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## Acton High Senior Girls' volleyball squad slow

BY DOUG HARRISON  
The Acton Tanner

It's the New Year, but the same old story for the Acton Redmen Senior Girls' volleyball unit, which showed the effects of a 17-day layoff last Wednesday.

The local players were slow on their feet and kept their mouths shut in being hammered 15-5, 15-6 before taking Game 3 against the Burlington M.M. Robinson Rams 15-6 in a high school volleyball match at Acton High.

"The girls have lots of movement in practices, but when it comes to games they forget all about it," said frustrated Redmen coach Bruce Andrews after the game, which was played before a silent gathering of 15. "Their idea

of communication is 'let's go girls.'"

The home side had barely enough time to begin the chant in the opening game, though, as the Rams mounted a 7-1 lead before Andrews called for a time-out.

The breather was worthwhile in the short-term as the 0-3 Redmen shaved the lead to 7-5. However, the visitors put the game away with eight unanswered points.

The onslaught continued through Game 2 as the Redmen didn't relax and play with confidence until they were behind 12-2. They narrowed the lead to 12-6 before they lost possession.

Although the communication level was up a notch, Redmen players frustrated each other and

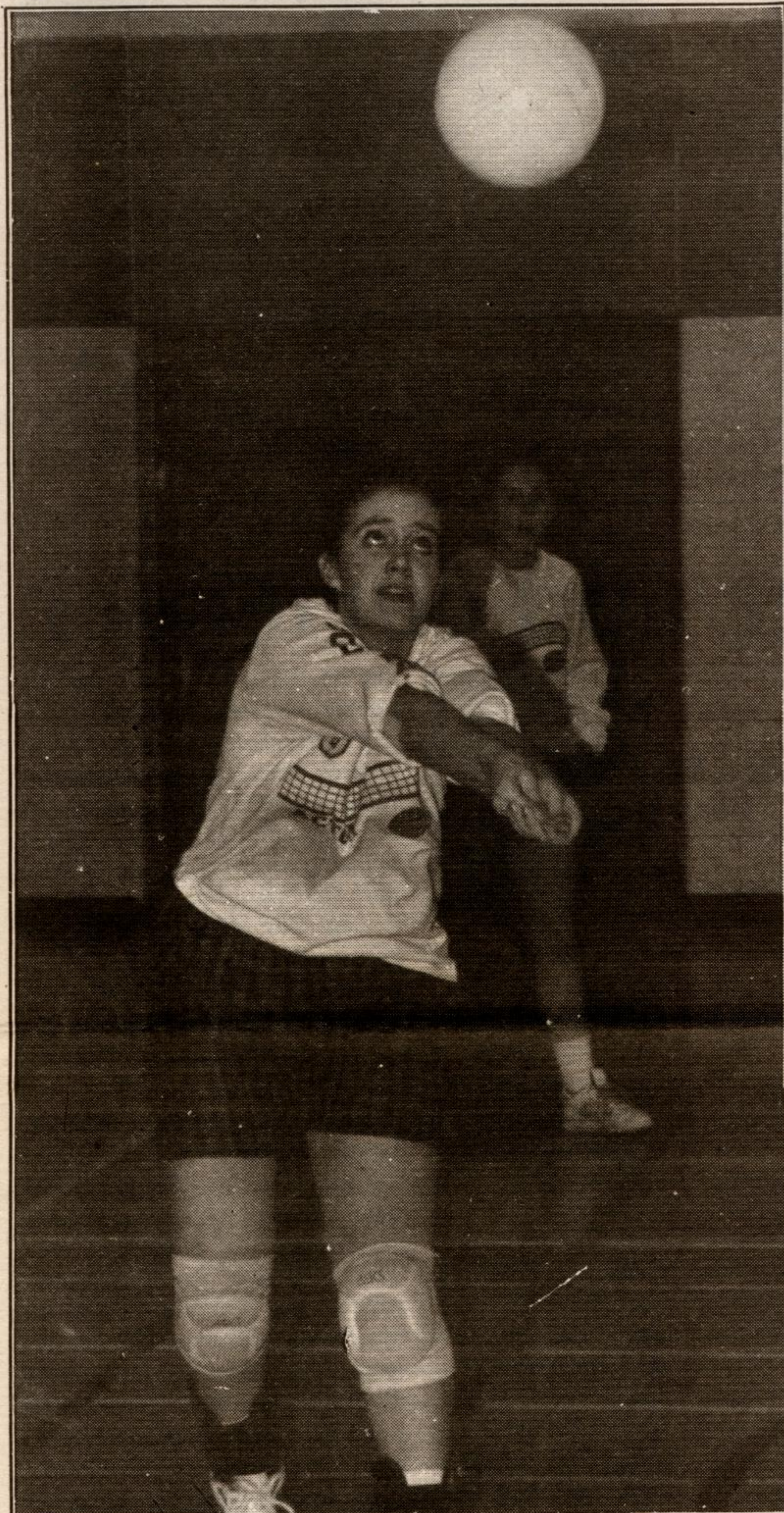
seemed tentative when hitting the ball.

