## Senior Redmen v-ballers swept

BY DOUG HARRISON The Acton Tanner

Some athletes and their coaches prefer to start a new season battling the lesser-lights of their league to gradually work into midseason form, but more importantly to pile up a few wins in the standings.

You would figure the same would hold true for Chris White and his Senior Redmen Boys' volleyball team this year, considering the team wasn't blessed with many Ws last year and the fact White has brought in a new system that many Redmen are unfamiliar with.

However, the first-year coach wouldn't have wanted last Wednesday's season-opener in Georgetown to be any other way facing the perennial Rebels on their

home turf.

"I think it helped playing Georgetown first," he admitted after overseeing the McKenzie-Smith Mustangs Boys' practice on Thursday. "You might as well face the top competition early to see what you have to do."

While losses of 4-15 and 10-15 quickly quashed the Redmen's chances of an unblemished season and the chance to perch themselves atop the Volpe Division standings, White did see improvement with movement in the backcourt.

"We started out nervous and had trouble with our net play and establishing the middle, but the defence came along," stated White, who employed Dave Dolliver,

Jamie Goy, Mike DeBruyn, Jason Lowrie, Shawn Hopkins and Chris Young as his starters.

White, while conceding that the much-vaunted Rebels offence was highlighted by a tough middle attack, seemed pleased with his team's effort and was confident they would provide stiffer competition if the two teams face each other in the post-season.

"We've got a long way to go in what we want to accomplish, but they've only got a marginal way to improve," White said, adding "I think our players know how important it is to play certain positions and move on the court."

Rebels coach Bob McKay, whose team has already played 33 games (24-9), admitted to having a bad feeling about his team's chances during the pre-game warmup, noting the number of tall Redmen players.

"We were quicker than they were," he acknowledged, "but I think Chris (White) is going the right way with them (the Redmen). They were only getting one blocker on our hitters and we can get the ball down if there's only one.

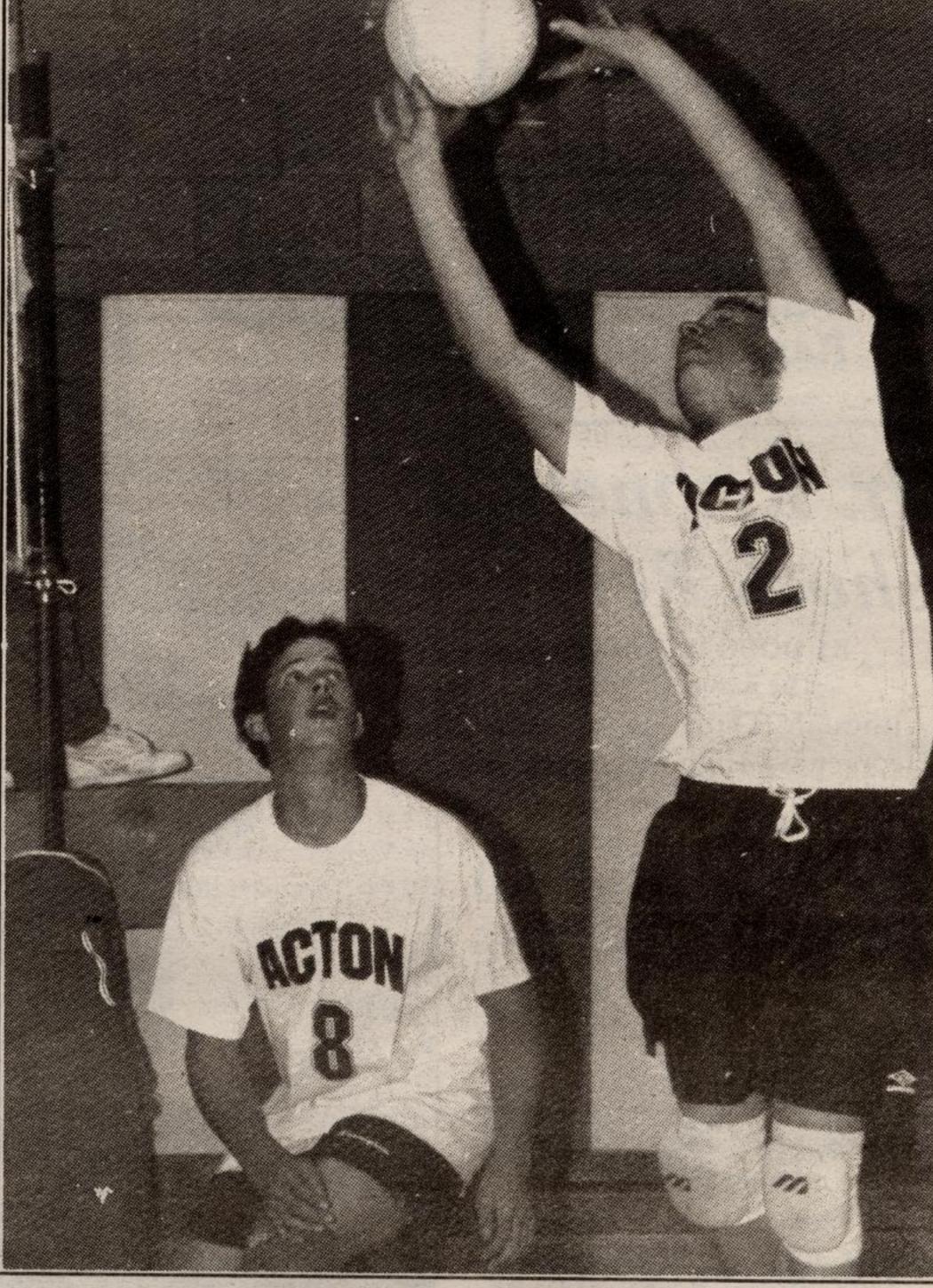
"They also served better than we did. They served to the key spots and had us going in Game 2. I'm sure they're a playoff team."

