

Stouffville Sports

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Hachey finishes in 13th place to lead SDSS cross country

BRUCE STAPLEY
 Correspondent

Brenda Hachey closed out her impressive five year cross country career at Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) last Wednesday by placing 13th among the Senior girls at the York-Durham high school cross country finals at the Boyd Conservation Area in Woodbridge.

The All-Ontario calibre runner led the 21 member SDSS contingent, which failed to finish in

the top six.

Team co-coach Dave Connell felt it had been a disappointing year for SDSS, which saw its string of six consecutive York Regional cross country titles snapped this fall.

"It was obviously an off year," said Connell. "But the people on the bus coming home certainly seemed more determined to practice and win at York and DYSSA (York-Durham) next year."

Steve Bishop matched

Hachey's performance, placing 13th among the Senior boys.

Anne Beecher was 25th in the Senior girls category, while Kevin Akey was the next best finishing SDSS runner with a 38th in Senior boys.

Hachey would like to continue on with her cross country career next year.

"At university, I hope to follow in my sister's footsteps and run on the cross country team," she said. "Running has helped my self discipline and confidence."

Summitview runners second

The Summitview Public School Intermediate boys team placed second at the York Region cross country championships last Tuesday at Bruce's Mill.

Roger McMann led Summitview with his eighth-place finish, while Bryan Mallinson was 27th, Stephen Kerr, 42nd, Ian Ellis, 48th.

There were a total of 182 runners in the Intermediate boys field.

Altogether, some 80 schools and about 1,800

athletes participated in the championships.

Other strong performances by Summitview runners belonged to Mike Woods, who was 26th out of a field of 210 in the Tyke boys race.

Also, Nigel Griffin and Billy Wray finished 37th and 38th in the Atom boys race. There were 206 participants in the race.

Katie Scorrar put in a strong run in the Atom girls race, finishing 37th. In Intermediate girls, Danica Constable was 49th.

Volleyballers take division

The Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) Spartans Senior boys volleyball team will try for its third straight York Region title today.

The Spartans, who took both the York and York-Durham high school crowns last year, will play host to five other teams as they attempt to win their fourth regional title in the last five years.

The Spartans clinched first place in the North Division last Monday with a 15-4, 15-9 win over Newmarket which gave SDSS the division crown for the 20th time in 21 years.

The only time SDSS didn't win the title was the year they didn't enter a team.

Spartans coach Jim Fletcher, while hopeful his team will take the York crown, admitted he has his eye on bigger fish.

"We would like to think we've got a shot at the all-Ontario title," he said. "We've come a long way, and the boys have been playing great volleyball lately."

Ballantrae Tennis Club meeting

The Ballantrae Tennis Club's annual general meeting is slated for Nov. 6.

The meeting will take place at the Ballantrae Community Centre, and the start time is 8 p.m.

Interested persons are urged to attend, and share their ideas with club members.

Ball field controversy must be solved

Last week's meeting of the Town's adult softball league officials and delegates had all the trappings of an old west lynch gathering. All that was missing was the noose.

Sitting there scribbling down quote after caustic quote, I couldn't help but wonder how the mob would have reacted had a dissenter, or worse still, a Town official, wandered upon the scene.

It seems there is a strong conviction among the men and lady ball players of Stouffville that both their recreation tax dollars, and their required users' fees, are going towards anything except baseball facilities maintenance and expansion.

This group, most of whom have been shagging flies on the Memorial Park ball complex since our Ontario champion Mites were tad poles, feel there is a lack of infield grooming, foul line fences, proper dugout enclosure and benches, general upkeep, and washroom facilities.

And it's getting worse, they insist, despite the Town's continued promise of performance.

Some went so far as to say they were forced to hang their heads in shame when out of town ball teams came to play in our tournaments.



Sport notes

Bruce Stapley

Now there are, to be sure, two sides to be considered here.

Things have definitely tightened up in the past few years, to the point where there are few areas where the Town has been able to give the people exactly what they want anymore.

Citizens hate big tax increases, and tend to get rid of politicians who implement such hikes.

And there is always going to be a waste factor in municipal spending, since we all make mistakes. So why should baseball facilities escape this fact of civic life?

And to be fair, user fees probably don't even cover the cost of ball park lighting. And we do have three lit diamonds, side by side, making us the envy of many a small town.

No one heard a complaint from the visitors from Quebec back in July during the Strawberry Festival slo-pitch tournament. And my Monday Night Men's

League cronies have always been more than delighted with our allotted field of burned out dreams.

It is only fair as well to realize there are purveyors of the sports, like soccer and tennis, who also expect annual expensive goodies from the Town. The dollars can only go so far.

But the bottom line is that unless we soon find a way to get the adult ball types and the powers that be to sit down and smoke a peace pipe, things are going to get ugly.

The Community Ball executive passed a motion to withhold their already collected users' fees at last week's meeting. Serious stuff, the kind of stuff that gives anarchy a scary reputation.

The adults say they want to sit down with the Town, and it sounds like the authorities are also open to that suggestion.

But let's do it in camera. No press, no rules of procedure. Just brass tacks, frank discussion. Agree to disagree if necessary, but come to some sort of conclusion as to what can be done.

