

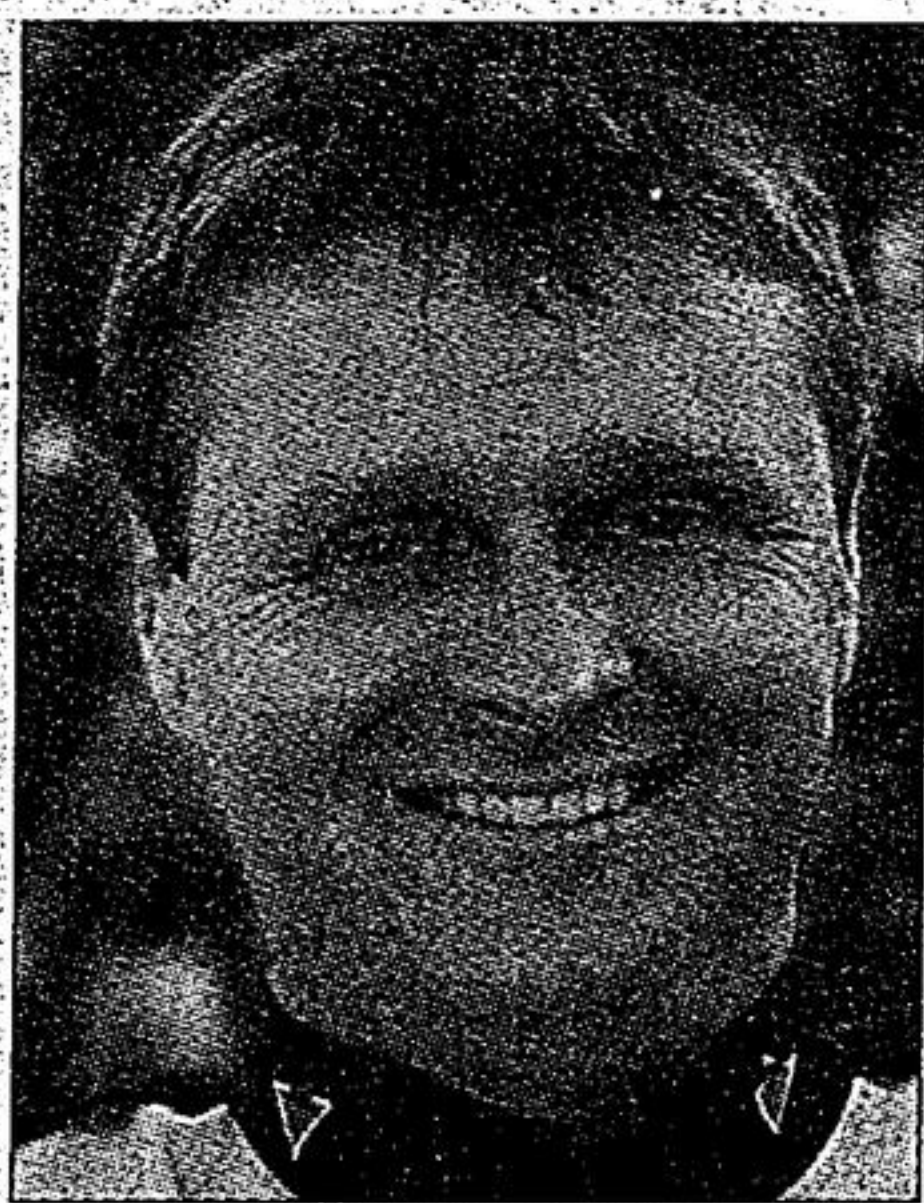
## Gibbons races his way to a strong finish

*Stouffville driver rallies to finish second in final CASCAR race of season*

When Peter Gibbons arrived at Delaware Speedway near London, Ont. last weekend for the final CASCAR race of the season, he was confident his car and team were going to be performing at their best.

When Sunday's feature race concluded, the Stouffville resident was right as he finished second.

Gibbons got a premonition of what might transpire during Friday's 100-lap qualifier when he finished second despite being hit by a lap car and coming away with a bent rear end.



**PETER GIBBONS:** Second-place finish enables Stouffville driver to finish fourth in CASCAR series.

With the crew working all day Saturday to make the necessary repairs in preparation for Sunday's feature, Gibbons started the race in fifth position and took the lead by the 47th lap.

No sooner had Gibbons told the crew to be prepared for flat tires, which had plagued him all season, when he dropped off the pace and started losing positions.

Returning to pit row to change tires, Gibbons went down two laps in the process.

On his departure from the pits he was penalized for running over the air

line, forcing him down yet another lap.

Resuming the race in 36th place and down three laps, Gibbons remained patient and slowly worked his way back into contention.

Occupying sixth place on lap 209, Gibbons took advantage of the traffic where he outdrove his competitors to move into the third position.

With only three laps remaining he took over second, but time would run out on him as the checkered flag fell.

