

Sports

Spartan runners win YRAA crown

By BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

Mission accomplished. The Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) cross country team slogged through the Boyd Conservation Area trail in Woodbridge Wednesday at a championship clip, regaining the York Region Athletic Association (YRAA) title.



Led by the first place individual performances of Wendy Wright in the junior girls race and Luke Williams in the 95 runner midget boys event, the SDSS runners ran to their second over all YRAA crown in three years. The school's junior girls' team placed first out of 16 schools, with the SDSS senior boys squad coming second in their category. The senior and midget girls, and midget boys' crews all finished third. The SDSS junior boys were fourth out of 18 schools.

Individually, Julianne Lowrie backed up Wright with a third place showing in the junior girls race. Alex Chacinski was 11th, and Allison MacDonald 12th. The SDSS senior boys were led by Chris Weatherill, who came in second after taking a big lead but was misdirected by a race marshal. Chris Cherkas was seventh in the midget boys' event,

Danielle Evans was sixth out of 75 runners in the senior girls race, Ian Hazelwood was 12th in the junior boys run.

The SDSS junior girls' and senior boys' teams, along with Williams and Cherkas, qualified to compete in the Ontario high school (OFSAA) championships Nov. 2 at Toronto's Sunnybrook Park.

SDSS coach Dave Connell said the school's overall YRAA victory was the result of a collective effort.

"The team concept is alive and thriving with our cross country team," said Connell. "Individually, we are excellent, but we have always stressed the team aspect."

Connell said the focus is now on the provincial meet Saturday.

"We've got personal team goals for OFSAA, and we're hoping to achieve them all."

SPARTANS SPIKED

Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans senior boys' volleyball coach Jim Fletcher hopes his team is saying the best until last.

The Spartans were edged 11-15, 15-10, 14-16 by their Unionville H.S. rivals Thursday in Unionville.

The win gave the YRAA front runners a sweep of the two sets played between the two teams this season.

The SDSS crew was done in by sloppy serving, according to Fletcher.

"We missed eight serves," said Fletcher. "But we're

coming. If our serving improves, we'll be in the thick of it."

With the regular schedule to conclude today (Tuesday), Fletcher expects his Spartans will get another chance against Unionville in the playoffs beginning Nov. 6 in the SDSS gym. The coach feels his team has been picking up momentum as the season progressed, and is confident the Spartans will be there when it counts. "It's looking good," he said.

CAGERS CLEAN UP

It was a clean sweep for the Stouffville Secondary School (SDSS) midget and junior girls' Spartans basketball teams when Brother Andre C.H.S. came calling Thursday.

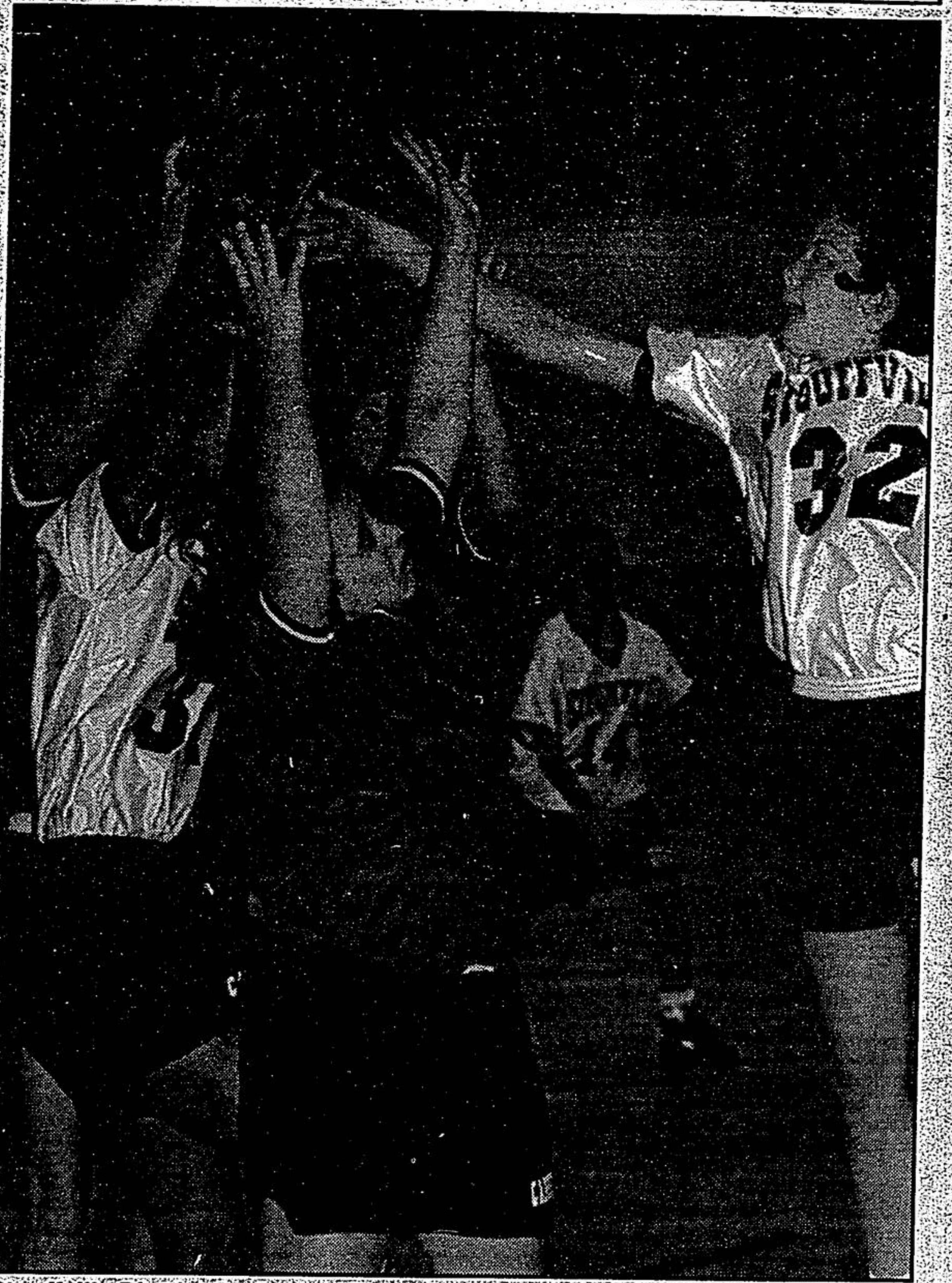
The midget Spartans erased a five-point deficit heading into the fourth quarter to earn a narrow 49-48 victory, while the juniors romped to a 37-23 win.

