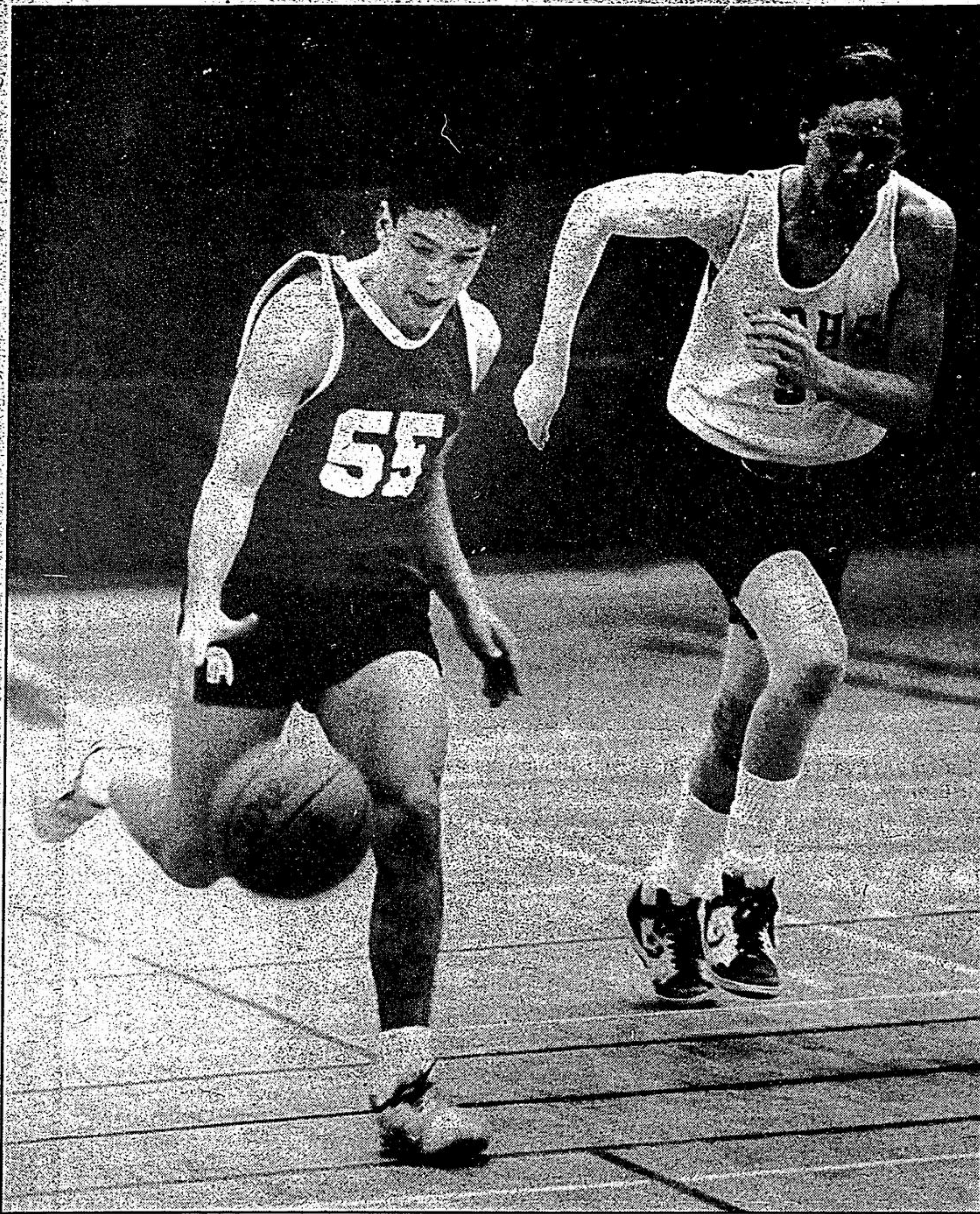


# Stouffville Sports



Photo/RICK MADONIK

## Dribbling down

Travis White, 55, of the Stouffville District Secondary School Senior Spartans boys basketball team dribbles down the court while being pursued by a Port Perry player during action at Saturday's Uxbridge Tigers Black and Gold Tournament. The Spartans lost 53-46 to Port Perry, and 46-40 to St. Roberts to be eliminated from the tourney.

## Harmer powers Srs.

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Kevin Harmer is cooking, and Jim Fletcher is bubbling, as the Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) Senior boys Spartans basketball team continues its upward swing.

Harmer's sure shooting led the Seniors to a pair of road victories last week as the SDSS boys extended their win streak to five.

The power forward hooped 17 points Tuesday as the Spartans beat Sutton 47-43. He then scored 13, including nine in the Spartans 19 point second quarter barrage, to propel SDSS to a 49-40 win over Langstaff on Friday.