"What a day, to come back from three laps down and finish second is awesome. We didn't come here for second. I wanted to win, but this is a great end to the season," Gibbons commented after the two hour, 40-minute race.

With his finish, Gibbons' Canadian Tire team concluded the CASCAR series in fourth overall behind champion Don Thompson Jr., D.J. Kennington and Dave Whitlock.

## Minor bantams are off to a good start

The Stouffville minor bantam Clippers got its regular season off to a good start, winning two of their first three contests.

After opening its season with a 4-2 loss to Newmarket, the Clippers stormed back to blank Orillia 4-0 and Georgina 6-0.

Mitchell Raithby and Dennis O'Shaughnessy each scored once for the Clippers in their loss to Newmarket.

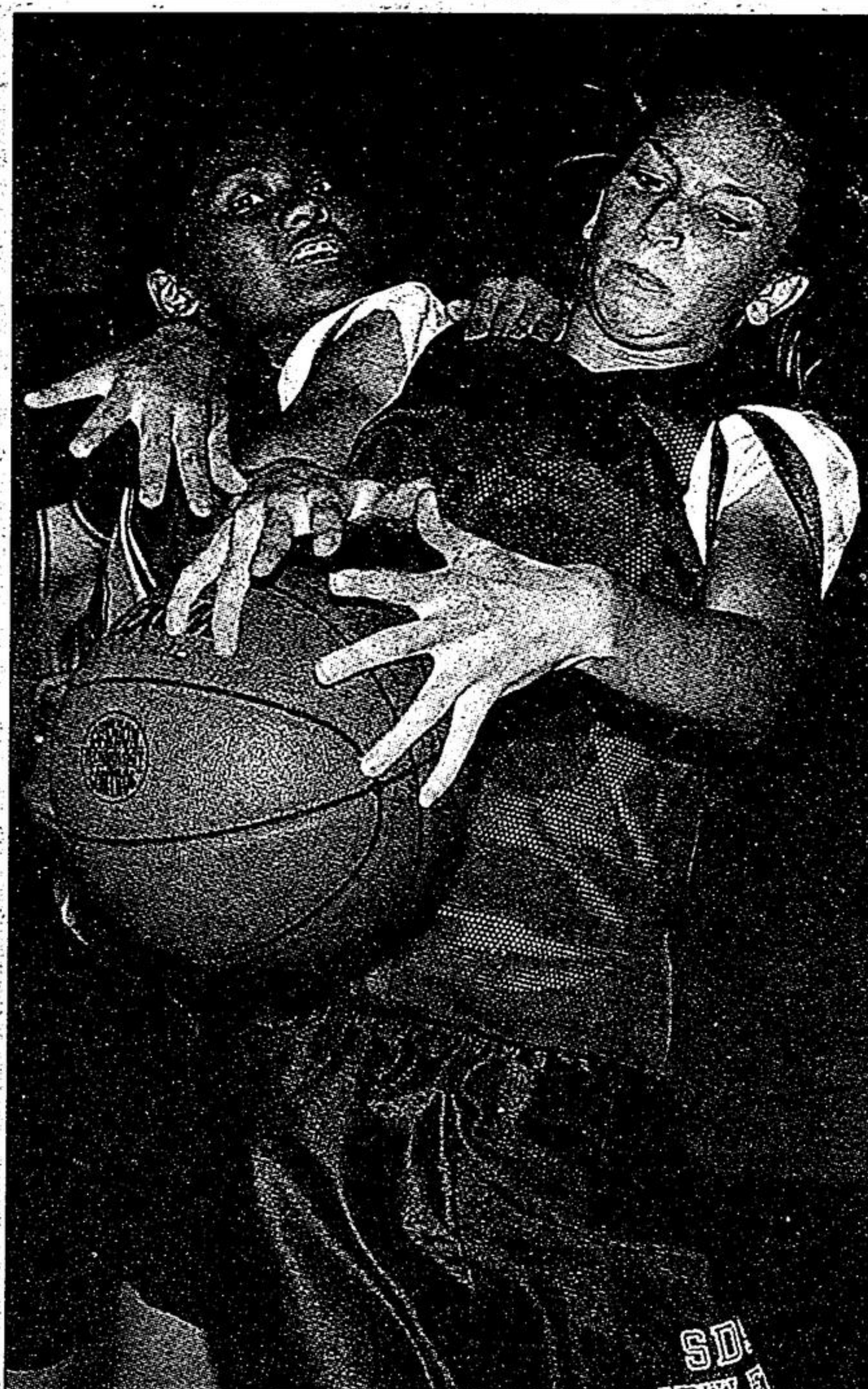
Jeff Gibson and Nathan James drew assists.

Steven Moller recorded the hat trick for the Clippers in its win over Orillia while O'Shaughnessy added the other marker.

Jeff McGuckin earned two assists while Adam Brown, Michael Bigioni and O'Shaughnessy added singles. Brad Whittingstal posted the shutout.