The midgets got a 13-point performance from Laura Boyd, who dominated the second half.

Jess Fleming went to the hoop for nine points, while Jackie Derasmo contributed a solid defensive effort while adding seven points.

Amanda Crowder had six points, Amy McElroy four, and Candice Miller, Tracy Hoher and Kristey Gibson two each.

The juniors Spartans were led by Sherri Hartnett with 10 points, with Danielle Timms picking up eight.



Stouffville District Secondary School's Lisann Kayum (left), utilizes her long reach over her Brother Andre opponent to get her hands on this rebound while teammate Stacie Wagg (right), also tried get in on the action in last Thursday's YRAA junior girls' basketball game against Brother Andre at Stouffville District Secondary School. The Spartans won the contest 37-23.

Photo: JOERD WITTEVEEN

Spirit soar past Eagles for second win of season

By BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

The tide suddenly turned for the Spirit of Stouffville half way through Saturday night's game with the Bowmanville Eagles at the Rec Centre, and the team's head coach hopes it's a sign of good things ahead.

The Spirit erased a three-goal Eagles lead en route to a heartening 5-3 victory.

It was only the second win of the season for the Stouffville squad, putting an end to a five-game losing skid.

Head coach Steve Sedore said the win got the monkey off the team's back.

"We were down 3-0 halfway through, and we had hit three goal posts and just couldn't get a break," said Sedore.

"All of a sudden things started going our way. It was a good game for us."

The Spirit were led by the line

of George Trifon between wingers Geoff Smith and Darcy King. Smith picked up a pair of goals to give him five in his last two outings, and a total of eight points in the pair of games. King had a goal and an assist, while Trifon set up two goals. "That's our big line. Geoff is playing very well for us," said Sedore.

Sean Schoffer and defenceman Michael Grimes had the other Spirit goals. Defenceman Jeff Marshall also had two assists, while Ryan Spiteri was impressive in the Spirit net. Stouffville held a 35-28 edge in shots on goal.

Sedore was hopeful the team could carry the momentum into a pair of road games against the Vaughan Vipers and the league leading Newmarket '87s this week before returning home to face the Orillia Terriers Saturday. "Hopefully we can get another win," said Sedore.

Sedore said he has been

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Major peewees tame Cougars

The Stouffville major peewee Clippers took to the offensive as they tamed the home Cobourg Cougars 4-1 last Sunday.

Andrew Lombardo had two goals for the Clippers, with Dylan Harrison and Ryan Jackson scoring as well.

Assists went to Jason McDonald (2), Richard Mulder, Brandon Tardella and Jeremy Guest.

Richard Lynn was outstanding in goal, while the Stouffville squad took advantage of its scoring opportunities.

MIDGET CLIPPERS DOWNED

The Bouwmeister Landscaping midget Clippers have opened the season with a win and three losses, along with an impressive showing at a tournament in Huntsville.

The Clippers, who managed a split in two pre-season exhibition games, defeated Cobourg while falling to Uxbridge, Lindsay and Oshawa West in regular season play. At the Huntsville Early Bird Tournament, the Stouffville squad won their conference against Parry Sound, Newmarket and Ajax,

but fell 3-2 to the defending Ontario midget A championship host crew.

The Clippers roster is made up of 16 or 17 year olds who have come up through the Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association rep system. Team spokesman Glenn Johnston said the team is emphasizing goal prevention this season. "Unlike the previous midget team which included natural goal scorers Ryan King and Robbie Spytz, the current squad will have to succeed with a sound defensive game."

Leading point getters to date include Brett Boyd (5), Matt Turner (4), David Clarke (4), and Kevin Hackert (3).

Other players include goalies Carmen Auciello and Jason Brown, defencemen Kyle Harrison, Chris Howland, Mark Meyer, Keith Mills, Cory Turchan and Mike Wood, and forwards Evan Cain, Brandon Crossen, Brad Johnston, Andrew Korb, Grahame Smith and Dan Tardella.

The midget Clippers play their home games Sundays at 6:30 p.m.