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Best Transfer player Garrett Williams waits for a pass from a teammate at the bottom of the faceoff circle during Tyke house league hockey action against Al and Al's Red Brand Meats at the Community Centre on Saturday. Best Transfer won 5-1. See house league results, Page 20. (Lori Frechette photo)

AHS Midgets winless in Redmen v-ball tourney

Despite having to shout instructions at his players throughout their games at the Redmen Midget girls' invitational volleyball tourney on Thursday, Bruce Andrews still had enough left after the event to assure his team wouldn't be such kind hosts later this season.

The locals were frequently slow to the ball and confused by each other's assignments in being swept by the Milton Mustangs (10-15, 1-15), Georgetown Rebels (10-15, 6-15), Bishop Reding Royals (8-15, 4-15) and E.C. Drury Spartans (13-15, 7-15).

"The transition from offence to defence is instantaneous and they were slow to react," said coach

Andrews, who added his players are starting to learn a system. "We're preparing them for the future in Junior and Senior ball."

The Redmen's court coverage broke down early in the event and, coupled with dreadful serving, hurt them in close games.

"We were up 12-6 in Game 1 against E.C. Drury, but so many serves went into the net. If they got over, we could have won a few games," Andrews stated.

Andrews was pleased with performances from setter Samantha Brewer, Eleni Halis and server Ricki Petch.

The Redmen face Milton High tomorrow (Thursday) in Milton.

AHS Junior cagers outscored 22-0 in 4th quarter collapse

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

The loss of two key players in the latter stages of a game his players controlled through three quarters left a foul taste in the mouth of Acton High basketball coach Dave Boycott.

Ahead 37-34 heading to the fourth quarter of last Wednesday's home opening cage match here against Oakville's White Oaks Wildcats, the Redmen lost the services of centre-power forward Rob Huisman and much-improved point-guard Jared Nebata after both fouled out.

That left Boycott without a centre on the bench or a player who could penetrate the Wildcats' defence. The result? A Redmen team that panicked, surrendering 22 points without sinking a ball themselves in a disappointing 56-37 loss in Halton high school action.



DAVE BOYCOTT

"I was hoping we could go the distance, but I knew we were in foul trouble," said Boycott after the game. "We really don't have a centre, so we were already one man short with Huisman. After losing him we were down two men and that really hurt."

"If we were playing hockey with three periods we would have won, but when we took the lead we couldn't slow the game down."

Huisman, who still managed to pour in 10 points, had to change his style of play after fouling four times in three quarters. He wasn't able to be his aggressive self and therefore wasn't as effective.

"Usually we're pretty effective, but when we lost him we lost our rebounding," Boycott explained.

What the home side didn't lose was the first three quarters, when they held leads of 22-13, 29-23

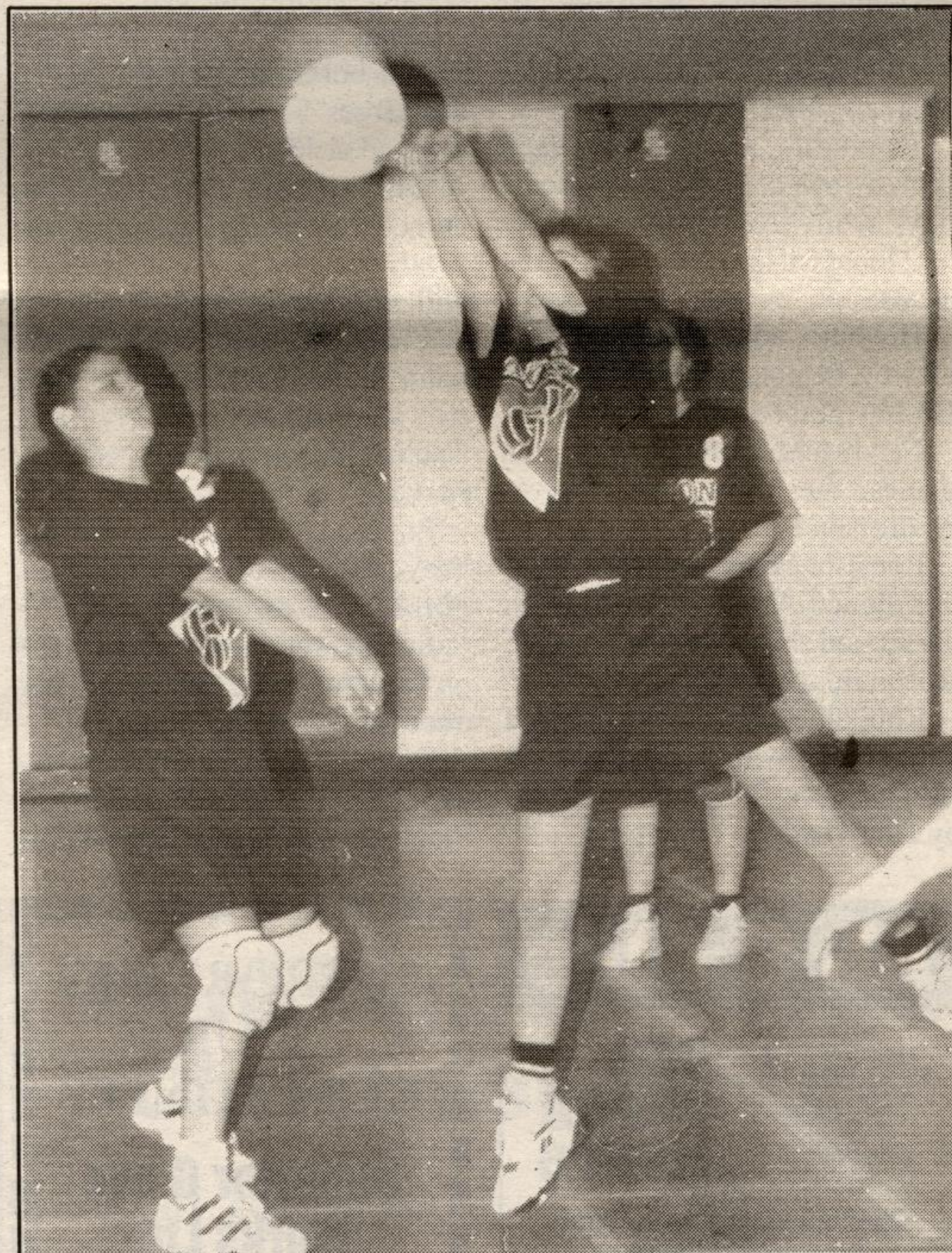
and 37-34. An intense Redmen squad opened up an 11-4 first-quarter lead that soon became a 22-13 edge, thanks to precision passing, hustle and three-pointers from Dave Dolliver and Chris Young. The latter's fell from five feet outside the three-point line.

"You're not going to do that the whole game," Boycott said of the three-point success. "You have to make sure your layups go in and we missed a few key ones late in the game."

Boycott said he was impressed with the high level of intensity his defence showed against a traditionally high-powered Wildcats offence. Dolliver and Nebata were the keys early in the game, closing the holes to the basket and blocking passes and shots.

"They (the defence) were in control and did everything I asked of them," praised Boycott.

Dolliver led the 0-1 Redmen on the scoreboard with 13 points. Young added 10, while Jamie Birrell put away four.



WATCH OUT! Midget girls' volleyball player Eleni Halis, left, holds up as a teammate bumps the ball over the net against the Georgetown Lady Rebels on Thursday. (Doug Harrison photo)

THE MYSTERY CONTINUES

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