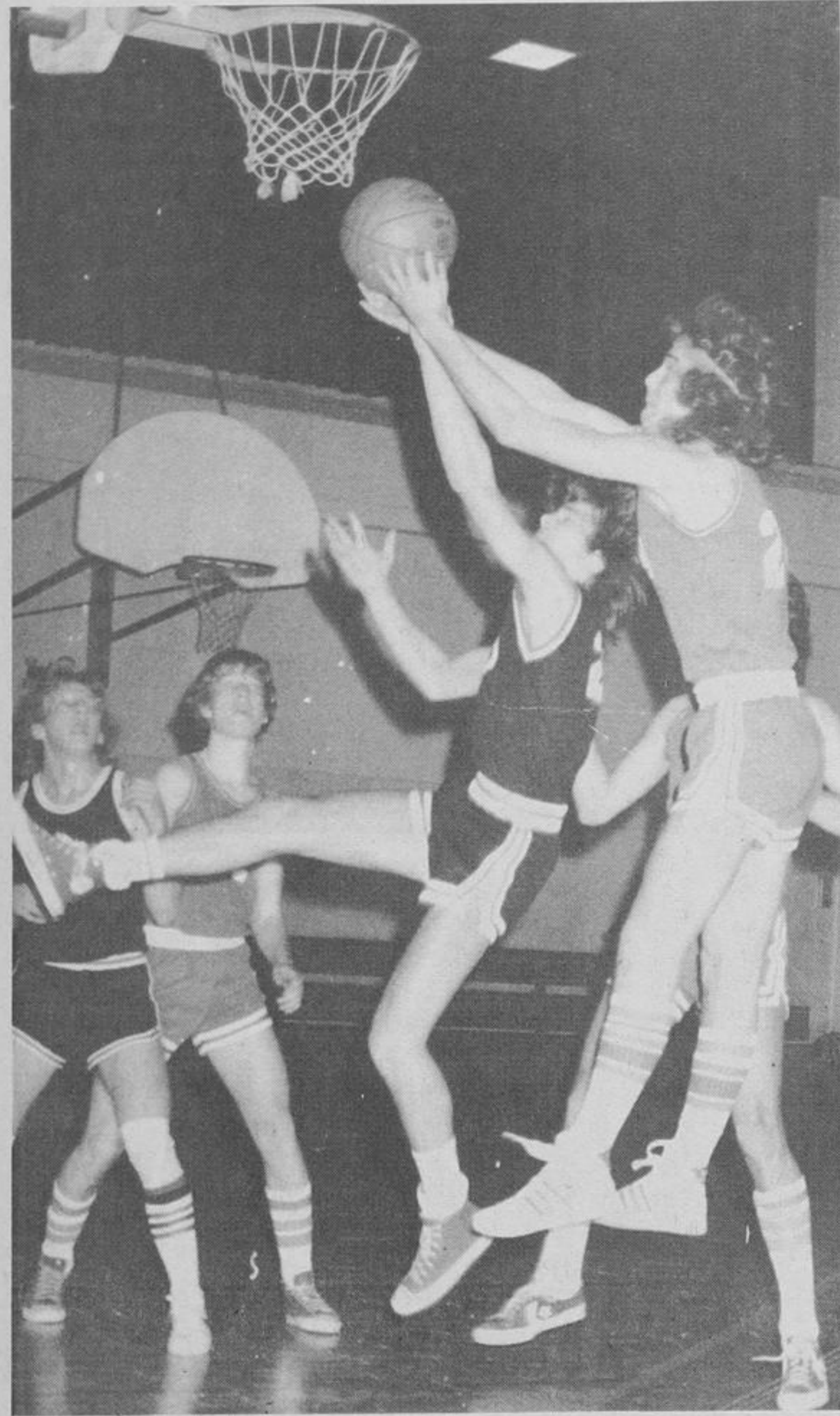


Basketball at fever pitch



Up and up

Two members of the Bayview Secondary School (in dark jerseys) and Woodbridge High senior teams go high in the air

for a rebound as the season gets underway. Bayview won this one 64-45 Bayview midgets defeated Woodbridge 33-32.

By DENNIS HERBERT
Basketball fever is running quite high this year in most high schools in the southern boys conference of YCSSAA. The reasons for this high-spirited interest is the strong teams most schools are fielding plus the new play-off arrangement that sees four teams for our area ultimately vying for the celebrated division plaques.

There are a record-breaking 20 teams involved in three divisions during the 1977-78 season. **MIDGET TOSS-UP**
A quick look at the midget boys would instantly suggest that a toss-up as to predictable finishes will exist.

St. Robert's has no returnees, have lost their first league game and finished in the cellar last year. They have only one way to go.

Langstaff and Woodbridge had short-lived successes at the recent Referee's tournament. Neither team saw the championship game.

