

Acton High Junior cagers not scoring

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

Ch-ch-ch-chances.

The Acton Redmen Boys' Junior basketball squad had about as many chances as they did points scored in being pummeled 73-31 by the E.C. Drury Spartans in the Acton High gym last Wednesday.

The Redmen were in the game at 9-7 with two minutes, 30 seconds to go in the first quarter, but quickly played their way out of it.

"E.C. would take a shot and the possession would switch to us, but we weren't even close. We gave the ball away so many times. Our shooting percentage was really

down," says Redmen coach Dave Boycott, whose 0-5 team was down 24-8 after one quarter and 41-13 by the half.

The home side had trouble throughout the game penetrating the E.C. defence and when they did shoot, they were often denied by their alert opponents.

"We just forced the ball and threw it up," said Boycott bluntly. "The guys weren't aggressive and were just hoping the ball would end up in their hands.

"I guess there's just not a whole lot of talent out there when you compare them to other Junior players in the league."

The Spartans capitalized on the locals' poor ball-control in the second half and increased the lead to 38 points at 59-21 by the fourth quarter.

Shawn Hopkins and Ed Bridge each netted seven points in a losing cause. Dave Turtle added six and Mike Debruyn had four.

NOTES: The Juniors fell 46-39 to Assumption at Acton High Monday. Turtle and Hopkins had 17 and 16 points, respectively.

The Redmen host Bishop Reding Feb. 7.



EXCUSE ME! McKenzie-Smith Mustang Girls' basketball player Sandra Wray drives by a W.I. Dick Wildcat opponent at M.Z. Bennett during the McKenzie-Smith Invitational tournament on Friday. The Mustangs won this game 22-17, but lost to the Wildcats in the final. (Doug Harrison photo)

Juniors upset E.C. Drury volleyballers

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If you can't beat them, attack them. Bob McKay's Junior Redmen Girls' volleyball team did that and it produced a win.

They handed the previously 4-0 E.C. Drury Spartans their first loss of the year last Wednesday, taking the first two games 15-8, 15-4 before bowing 9-15 in Milton.

"We played almost as good as we can," beamed McKay on Friday. "We served 88 per cent on the day and won the long rallies and that picks up any volleyball team."

So does a successful attack on an opponent.

When the Spartans gave up the free ball, the 3-2 Redmen adjusted to it.

"We got the ball to our setters, put the ball up and whaled away," said McKay, who added the team's aggressive play of late has been a noticeable improvement.

"I like my players to attack and they've realized that. We won't learn the game unless we go after our opponents."

The Redmen were down 6-0 in the first game before they began a 15-2 run for the win. They carried the momentum through Game 2, but showed some inconsistency in dropping the final game.

NOTES: The Redmen upped their record to 4-2 on Monday after taking Burlington Assumption 2-1 (13-15, 15-7 and 15-9).

"We were getting the free balls all day," McKay said. "Assumption wasn't attacking us — they had maybe two spikes all day."

The league has shut down for two weeks for exams. The Redmen visit Bishop Reding Feb. 7.

Senior v-ballers swept

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Brooms were out in full force at E.C. Drury in Milton last Wednesday.

The Acton Redmen Senior Girls' volleyball squad was swept 15-6, 15-11 and 15-9 and saw their record drop to 0-5.

The problems began with the visitors struggling to get the ball from the setter to the hitter or spiker. This, in turn, led to an infrequent attack of the ball at the net.

"Our passing killed us, but overall I didn't think we played bad," said Redmen coach Bruce Andrews on Friday. "But you have to attack. Otherwise the other team is doing it to you and you're con-

stantly defending."

Andrews noted the dominance of Jenny Goy on the court. He added she had almost all the team's hits, blocked well at the net and played strong in the backcourt.

"The girls are working hard at practice. Our serving is getting better and there are fewer points lost by hitting the net," said the local coach.

NOTES: The Senior Redmen grabbed that elusive first win of the year at Burlington Assumption on Monday, beating the Crusaders 2-1 (15-13, 15-5, 12-15).

"I was glad to see the girls experience a win," said Andrews.

The 1-5 locals are off for exams until Feb. 7, when they tangle with Bishop Reding in Milton.

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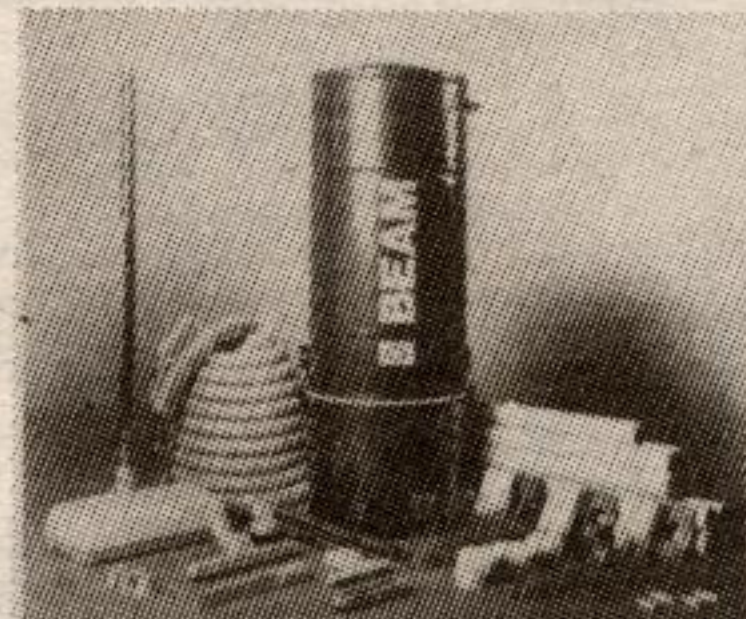
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Acton High wrestlers shine

Acton High wrestlers Giancarlo Scappin and Scott Snyder finished first and third at a Junior tournament at E.C. Drury on Saturday.

They represent Georgetown High since Acton doesn't have a wrestling team. Scappin battled in the 185-pound class, while Snyder wrestles at 127 pounds.

"Both of them are really working hard, come to every practice and are improving," said Rebel coach Jim Hall.

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