There has also been a gradual progress by the Redmen, White pointed out, in adjusting to the 5defence.

Instead of the blockers being on the left side, the Redmen align two left-handed hitters, DeBruyn and Young, to punish the ball from the left side.

"I think we have the talent to make it to OFSAA," boasted White.

The Redmen hosted Iroquois Ridge on Monday and welcome Loyola to the Acton High gym today (Wednesday). Game time is 3:45 pm.



STRETCHING MATTERS: Glenn Kilmer, of the Acton Redmen Junior Boys' volleyball team watches setter Derrick McIntyre send the ball over the net during tournament action against Burlington Assumption at Acton High on Friday. (Doug Harrison photo)

# AHS mixed squad blockers on the right, along with one setter, which allows their two finalists at tourney

basketball season, but a mixed left-handed players." and Junior girls were nearly champions on the weekend.

The six Seniors and five Juniors travelled to Collingwood on Saturday for the 19th annual Collingwood Senior Girls' high school basketball tourney.

In the three-team event, the Redmen disposed of Stayner 40-38 in the first round to advance to the final against the hosts.

But Collingwood applied an effective press to stop the Redmen 54-48, despite the latter's respectable shooting, passing and hustle.

"I was really pleased with the girls' effort," says Redmen coach Anne Andrews. "Collingwood had strong ball-handlers, passed

They hadn't even opened the 1995 quickly and had skilled right and

squad of Acton Redmen Senior Andrews is leaning toward manto-man coverage when her Seniors open the Halton season today (Wednesday) at Loyola.

> Collingwood held a slim 24-23 lead at the half, thanks to a 22-6 run in the first quarter.

> Jenny Goy scored a team-high 23 points, while Shari Patenaude punched in 15, including two threepointers. Krista Keir earned four and Eleni Halis, Kelly Holmes and Janisse Bailey had a basket each.

> Against Stayner, Goy again scored 23 points, Patenaude had 13 and Keir and Stacey Moore supplied two points.

Also playing were Shelley Hand and Juniors Courtney Norman, Steph McKay and Kristen Finley.



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