The Spartans, who had only one victory in their first five games of the season, continued their impressive play, running their won-lost mark to 6-4.

Harmer was backed up by Karam Amer in both games, as Amer was good for 14 points against Sutton, while adding 12 in the Langstaff win. Travis White also had nine points Tuesday.

In other action, the Junior Spartans finally put themselves in the win column last Wednesday, and they did it in spectacular style.

Winless in their first six games, the Juniors hooped seven points in the last minute to claim a dramatic 50-48 win over Aurora.

They began the furious final 60 seconds by taking possession on a turnover, while trailing 46-43. Brian Leoni scored to bring the Spartans within a point.

Stouffville again stole the ball and Bill Pride sunk a basket to give the Spartans the lead. Then, with only 10 seconds on the clock, Dan Wilson hit a three-point field goal to put the game away for Stouffville.

Leoni and Pride led the Juniors offence with 17 points each, while Mike Greathhead had 10 points.

The hot streak didn't continue for the Juniors, however, as they dropped a 63-50 decision to Langstaff Friday.

Unfortunately, the strong play didn't continue at the Uxbridge Tigers Black and Gold Tournament on the weekend. The Spartans lost both their games to be eliminated.

## SDSS Spartan volleyballers stage impressive comebacks

The Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) Junior girls volleyball team quickly regained their form last Tuesday after the holiday layoff, but the Seniors showed some rust spots.

The Juniors twice came back from first game set backs to win their sets with Aurora and King City at the SDSS gym.

Meanwhile, the Seniors' inconsistent serving cost them their match with Aurora, which they lost 11-15, 15-11, 4-15, as well as the first game of their King City set, a 13-15 setback.

The Seniors, however, sanded off the rough edges in time to claim victory, taking the final two contests 15-10, 15-12.

The Junior Spartans fell 12-15 to Aurora in their opener, but then recovered to post 15-5 and 16-14 wins to take the match.

The Spartans were edged 13-15 in their first game versus King City, then roared back to take the next two 15-9, 15-3.

Julie Coleman was the mainstay of the Junior squad.

In action the next day, the Seniors were inspired by the strong play of Michelle Hofstee, Lise Haylow and Susan Carter to beat Huron Heights.

The Spartans lost the first game 4-15, but came back to win the next two 15-13, 15-0.

## Lombardi would have liked SDSS volleyball

In a high school where volleyball holds the same lofty position that was once reserved exclusively for the three "Rs", it is essential for all to understand that the great game comes with its own set of expectations, along with a clearly defined pecking order.

For surely, the late Vince Lombardi himself would more than approve of the veneration afforded the oft-misunderstood sport that has come to symbolize physical education at Stouffville District Secondary School.

Sure, the fanatical football coach and mentor would call Jim Fletcher, coach of the SDSS flagship Senior boys Spartans volleyball powerhouse, a softy.

But after all, unlike Lombardi, Fletch is restricted by the inherent amateur status of his



### Sport notes

Bruce Stapley

charges. Along with the fact that ultimately, the effervescent teacher is driven by the thrill of the hunt, rather than by Lombardi's obsession with victory at all costs.

However, all you must do is talk to Christine Milton, coach of the school's officially unrecognized Midget girls volleyball squad, to understand just how the chain of command works.

Milton's minions have difficulty obtaining gym time for practice purposes, and their

schedule consists of exhibition contests only.

Even her team's own Feb. 6 tournament is tentative.

But she wouldn't dare complain. Nor should she.

For she is fully aware of her role, that she is there simply to screen and prepare candidates for the Junior squad.

And she takes great delight in having been the coach who gave several of this year's impressive Junior girls their first exposure to volleyball last year.

She also notes that this year's Midget girls unit is ahead of the pace set by the 1988-89 outfit.

After a disastrous tournament in Barrie at the start of the season, her crew have gone on to post a 4-3 won-lost mark. Which is one win more than the Midgets earned all of last year.

Milton feels she has a few ringers emerging in Julie Sanford, Natasha Armour, Tricia Whittle, and Kate McKnight, girls who will also be given their chance next year.

Now as for Sheila Coleman's Junior girls squad, it is a little more like hardball.

Coleman, aware of the example set by the boys throughout the years, is not content just to win, as her team has done with enough regularity so far this campaign.

Just the other day she mentioned, after a double-header

sweep, that her girls lacked the intensity of the boys, that despite their obvious talent and good attitude, they were not imbued with the required dedication to school tradition.

Whereas most schools would be delighted just to have put together a team that wins as many times as it loses, SDSS is obviously not your average secondary learning institution.

As January wears on, the school's female volleyball teams begin what Lombardi always referred to as "the big push", that second half thrust leading towards the playoffs, and hopefully, the York and Durham-York playdowns.

And when it's all over for the season, there will be another spectrum of girls, boys, and teachers who have become even further indoctrinated in volleyball — SDSS style.