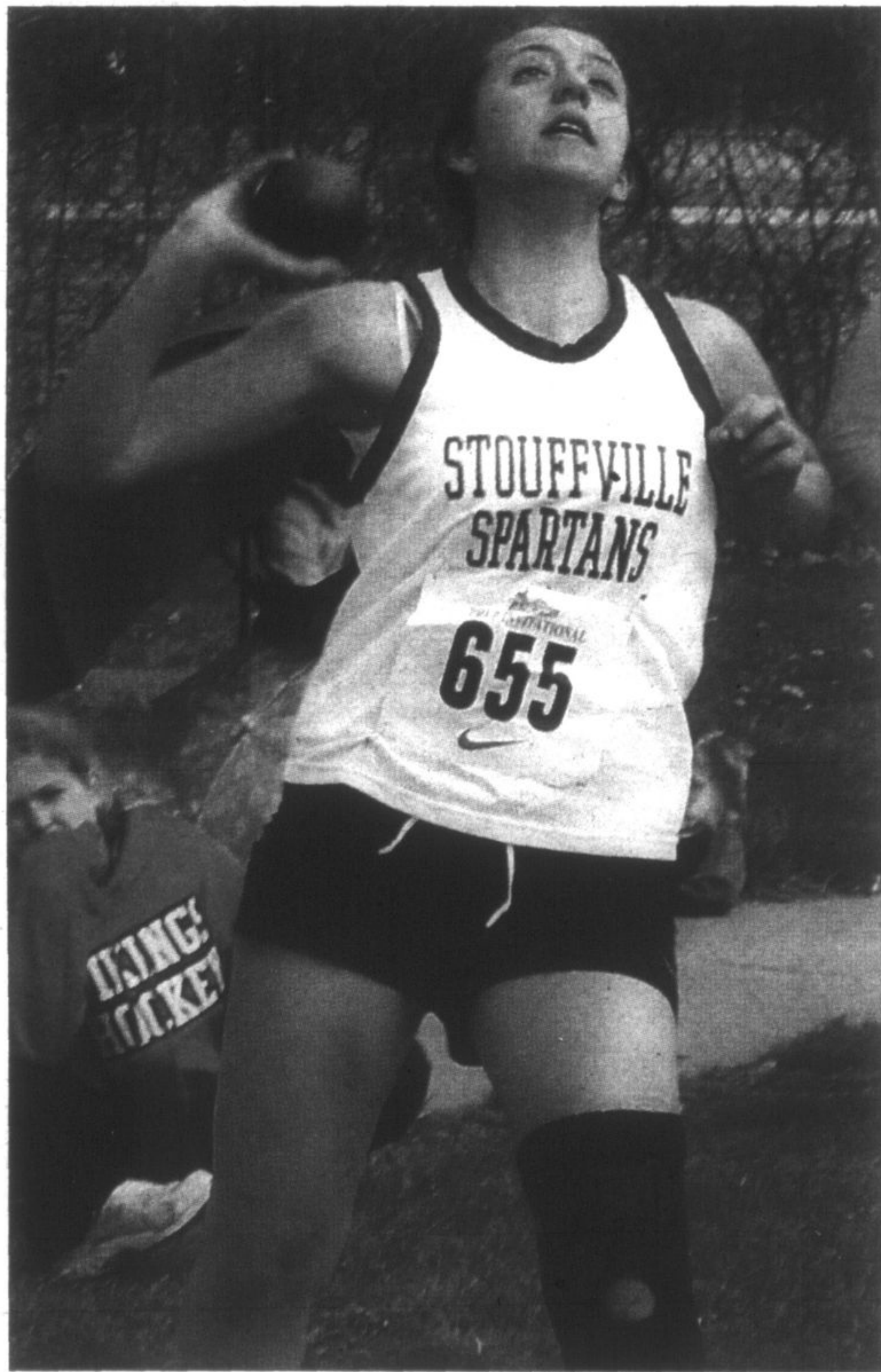
OHL teams are allowed to register a maximum of four 16-year-old players per season. Those 16-year-old players that are allowed to be signed are the first two 16-year-old players selected and a maximum addition of two 16-year-old wild carded players in any round of the OHL Priority Selection.

A new feature to this year's draft is a live webcast of the first three rounds from the league's office.

"We will have a host and two guests. People can listen in and watch on the computer and hear the teams make their announcements of the first three rounds," OHL vice president Ted Baker said. "It's an exciting new thing for us and provide added value to the whole process."

Baker added there will also be features on players drafted along with interviews.

You can follow the draft at: ontariohockeyleague.com. For local coverage, go to yorkregion.com



PHOTOS COURTESY STOUFFVILLE SECONDARY

Stouffville Secondary's Britlynn Preston competes in the shotput at University of Windsor track and field meet last weekend.

Geiger motors around Windsor track

Stouffville District Secondary School's Natalie Geiger continued her torrid pace on the track by winning three races at last weekend's University of Windsor Track and Field Meet at Sandwich Secondary School in LaSalle.

