

Hockey Spartans hold down top spot

Good defence keeps Stouffville Secondary unbeaten in York Region

Jamie Hewitt didn't think his Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans senior boys' hockey club

would be sitting atop the York Region Athletic Association standings at the exam break.

But the Spartans head coach conceded it was where he wanted his club to be.

The best record in the YRAA (6-0-1),

includes a 3-1 road win by the Spartans over Keswick High School Wednesday.

In their seven games, the Spartans have allowed just 10 goals.

"Right now we're playing fantastic defensive hockey. We're playing very well in our own end," he said.

TOUGHER FOES AHEAD

Although the Spartans are in first place, Hewitt isn't taking anything for granted.

After the break, the Spartans face the five-time defending YRAA champion Brother Andre Catholic High School Cardinals in Markham Feb. 3.

'We can't get too excited right now'

"We can't get too excited right now, we could finish anywhere from first to fourth," Hewitt said. "We just have to take things one game at a time."

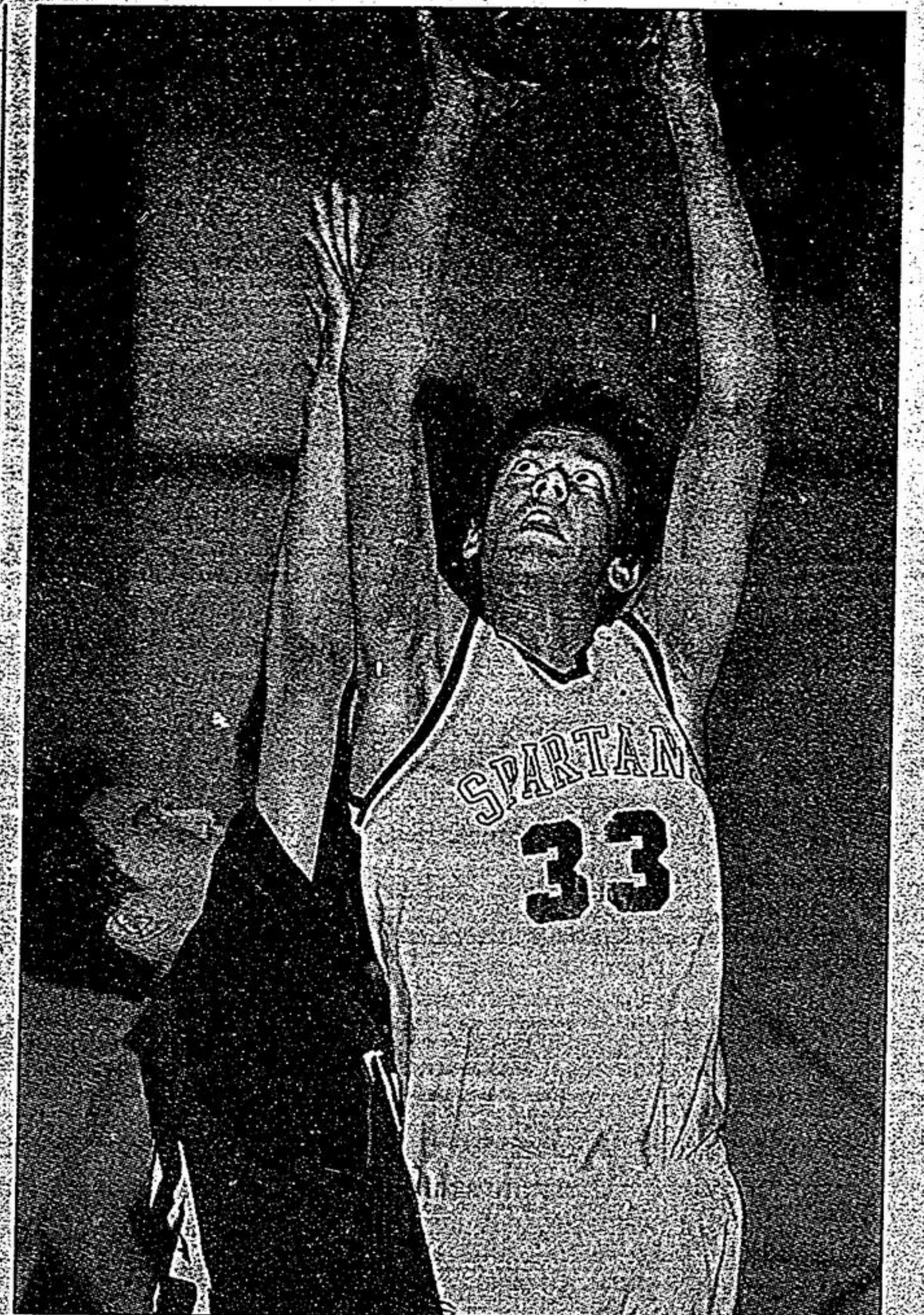
A first- or second-place finish would give the Spartans a first-round bye in the playoffs.

Prior to the Brother Andre game, the Spartans will take part in the prestigious Father Goetz Tournament in Mississauga.

TOP TEAMS IN TOURNEY

The 48-team event, which runs Jan. 30-31, will feature some of top high school clubs from across the province.

"It's sort of like an OFSAA (Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association) preview," he said.



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

EASY BASKET

Stouffville District Secondary School's Justin Reesor lays the ball in over Unionville Pierre Elliott Trudeau defender Myles Yeung-Chin Wednesday in York Region high school senior boys' basketball action at Stouffville. The Spartans won 43-28.

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