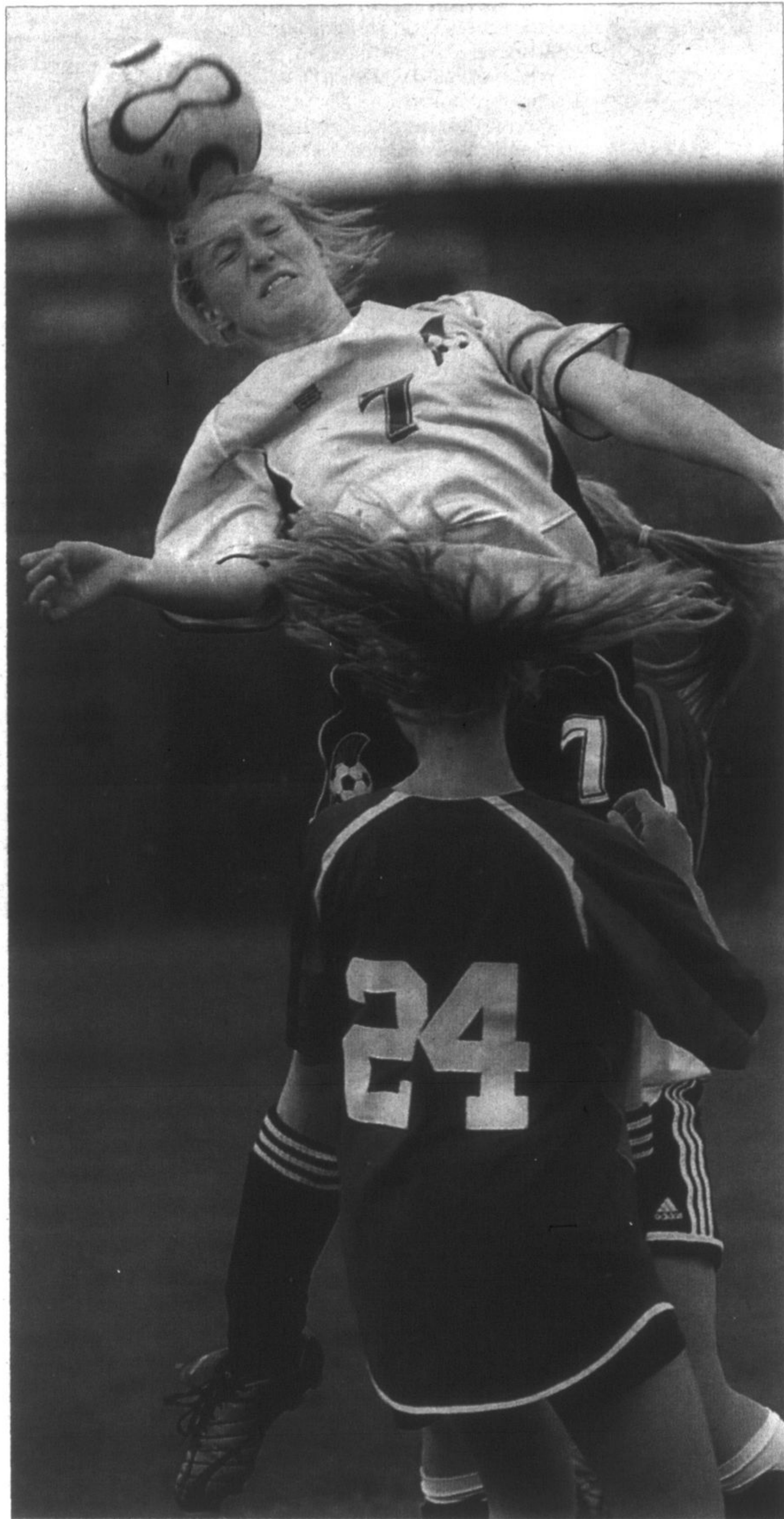


Stouffville Sun-Tribune

SPORTS

USING HER HEAD



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Stouffville District Secondary School Spartan Kathryn McKendrick heads the ball on during the Spartans' 2-1 win over Brother Andre Catholic High School in Markham May 20.

22 teams here for weekend ball event

The ball diamonds in Memorial Park and Ballantrae are expected to be busy this weekend with the Stouffville Storm Invitational Tournament.

The first pitch is scheduled to be thrown Saturday at 8:30 a.m. on the three Memorial Park fields and one at Ballantrae.

The tournament, which will include 22 teams from across Ontario, is slated to go on all day and wind down Sunday with the finals on the three Memorial Park ball diamonds starting at 2:15 p.m.

The host Storm organization will field teams in the peewee A, squirt A and mite B divisions.

Storm squirts split pair to open fastball season

The Stouffville Storm squirts got their York Durham Softball League schedule off last week with some good and bad news.

On the upside, the Storm won their regular season opener a week ago Wednesday at Memorial Park with an 11-2 pasting of Pickering.

Ryan Jones tossed three innings of no hit ball and fanned five batters while Hunter Davidson came in relief and allowed just two runs on one hit in his pitching debut.

The Storm had a well-balanced attack led by a triple from Patrick Fiorino and singles by Tyler Krabi, Cameron Flemming, Kerrick Brown, Jones and Davidson.

The Storm then travelled to Cobourg Thursday and came out on the short end of a 3-2 verdict.

Despite the loss, Brown pitched a solid game as he struck out 10 batters.

The Squirts, along with the Storm mites and peewees will take part this weekend in the Stouffville Invitational Tournament at Memorial Park and Ballantrae Park.

— Mike Hayakawa

Cockburn qualifies for Beijing Games

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Staff Writer

It's official. Karen Cockburn is going to the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing.

The Stouffville resident and two-time Olympic medalist won the gold medal in a World Cup women's trampoline event Saturday in Publier, France, and with it, assured herself of a third Canadian Olympic team nomination.

Cockburn, 27, totalled 39.0 points with an exceptional performance in the final. Shanshan Huang of China was second at 38.60 and Claire Wright of Great Britain third at 37.2.

While pleased to win the event, Cockburn was even more relieved in knowing she's gained a berth for the Canadian team at the upcoming Olympics, slated to commence Aug. 8.

'It nice to have the Olympic spot locked up and not have to worry about it anymore.'

"It nice to have the Olympic spot locked up and not have to worry about it anymore," said Cockburn, who won Olympic bronze in 2000 and silver in 2004.



KAREN COCKBURN: Stouffville resident will jump for third Olympic medal in China.

"I was really pleased with my win today, I had a great routine. It felt amazing to be on top of the podium and hear the national anthem. It was a really great day for me."

Cockburn is continuing an impressive comeback from knee surgery last fall. Making sure her knee is in fine working order is one of her biggest priorities leading up to the Olympics.

"I want to make sure I'm pushing myself and improving," said Cockburn, who didn't compete in the synchro event this past weekend to rest her knee. "But at the same time I'm making sure I'm taking care of my knee and not overdoing it."

Gibbons finishes fourth

Peter Gibbons launched the 2008 NASCAR Canadian Tire Series presented by Sirius Satellite Radio by finishing fourth at the Crown Jewell 200 race at Cayuga Motor Speedway near Nelles Corners Saturday.

Driving his Canadian Tire/Mobil Super Chevrolet, the 45-year-old Stouffville-area resident began the race in the seventh position before completing all 200 laps to finish fourth.

For more information, go to localracing.nascar.com



www.strawberryfestival.ca

Mark Your Calendars . . .

The 24th Annual Stouffville Strawberry Festival
June 25th - June 29th & July 1st, 2008 * Fireworks

Downtown Main Street & Memorial Park
All Children's activities are FREE

