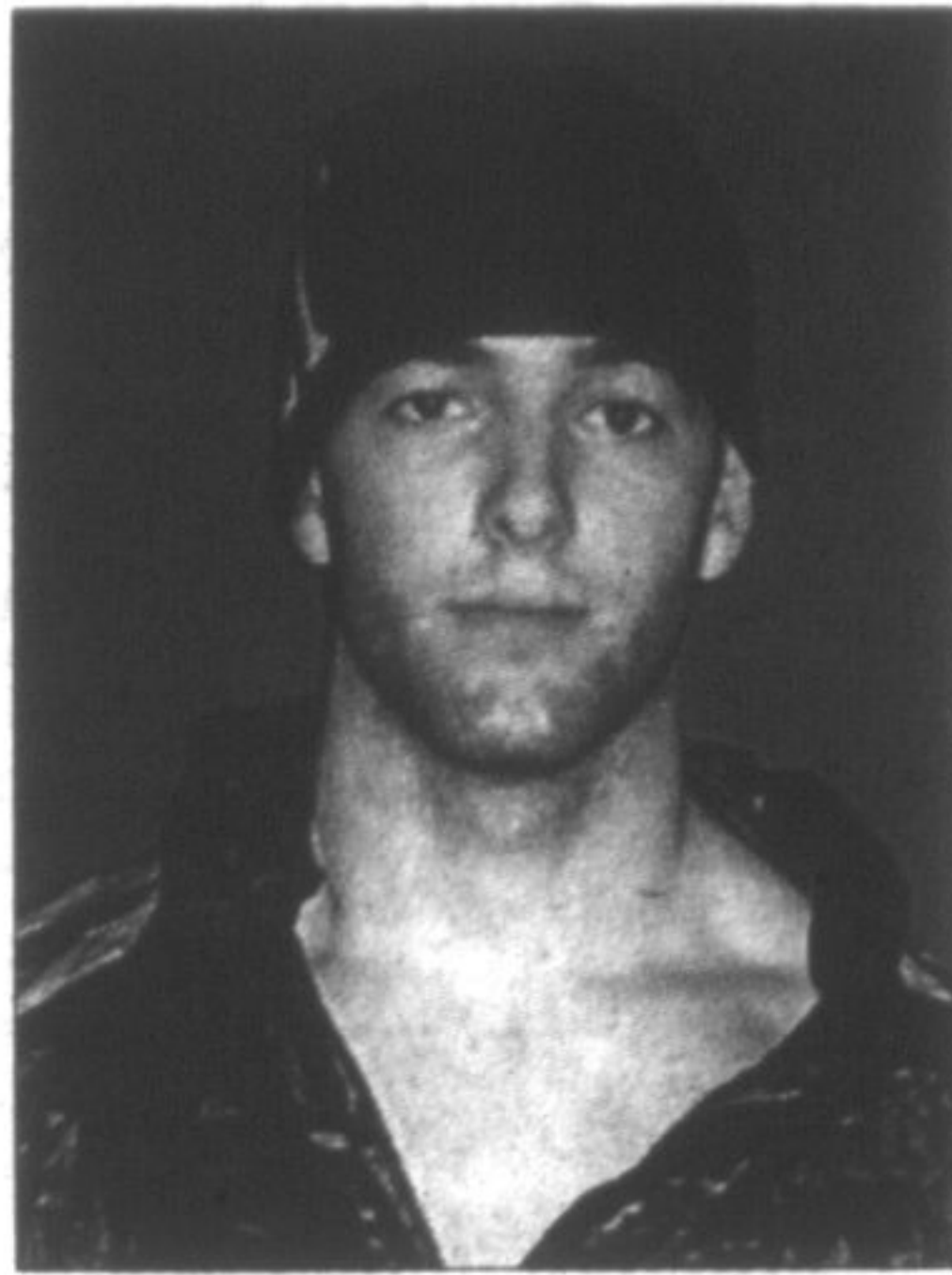


SPORTS: Stouffville fighter defeats ex-Marine in Michigan

MMA rookie fast learner

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SCOTT OUGHTON: Stouffville resident finds first MMA fight online in Michigan.

