

Senior Brian Titus dribbles the ball swiftly past the Milford defender and heads toward the basket in an attempt to score.

WORKING FOR THE FUTURE

Although their seasons weren't as good as they hoped, the varsity and jv boys basketball teams are improving for the years to come

The boys varsity basketball team had a very difficult time winning their games.

The highlights of the season were beating Fairfield for the first time in the Greater Miami Conference, winning against Milford twice, and defeating Walnut Hills. "The win over Fairfield seemed to be an all around better game of the season," Coach Vickers said.

In the first round of the sectional playoffs, the team was defeated by Talawanda. "Despite the fact we went into the tournament with a losing record, the way our players prepared and how the players tried to get ready to play Talawanda was really commendable," commented Vickers.

The seniors received several honors for their achievements throughout the season. Seniors Eddie Ball, Brian Titus, and Dave Schmid made the All Area team and Ball played in the Cincinnati All-Star game. Ball said, "It was a lot of fun to play with other players in the city and to meet new people, but our team scoring a total of 117 points and winning by 20 made it that much nicer." Also, Eric George was named Most Improved Player, Ball and Schmid were given the Most Pride Award, and the captains were Matt Freidersdorf, Aaron Schaen, and Titus.

Coach Vickers said, "Ball, Titus, and Schmid were the three best players and were the most consistent players throughout their season."

Ball said, "Although the season was not as successful as we hoped, it was exciting just to have the opportunity to play high school basketball, and it's sad to think that we will not be able to play again."

The boys j.v. basketball team finished the season with a 6-14 record. Robert Vilardo, in

his first year as j.v. coach commented, "We knew going in that we were a young team, so our biggest goal was to make great strides in improvement throughout the season."

The team improved by winning three out of the last four games. They beat Fairfield by one point and won a rematch against Lima. "In the beginning it was rough because freshman, sophomores, and juniors came together and were expected to play as a team," commented sophomore Adam Crockett. He continued saying that as the season progressed, they became a team and understood how each other played.

Sophomore Mark Fogelson said, "As the season winded down, we played more as a team and it showed as we won more of our games."

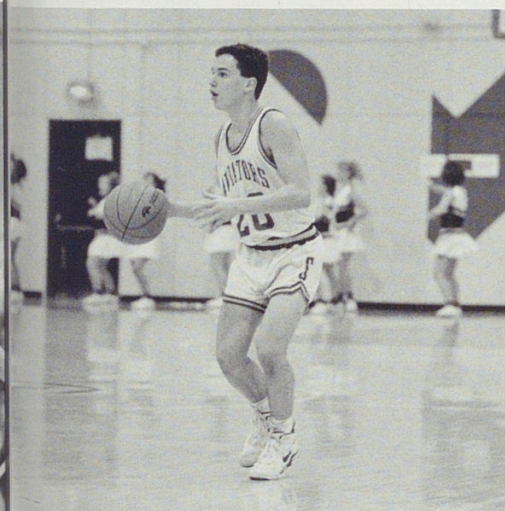
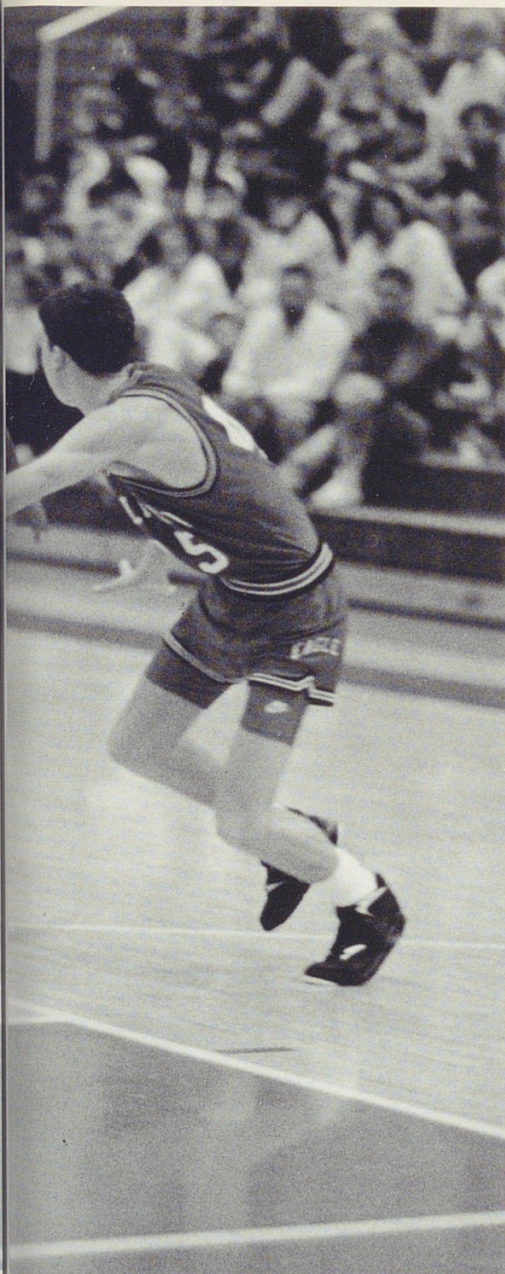
Junior Eric Figgins replied, "From our first game to our last game, everybody improved. We did not know each other or how each played, but by next year we will be a better team."

During the season many members of the team put forth an effort to improve overall. The team leaders were Crockett and Figgins. Point leaders were Brian Life, Dave Smith, and Bobby Wheeler.

Coach Vilardo felt all members of the team made a great contribution to the season. "At times we played very well. We progressed very well throughout the season and ended very strong."

Vilardo believes that Sycamore is on the rise to the top of the G.M.C. He said, "Sycamore's future is bright."

by Valerie Schubert and Megan Harmon

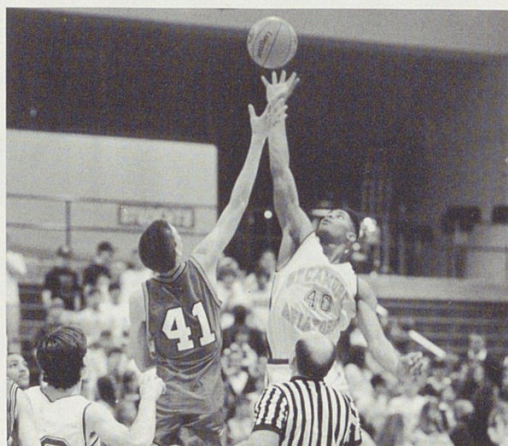


Sophomore guard Adam Crockett concentrates on what is ahead of him as he gets ready to set up a play.

Senior Aaron Schaen shoots the ball while being blocked by a player from the opposing team during their game against Milford.



Junior varsity coach Robert Vilardo talks to his players enthusiastically in their game against Milford.



Sophomore Corey Appleby jumps at the beginning of the game trying to hit the ball to a fellow teammate.