For if we don't, the nastiness will only escalate, and there will be no turning back. Nobody wins when a vendetta is raging.

And besides, baseball is supposed to be fun.

To the basket

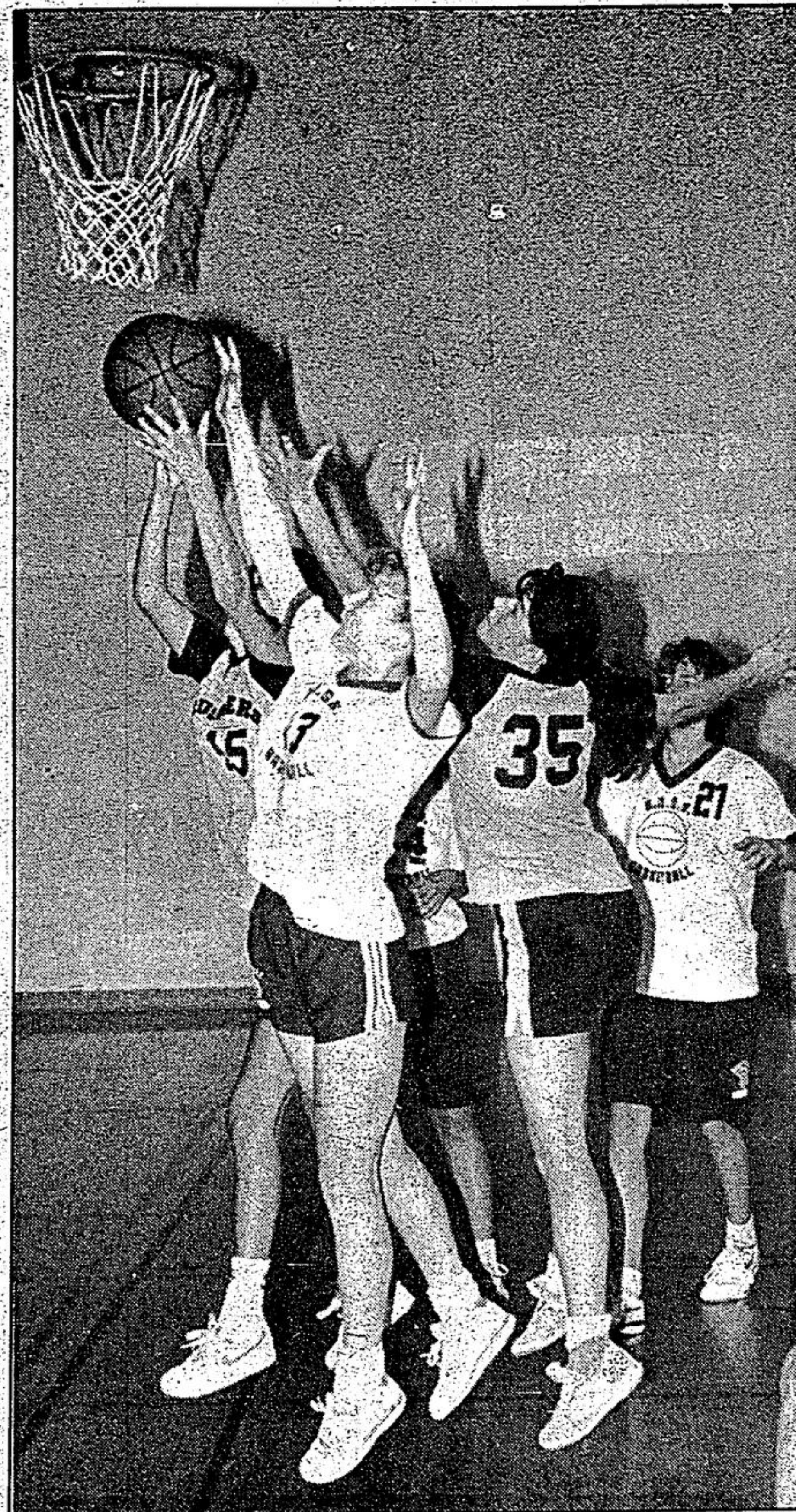


PHOTO BY MIKE HAGARTY

Kelly Forsyth of the Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans Junior girls basketball team tries to block a Sacred Heart player's shot during York Region action Friday afternoon at SDSS. Coming to help out on the rebound is Terrill Junkin, 21. The Spartans lost the game 39-38 in a heartbreaking finish.

Senior Spartans avenge earlier loss

The Stouffville District Secondary School Senior Girls Basketball team evened another score last Wednesday.

The Spartans rode a big second half effort to a 38-32 victory over Huron Heights.

Earlier in the season, Huron Heights beat Stouffville the first time the two teams squared off.

The SDSS Senior girls have now beaten two of the three teams who handed them defeats earlier in the campaign.

King City is the only squad to have posted two wins

against them.

After a lackadaisical first half, the Spartans came on strong to knock off Huron Heights.

Stacey Black was good for 14 points, many of them on tough inside shots.

Karen Carr hooped 13 points, and hit well from the outside for the Senior Spartans.

Maureen Slater added six points, while Anne Beecher netted five points and led the Seniors in rebounds.

The Spartans record now stands at 7-4 going into this, the final week of the season.