In the win over Georgina, Nick Stratas scored twice while Justin Lacy, Brown, O'Shaughnessy and McGuckin contributed singles.

Brown and Ryne Parsons each collected two assists while Lacy, O'Shaughnessy and Cory Thomson drew singles.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

## A LITTLE FOUL PLAY

Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans' Jesse Harris (foreground) gets fouled on the shoulder by Pierre Elliott Trudeau High School's Tia Parmar during action in Tuesday's York Region Athletic Association junior basketball game at Stouffville District Secondary School. The host Spartans won the game 57-18 to improve their record to 1-1. Samantha Batten was high scorer for the Spartans with nine points. In the senior game, the Spartans defeated St. Augustine Catholic High School 45-38. Joanna Crymble was high scorer for the Spartans with 23 points. The win was the first of the season for the Spartans.

## Taws is happy with rookie racing season

Ashley Taws drove her Be Anything With Barbie at Walmart race car to an eighth-place finish and a tie for third place in the overall series standings in last weekend's Canadian Formula Ford Championship series finale at Le Circuit Mont-Tremblant near St-Jovite, Quebec.

Qualifying third, the 18-year-old Whitchurch-Stouffville resident held her position on the first lap before teammate Louis-Philippe Dumoulin's car suffered a suspension failure and was hit by Jean-Philippe Papineau.

That left Taws, Christopher Guerrieri and Chris Green fighting for the lead, but on lap four, all three went off at corner one. Green and Guerrieri were soon back under way while Taws fell to near last.

Despite suffering some suspension damage, Taws regained ground to finish eighth.

"It's been quite a year," she said. "And, the ending was pretty exciting. Chris (Guerrieri) and I raced together at the Toronto Kart Club, then we both moved up to cars and didn't see each other for a year or two. Now here we are in the Canadian Formula Ford Championship finishing dead even."

With the season over, Taws felt it was a successful venture and gave credit where it was due.

"I had amazing backing from my sponsors: Barbie, Walmart, Ray-O-Vac, NeoCorr, Pure Solutions and Castrol. AIM Autosport did a great job preparing the car and making it fast for every race, and there are people behind the scenes that work very hard so I can go racing. The series was excellent, with some really big events and a good group of competitors.

"I had a great time and I can't wait for the 2003 season."



**ASHLEY TAWS**  
Finishes in-tie for third in Formula Ford series.

## Equestrian gets back in the saddle after crash

*Stouffville youth overcomes riding accident to make presence felt at Junior Trillium Dressage Championships*

BY JIM THOMAS  
Correspondent

It was during an equestrian jumping competition near Peterborough that Breanne Willoughby-Brown of Stouffville, took a tumble and suffered a concussion.

Although a painful experience at the time, Willoughby-Brown, 14, now considers it a stroke of good luck.

For it prompted her to change directions, from jumping to dressage. And she's never looked back.

Last month, Willoughby-Brown, riding Genta, a seven-year-old Hanoverian mare, won the Basic 1 and Basic 2 Junior Trillium Dressage Championships at Nepean, near Ottawa and Hamilton.

The Trillium Dressage Circuit is an Equine Canada provincial competition, governed by the rules of Equine Canada but administered within the province.

The circuit provides a competition level between primary and national levels.

This year's championships were held in two divisions, the eastern at Nepean and the western near Hamilton.

The same judges officiated at both, with the combined results deciding the over-all winner.

Willoughby-Brown qualified to ride in both Basic 1 and Basic 2 championship classes. She won in Basic 1 and placed second in Basic 2. Her total score topped all competitors, giving her the Trillium Championship of Ontario.

Her coach is Belinda Trussell. Her assistant coach is Krista Johnson, both of Stouffville.

Born in Toronto, Willoughby-Brown and her family moved to Stouffville when she was 12. Two years previous, she attended a day camp near Owen Sound. There, she was introduced to horses, a love that's continued to grow.

Her first shows, all jumping competitions, were small.

"It was just a fun thing then," she recalls.

Later, Trussell of Oakcrest Farms, introduced her to Trillium dressage, a circuit she enjoys.

Willoughby-Brown admits the two championship meets at Nepean and Hamilton posed a challenge since some competitors were much older and more experienced.

"At first I was nervous," she says, "but quickly calmed down."

Willoughby-Brown spends two hours a day training and grooming her horse. The two are inseparable.

"She comes when I call," she says, "even follows me around."

Willoughby-Brown rewards her steed with gifts of apples, carrots and sugar cubes. Genta's value is placed at \$30,000.

What lies ahead?

Willoughby-Brown hopes to advance to the dressage Grand Prix and some day have a horse farm of her own.

As for the Olympics, she admits this would be nice but it's not a goal.

For the present, at least, she's enjoying the thrill of a Trillium championship, an achievement of which she never dreamed.



**BREANNE WILLOUGHBY-BROWN:**  
Has aspirations of advancing to dressage Grand Prix.