

Girls into rugby culture at SDSS

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Staff Writer

To build a team, Dave Turpin knows you need a foundation first.

As coach of the Stouffville District Secondary School Spartans girls' rugby team, Turpin is assembling what he feels will be a team to be reckoned with in years to come.

Starting auditions with 45 players before whittling his roster down to a group of 28, Turpin entered this year's cast in the York Region Athletic Association's tier two circuit.

They're 2-1 and drawing praise from the coach.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

"We've got a young team with just five Grade 12s and the rest in Grades 9, 10 and 11 so I was expecting a bit of rebuilding. But things have come out well," he said. "We're now laying out the groundwork."

Strong interest is largely generated from the school's culture.

"At our home games, we've had a lot of

spectators. A lot of the Grade 9 and 10 girls watch what's going on and ask 'why didn't I try out?' It's definitely peaked their interest," Turpin said.

As well, he feels the game itself creates plenty of opportunities for participation, especially when there are 15 players per team on the field at once.

"In rugby, you don't need one specific skill. If someone can't kick the ball they can still use their hands to move the ball or speed to run with it," he said.

While winning the regional tier two title would be nice, Turpin said learning and improving is more important.

If they can do that and, providing the interest shown by the girls remains, the club could return to tier one, perhaps as early as next season, he said.

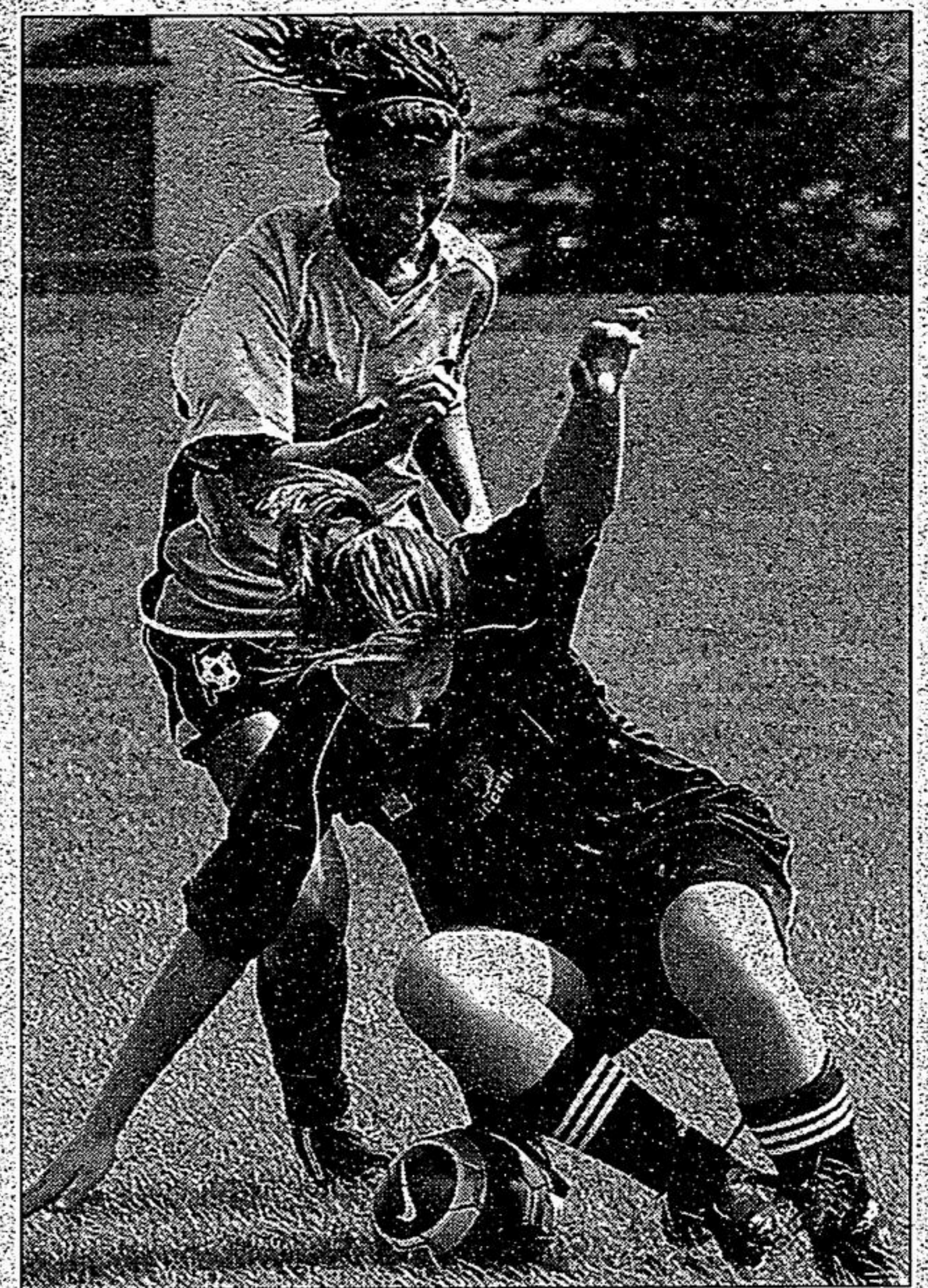
'A lot of the Grade 9 and 10 girls watch what's going on and ask 'why didn't I try out?'

Instrumental in the club's early-season success have been scrum half Stephanie McLean and fly half Sara Lecsse. The Grade 12 players are also co-captains.

The underclassmen who have played well include Grade 11 flanker and inside centre Kat McKendrick and Grade 10 back and wing Kaylin Nauta.

"Right now, the girls are having fun in doing this (playing rugby). They've jelled together as a team," Turpin said.

HAVE A SEAT



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Unionville High School's Christie Pawluch stumbles over the ball while being checked by Stouffville District Secondary School's Cassidy Britton Tuesday at Stouffville. Stouffville lost 3-0, but will represent York Region at the Ontario AA championships in Wallaceburg June 4 to 6.

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Linda and Karen Chadwick have operated the Queen's Pantry on Main Street, Unionville for over 26 years. Nine years ago they bought the building on the historic site of the old Almira Mill and renamed it The Queensbridge Mill. It is over 7,000 sq.ft. with room settings designed around the colour palettes of The Paint Cafe-their signature paint. Nothing transforms a room more dramatically and inexpensively as changing the colour of your walls. Add new accents in the new colour and your room is suddenly refreshed.

The Queen's Pantry has introduced a 'QUICK SHIP' program. There are 5 choices of sofa styles each in a beautiful neutral fabric ranging in price from \$799 to \$999.

They have also included a sectional sofa in durable ultra suede in ivory for \$1999. 'QUICK SHIP' means sofas can be delivered to the customer within a week of ordering. Each furniture group has a coordinating loveseat, chair and ottoman at great promotional prices.

The Queen's Pantry offers a full design service including in-home consultation and has been widely recognized as an outstanding design centre.

The Queensbridge Mill location offers a wide variety of courses on design, cooking and entertaining. New courses include:

PAELLA PARTY: Looking for something new to entertain summer guests? Spanish cuisine is hot! Join Chef Randy Carr as he dazzles your palette with the wonderful flavours of paella. Sample delectable tapas--the trendiest finger food! Take home the recipes to create your own fabulous summer gathering.

Date: Wednesday, June 13th (6:30pm-8:30pm)
Cost: \$49.95

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Date: Thursday, June 21st (12:30pm-2:30pm)
OR (6:30pm-8:30pm) Cost: \$49.95 plus gst

TO REGISTER: Call The Queensbridge Mill at (905)887-1127

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