Scott Oughton was looking to get in a fight.

Just recently, the 18-year-old Stouffville resident found one online in Cedar Springs, Mich.

There was no law-breaking involved.

Rather, it enabled him to utilize his fighting skills in a mixed martial arts match.

A student at the Stouffville Martial Arts Academy, Oughton made his debut in the octagon in an event conducted by the League American Elite Cagefighting circuit.

Oughton was declared the winner in the third round after dominating the fight.

Making Oughton's feat even more remarkable is that his opponent, Alonzo Turner, was some 10 years older and an ex-Marine wrestler.

"Getting my hands raised at the end of the fight and listening to the crowd was a great feeling," Oughton said. "Now, I just can't wait to get back in the cage again."

Oughton's infatuation with mixed martial arts stemmed from a combination of events

that included taking up muay thai three years ago and watching UFC matches on TV.

Added to that mix, Oughton is an avid follower of boxing and paid close attention to the exploits of light welterweight fighter Ricky Hatton.

"I got hooked instantly," Oughton said. "I also liked the competition of martial arts and felt competing would be the best way to challenge myself and become a great fighter."

Oughton credits the Stouffville Martial Arts Academy where he has a white belt in Gracie Ju Jitsu and trains under the tutelage of Craig Hroncok.

Likewise, Hroncok is impressed with Oughton.

"It really depends on how far (Oughton) wants to go, how much and how hard he wants to train. Natural talent will get you only so far, the rest is a combination of hard work, motivation, coaching and ability to learn," Hroncok said. "I think he can get to the top amateur level. Pro mixed martial arts is another animal altogether. Everything has to be stepped up several notches."

Oughton acknowledged he still has plenty to learn if he hopes to continue his ascent up the competitive ladder.

"I'm continuing to work on all aspects of my game to become a better fighter," he said. "I plan on competing in mixed martial arts again and I'm planning on having some muay thai and jiu jitsu matches as well."

Oughton also hopes to make a trip to Thailand later this year to train.

Injured during OHL playoffs, Carrick ranked 90th by NHL

Stouffville resident and Brampton Battalion forward Sam Carrick was rated 90th among North American skaters in the Central Scouting Bureau's final rankings for the 2010 National Hockey League entry draft released this week.

A first-round pick taken 15th overall by the Battalion in the 2008 Ontario Hockey League's priority selection, the six-foot, 188-pound Carrick, 18, compiled 21 goals and 21 assists in 66 regular season games this past season.

Carrick broke his collarbone April 1 during Brampton's second-round playoff ouster by the Barrie Colts.

The NHL draft is scheduled to be held in Los Angeles June 25 and 26.

Rugby team to McMaster for top-end tournament

The Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans senior and bantam rugby teams tuned up for their York Region Athletic Association seasons by defeating host Pine Ridge (Pickering) in exhibition matches Wednesday.

In the senior tilt, Scott Miller and Curtis Crago each had one try and Oliver Boettcher booted a convert to lead the Spartans to a 12-0 win.

Jordan Marsh scored the game's lone try as the Spartan bantams

won their match 5-0.

The Spartan seniors will be at McMaster University in Hamilton Wednesday to take part in a tournament hosted by Saltfleet Secondary School.

Spartans head coach Jamie Hewitt noted the one-day, 16-team event will involve the top AAAA-level teams in Southern Ontario.

"This will be a measuring stick to see where we're at," he said. "Whoever wins this tournament will be ranked within the top three high school programs in the province by Rugby Ontario."

The Spartans' first game is against Bradford Secondary at 9:30 a.m.

Each team is guaranteed three matches.