Richmond Hill is only involved in exhibition play while Bayview and Thornlea appear to have height problems. Both Bayview and Thornlea have won their league games and are taking gradual steps to prepare for their first head-on clash early in the new

year. **MARKHAM CLIMBING**
Markham has been ladder-climbing there this past three years, coming very close to a play-off berth last season. They could be the white horse in this six team loop.

Take your pick readers — who will be there next February.

JUNIORS
The junior entries could be even closer than a hairline split.

Just talk to the respective coaches — all of them feel the laurels will be theirs come championship time.

Richmond Hill has Martin Wildberger and Steve Young to help its cause while Thornlea looks to Scott Mann and David Layefsky to keep them on the track.

Bayview and Markham are big in height, aggressive on the boards and quick up the floor.

Langstaff and St. Robert's could find themselves in trouble if the going gets tough.

Thornhill became quite competitive at the end of last season. Will they pick up from there?

SENIORS
Woodbridge and Thornlea are into a so-called "development" stage with players making honest attempts to learn through each game's successes and

failures. Langstaff, rumor has it, has an all-star cast of one focal point — he's 6'6" plus — while Thornhill has the apparent height for a good board game but are lacking in a few other elements of the game, notably defense and shooting.

Richmond Hill won its first game against Thornlea (a barn-burning 55-54) and looked impressive with Mark Girdler at the helm.

However, they, too, will have several problems

when they meet either Bayview Bengals or Markham Marauders. **BENGALS EXCITING**
The Bengals are an exciting team to watch this season — plenty of run and jump passing, motion offense and balanced teamwork.

B's lose

The Richmond Hill Atom B's lost a 3-1 game to Sharon last week.

Only goal for the locals was scored by Danny Alexander.

Hill atoms win 2-0

The Richmond Hill Minor Atom A's had a 2-0 victory over Aurora this week.

Russell Armstrong scored early in the game, assisted by Brian McKenna. Pat Dickinson, assisted by Dave Repath scored near the end of the second period on a break-away.

Richmond Hill's strong defense helped Robbie Bell earn a well-deserved shutout.

In Orillia on Saturday, the Bondstealers came away with a 3-3 tie.

Todd Savoye scored all three goals for a hat-trick. Todd's first goal was unassisted early in the game, with Dave Repath getting the assist on the second goal, and

Hill Carpenters win by convincing 6-2

Richmond Hill's Peeewe II Carpenters came up with a convincing 6-2 win over Newmarket this week.

John Tyndall was again the Carpenters' big shooter with three picture

goals as well as ripping a shot off the goal post late in the game.

Other goals went to Tony Veitch, Larry Thorsell, and Joe Balistreri. Assists to Thorsell and Geoff Johnston, two each, and

singles to Steffan, Balistreri, Madden and Sears. Bob Johnson and Tony Gydos shared the goaltending.

Next home game is Saturday in the old arena at 7:30 p.m.

Hill major atoms have dandy weekend

The Richmond Hill Major Atom A's had a dandy weekend recording 6-5 and 3-0 wins over Aurora and Orillia respectively.

This made up for an earlier 8-1 loss to Newmarket.

The Aurora game was a closely played one with the teams exchanging the

lead throughout. Tod Dungay played an outstanding game picking up two goals and two assists. David McKee also played strongly with two goals and one assist.

The other Richmond Hill goals were scored by Tim Lawlor and Chris DePiero, who notched the

winning one with 5:11 left in the final period.

Both Mike Rae and Jeff Field picked up three assists each with Patrick Mulcahy getting a single assist.

FIRST SHUTOUT
Richmond Hill gained its first shutout of the year against Orillia with goalie Terry Greenfield playing superbly between the pipes.

It was the team's first game this year with every player giving a one hundred per cent effort.

The goals were scored by David McKee from Tod Dungay, Mike Rae unassisted, and Chris De Piero from Patrick Mulcahy and Tim Lawlor.

Richmond Hill played the last minute and a half two men short because of penalties but they held Orillia to only two shots on goal during that time.

Hill minor midgets nip Newmarket 3-2

The Richmond Hill Minor Midget A's had to come from behind to down Newmarket 3-2 after holding a one goal lead early in the contest.

Mark Austin opened the scoring for Richmond Hill from Gord Fournier and Glen Dunford.

The Hillers gave up two goals in the second and had trouble against a hot Newmarket goalie.

Late in the final period it was Shawn McDowell and Doug Jones breaking through to make the victory possible. Assists

went to Danny Henderson, Gord Fournier, two, and Joe Thurston.

The Richmond Hill team made it four wins in a row as they defeated Whitby 5-2 in an exhibition match. The team has been playing well and the coaching staff is happy.

Goals went to Doug Eldridge, Doug Jones, Dunford, Gord Fournier and Craig Hinch. Assists to Danny Henderson, two, McDowell, Jones, Thurston, Dunford and Fournier.

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