The national team performer won the senior girls' 100 metres, 200m and 400m races.

Among other highlights recorded by the Spartans track team:

- Michael Bourgeois set a school record in the midget boys' 3,000m after winning the race in a time of 10:02.82 minutes. The Grade 9 student's time was two seconds faster than the previous school mark.

Bourgeois also finished fourth in the 1,500m and fifth in javelin.

- In the junior girls' 80m hurdles, Grade 10 student Kate Schlusser finished second but set a school mark after being timed in 13.06 seconds.

Also competing in the 200m, Schlusser was fourth.

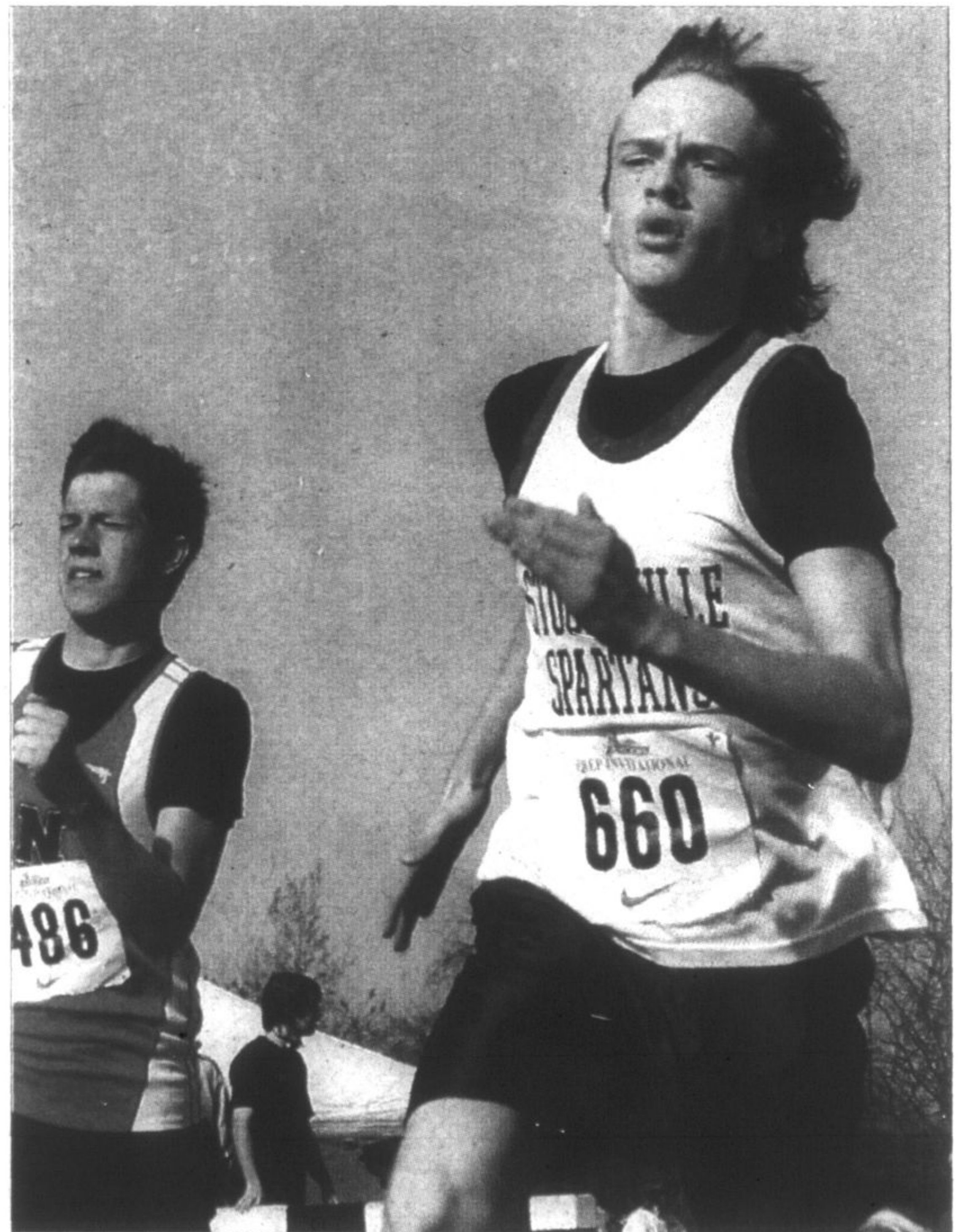
- Chris Daniels was fourth in the midget boys' long jump.

- Cody Fair was sixth in the midget boys' 3,000m.

- Caroline Rankin was eighth in the junior girls' javelin.

The York Region championships will be held May 20 and 22 at York University, followed by the Central Regionals May 29 and 30.

The provincials go June 5 to 7 in Hamilton.



Stouffville's Chris Daniels runs the 200m in Windsor last weekend. He also finished fourth in the midget boys' long jump.

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