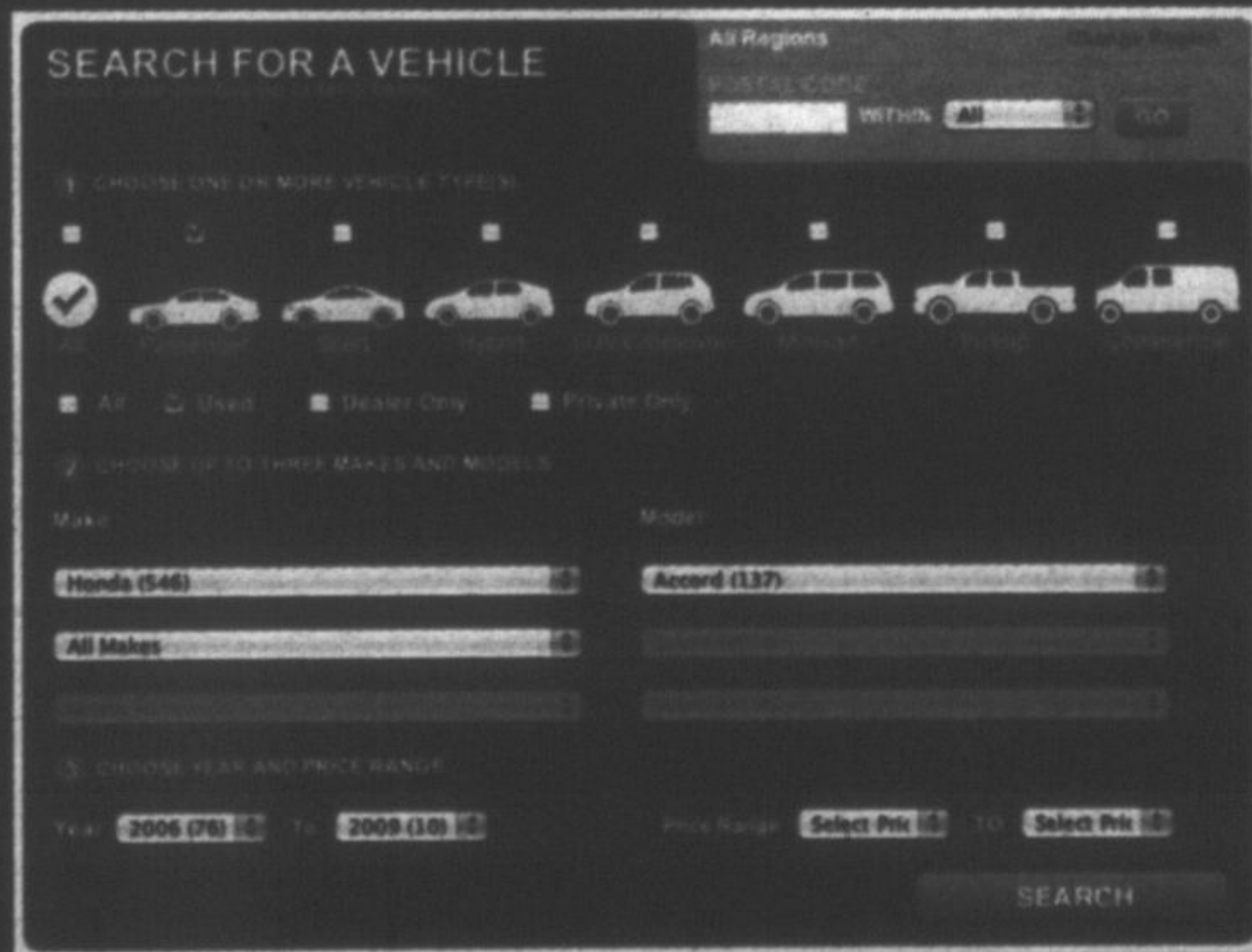
Peewee select Spitfires downed in tourney final

The Stouffville peewee select Spitfires advanced to the finals of the West Hill Shamrock minor hockey tournament in Scarborough before falling 1-0 to the Unionville Jets.