"I've tried everything," Andrews commented. "I give them hell and encourage them ... it's discouraging. They're almost afraid of making a mistake."

A loose Redmen team carried leads of 7-0 and 9-6 through a confidence building final game and prevailed 15-6.

"It tells you something," said Andrews of his team's poised performance. "I think they do put pressure on themselves, but they play the game. What can you say?"

**NOTES:** The Redmen lost 2-1 (15-7, 6-15, 5-15) to Milton Monday and battle the E.C. Drury Spartans today (Wednesday) in Milton. Game time is 3:45 pm.



**NICE HIT!** Pam Olsen of the Acton High Senior Girls' volleyball team bumps the ball in action last Wednesday against M.M. Robinson in Acton. Acton lost 15-5, 15-6. (Doug Harrison photo)

## Bants on losing skid

The Acton Firefighter Bantam hockey team was doubled 6-3 by rival Georgetown at the Community Centre last Wednesday.

The local Bants were down 2-0 before Matt Boycott scored from Jason Pembleton and Adam Petch.

Aaron Forrest and Steve White added third period goals.

Petch and Pembleton assisted on Forrest's goal, while Scott

McIntyre and James Metcalfe had helpers on the White marker.

Trevor Malloy scored the lone goal in the Firefighters' 3-1 loss in Oakville last Monday.

Gary Genzler and Adam DaPonte set up the goal.

The Firefighters' next home game is tonight (Wednesday) against Arthur. Game time at the Community Centre is 8:30.

BY DOUG HARRISON  
The Acton Tanner

Bob McKay took a gamble and lost.

So did his Acton Redmen Junior Girls' volleyball team.

The Redmen took control at the beginning of all three matches against Burlington's M.M. Robinson Rams last Wednesday, but an inability to hold a lead and weak serving contributed to the locals' first loss (2-1) of the year.

"When we had a 10-4 lead in Game 1 I went to the subs (substitute players) and when it got to 11-8 I thought 'oh no'," said Redmen coach Bob McKay after his team dropped 15-13 and 15-7 decisions before winning 15-4 in high school play in the Acton High gym.

"Maybe I put them in too early, but this time of the year it's not too bad. It was a coaching error. It's a habit of mine and I'll take full responsibility."

The Rams forged ahead 13-11 in the opening contest and finished off the home team with two hard serves that caught Redman Jamie Davies off guard in the back row.

The Redmen grabbed a 3-0 lead in Game 2, but the visitors fought back to take 13 of the next 14

points en route to the 15-7 victory.

"We just didn't play in that game, we didn't serve," McKay explained. "Out of the 15 points earned, we gave them nine. They didn't even have to make a play."

With both teams sending their "B" squads on the floor, the Redmen handled the Ram second-

stringers 15-4.

"I'm not totally disappointed," offered McKay. "(Robinson) had a few key serves, but they weren't the better team in Games 1 and 3."

**NOTES:** The Redmen fell 2-1 (14-16, 15-3, 10-15) to Milton on Monday and play E.C. Drury today (Wednesday) in Milton.

## Junior cagers thumped

BY DOUG HARRISON  
The Acton Tanner

Pitted against Halton schools two and three times its size, it's really no surprise that the Acton High Junior Boys' basketball squad is outsized and outnumbered.

A pleasant surprise, though, for Dave Boycott is that his players are improving their game.

The Redmen bench boss witnessed Shawn Hopkins collect 20 points in an otherwise disappointing 77-39 setback to the M.M. Robinson Rams in Burlington last Wednesday.

"We set a goal to get the ball to the bigger players and established it, but didn't get the of-

fensive or defensive rebounds," says Boycott of his 0-3 Redmen.

While the visitors passed the ball better and are improving, there's a long way to go. But there are still five games to go.

"We are so slow in the transition part of our game. The players aren't thinking of a turnover after a shot and not thinking defence," Boycott points out.

"They're used to half-court practices. We're working hard to trade for full-court practices."

Dave Turple, who had early foul trouble, added nine points.

The Redmen played in Milton on Monday and host E.C. Drury today (Wednesday). Game time is 3:45 pm.



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