

Enough talent in area to ice another franchise

York's big-leaguers

BY JOHN CUDMORE
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Region communities were pulling on NHL jerseys.

Led by Unionville's Steven Stamkos who is lighting up NHL goalies to date with 42 goals for the Tampa Bay Lightning to Newmarket goaltender Brian Elliott's exploits in recent weeks on behalf of the Ottawa Senators, here are the members of Team York Region:

3, Stouffville Sun-Tribune ■ Saturday, March 13, 2010



GOALIE



BRIAN ELLIOTT

Team: Ottawa Senators
Hometown: Newmarket
Slapshots: Called up from AHL partway through the 2008-09 season, the Newmarket resident is in his first full season with

the Senators. In 44 games, he has posted 23 wins, including three shutouts with a 2.56 goals against average and .909 save percentage ... Former ninth-round draft pick of Ottawa set a franchise record earlier this season for most consecutive wins with nine ... Was a Hobey Baker Award candidate as top player in leading the University of Wisconsin Badgers to 2006 NCAA title.

DEFENCE



MICHAEL DEL ZOTTO

Team: New York Rangers
Hometown: Stouffville

Slapshots: In rookie season with New York Rangers has six goals and 22 assists in 65 games ... Chosen by Rangers 20th

overall in 2008 entry draft after three-year OHL career with Oshawa Generals and London Knights.

STEVE EMINGER

Team: Anaheim Ducks
Hometown: Woodbridge

Slapshots: Playing in his sixth professional season and with his fifth NHL team ... Former first-round (12th overall) draft pick

by Washington Capitals in the 2002 entry draft, Eminger has recorded 13 goals and 66 assists in 329 career NHL games. Currently in first season with Ducks he has two goals and eight assists. ... Junior career included season with the Jr. A Bramalea Blues.



TORSTAR NEWS FILE PHOTO

FORWARDS



STEVEN STAMKOS

Team: Tampa Bay Lightning
Hometown: Unionville
Slapshots: Selected first overall in the 2008 entry draft by Tampa Bay, Stamkos overcame a slow start to his rookie season

last year to finish with 23 goals and 46 points. This season Stamkos has emerged as a star and already has 42 goals and 80 points ... Helped Canada win 2008 world junior championship ... Already touted to play in the 2014 Sochi Olympics, if NHLers take part.



BRANDON CROMBEEN

Team: St. Louis Blues
Hometown: Newmarket

Slapshots: Now in his second full season in the NHL, the former second-round draft pick (54th overall) of

the Dallas Stars landed in St. Louis via trade during the 2008-09 season ... The six-foot, two-inch, 210-pounder has five goals and 12 points this season along with 133 penalty minutes ... Played for the Jr. A Newmarket Hurricanes before four seasons with the OHL Barrie Colts.



STEVE DOWNIE

Team: Tampa Bay Lightning
Hometown: Sharon

Slapshots: Drafted 29th overall by the Philadelphia Flyers in the 2005 draft, is in his first full NHL season with Tampa Bay ... Played

63 games for Flyers and Lightning over two seasons prior to this year ... Has scored 17 goals and 23 assists with Tampa Bay this season along with 190 penalty minutes ... Several brushes with the hockey law in junior and pro ranks, but was a two-time gold medal winner with Team Canada juniors ... Played part of season for the Aurora Tigers at Jr. A level in 2003-04 season.



LUCA CAPUTI

Team: Toronto Maple Leafs
Hometown: Maple

Slapshots: Selected by the Pittsburgh Penguins in the fourth round of the 2007 NHL draft from the Mississauga/Niagara IceDogs of

the OHL Traded from Pittsburgh to Toronto March 2 in the Alexei Ponikarovsky deal. Has six points in 13 career NHL games, including game-tying goal March 10 in overtime win over Boston during his Air Canada Centre debut.



DOMINIC MOORE

Team: Montreal Canadiens
Hometown: Thornhill

Slapshots: Acquired by the Canadiens prior to the Olympic break, Moore is in his sixth season at NHL level ... Initially a third-

round pick of the New York Rangers in the 2000 entry draft ... Former member of the Aurora Tigers Jr. A franchise, Moore started the season with the Florida Panthers. Other stops include the Pittsburgh Penguins, Minnesota Wild, Toronto Maple Leafs and Buffalo Sabres ... 10 goals and 11 assists in 55 games this season.



MIKE CAMMALLERI

Team: Montreal Canadiens
Hometown: Richmond Hill

Slapshots: Had 26 goals and 22 assists in 56 games in first season with the Canadiens ... Drafted

in the second round of the 2001 draft by the L.A. Kings, Cammalleri has 158 goals and 335 points in 420 regular season career games ... Currently in his fifth full season in NHL. Spent three full seasons with Kings and one with the Calgary Flames before trade to Montreal ... Starred at the University of Michigan after playing Jr. A in Bramalea.



ANDREW COGLIANO

Team: Edmonton Oilers
Hometown: Woodbridge

Slapshots: Drafted by the Edmonton Oilers 25th overall in the 2005 entry draft after two seasons at the University of Michigan

... Recorded back-to-back 18-goal seasons to start his career, but has just five goals this season ... Played for the St. Michael's Buzzers Jr. A team in Toronto.



RAFFI TORRES

Team: Buffalo Sabres
Hometown: Markham

Slapshots: In ninth pro season since being drafted fifth overall by the New York Islanders in the 2000 entry draft ... Acquired March 3

from Columbus for Nathan Paetsch and a draft pick ... Also played four seasons for the Edmonton Oilers ... Has compiled 98 career goals ... At 19 goals this season, is one away from third 20-goal season in career.



STEPHEN WEISS

Team: Florida Panthers
Hometown: Markham

Slapshots: Selected fourth overall by Florida Panthers in 2001 entry draft ... Currently in seventh NHL season ... Has surpassed

season-best 20 goals (2006-07) with 23 already this season ... Overall career, has 98 goals and 176 assists in 460 games ... Played Jr. A in North York then at Plymouth of the OHL ... Won silver medal at 2002 world juniors.

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