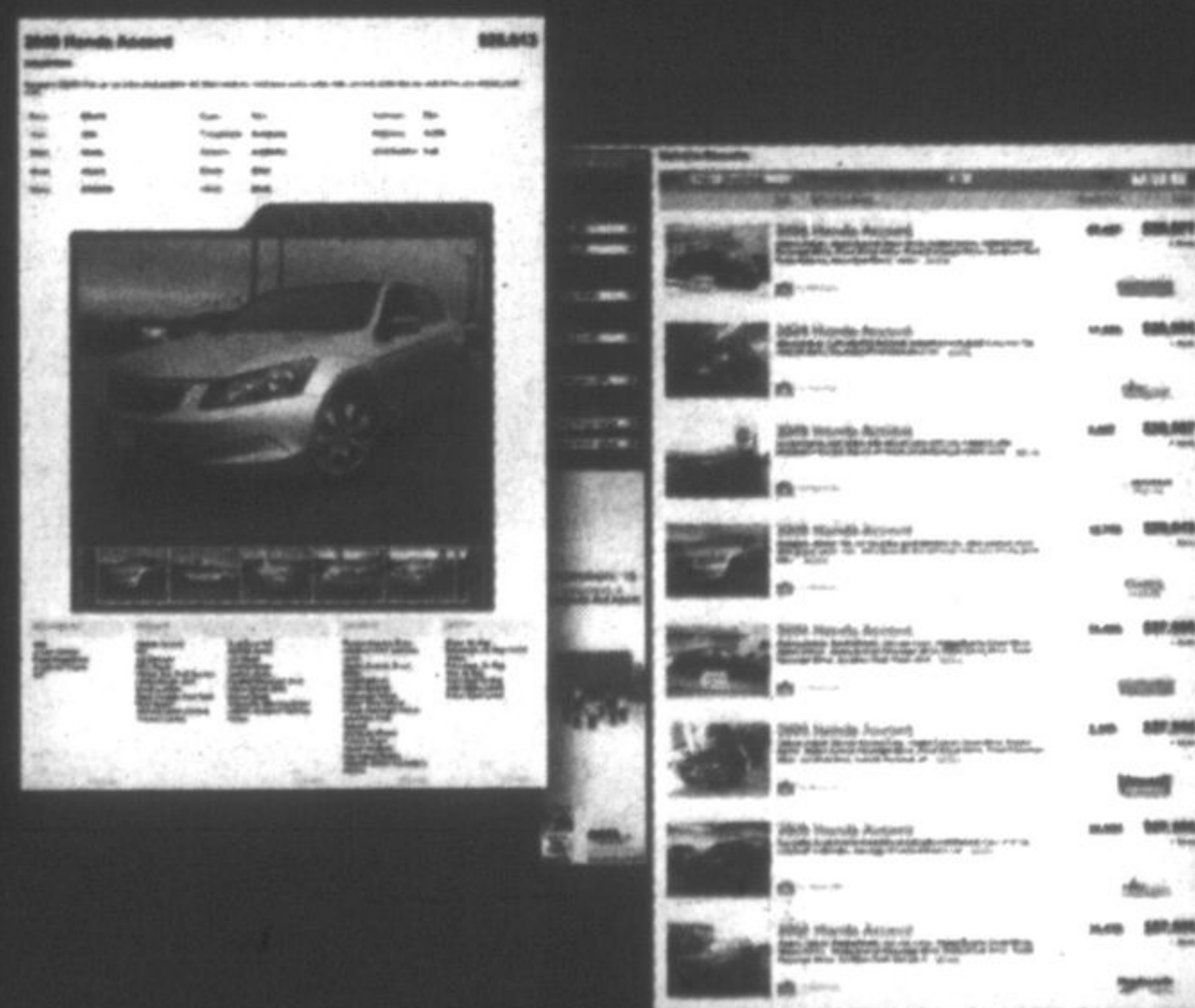
Buoyed by a strong netminding effort from Reid Savage, the Spitfires won their opening game over the Pickering Panthers 5-0.

The Spitfires then received another strong goaltending effort from Shakeil Hassam to skate off with a 5-0 win over Whitby.

The Spitfires earned a berth in the final after battling the Scarborough Bandits to a 2-2 tie.



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