

SPORTS

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Amazing! Hawks rally, 95-94

FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Smith picks Hillsdale

Farmington Hills Harrison football player Keye Smith has made a verbal commitment to attend Hillsdale College.

Smith, a 6-foot-10, 160-pound wide receiver/kick returner, was a first-team All-Observer selection last fall after catching 21 passes for 379 yards and five touchdowns.

The recruiting season was a busy one for Smith, who made visits to Ferris State, Wayne State, Saginaw Valley, Alma and Albion colleges.

Smith didn't visit Western Michigan University but turned down a chance to be a "preferred" walk-on at the Division I school. His scholarship at Hillsdale is for tuition and fees.

Smith carries a 3.0 grade point average and plans to study business at Hillsdale.

"They have an outstanding business program," Smith said. "The facilities for the football program are gorgeous. The weight room is not a step below the one at the University of Michigan."

Smith is also a college prospect as a shortstop and third baseman in baseball and said he might play the sport at Hillsdale, because the football defensive coordinator, Joe Follzi, also coaches baseball.

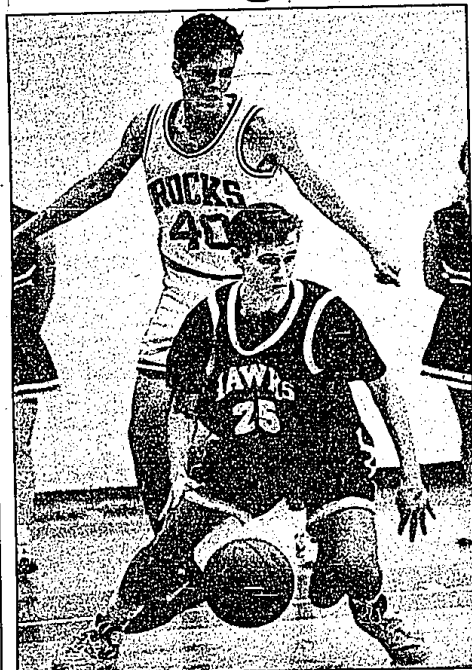
Publinx golf tourneys

It's never too early to think about golf, and officials of the Michigan Publinx Golf Association are doing that in an effort to involve more golfers in 1993 tournament play.

The MPGA conducts a series of tournaments for amateurs of all ability levels. Golfers who join the MPGA qualify for five one-day handicap tournaments.

The courses chosen for this year's events are Heather Highlands, Plumbrook, Raisin River, Rouge and Salem Hills. The dates are May 16, June 6, June 27, July 18 and Aug. 8.

A limited number of openings are available for new members. The MPGA will accept applications at the golf show Feb. 6-7 at the Southfield Pavilion, or golfers can call Pat Rooney (624-3287) to request an application.



Falling Rocks: Harrison knocked off unbeaten Plymouth Salem Tuesday. Harrison guard Jeremy Teachman dribbles away from Mike Slone.



BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Some basketball teams stage big comebacks and achieve big wins, and then there's what Farmington Hills Harrison did Tuesday night.

The last eight minutes defy description. Superlatives would only get in the way. A simple explanation will testify to what the Hawks pulled off.

Harrison scored 42 points in the fourth quarter at Plymouth Salem and rallied from a 16-point deficit to upset the No. 6-ranked and undefeated Rocks, 95-94.

Harrison capped its amazing resurgence when Keye Smith sank the winning, three-point shot with three seconds remaining.

Adding to the incredulity of the wild finish was the fact Smith was double teamed and nearly out of court space in the deep corner when he leaped and let loose an all-net aerial.

"I was afraid of stepping out of bounds; I was afraid of hitting the backboard," he said.

Harrison took a timeout with nine seconds left. The Hawks intended for Ryan Cahill to take the shot since he already had broken his own school record with seven triples in the game.

"The play got broken up, and I ended up having to take it," Smith said. "I knew I didn't have time to pass. I looked for Ryan, because that was who it was designed for. But things broke down and I had to throw it up."

The Hawks, 3-1 in the Western Lakes Activities Association and 3-7 overall, believed they were due for a major win after losing a lot of close games. Salem is 0-1 overall and also 3-1 in the league.

"I think you saw a team come to-

gether in the fourth quarter," Harrison coach Mike Teachman said, adding the Hawks have scored 603 points and allowed 603 at the halfway point of the season. "They refused to give up despite the odds. I attribute that to the character of our young men."

"It would be easy for a team in our situation to quit, but our senior leadership has really done the job for us. We did it without our No. 1 point man, because Calvin (Pruitt) was taken out of the game because of fouls."

Cahill, who had five of his treys during a torrid first quarter, finished with 24 points to lead Harrison. Jeremy Teachman scored 21, and Smith (15), Rich Ruffini (18) and Cahill had career-high totals. Teachman had 22 in a district game last year.

Salem twins Mike and Brandon Slone combined for 67 points. Mike scored a game-high 37, which also included seven three-point field goals. James Head added nine and Brian Jensen eight.

"We're a defensive team; we can't give up 90 points and win," Salem coach Bob Brodie said. "With our size and athletic ability, there's no way we should give up that many points."

"But you have to give them credit, too, (Smith) hit the winning shot with two guys on him falling away in the corner. Sometimes it might just be destiny."

Salem had a 69-63 lead entering the fourth period and appeared headed for another victory, still ahead by 10 (87-77) with 1:56 remaining.

See HAWKS, 2B

COLLEGE SPORTS

Macomb blasts OCC

By C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER

The ingredients were all in place for a first-class showdown. Two of the Eastern Conference's big guns in men's basketball pairing off Oakland Community College vs. Macomb Community College: both with two conference losses, tying them with Mott Community College for first.

But, just in case that wasn't enough, there was additional ammunition: Macomb had beaten the Raiders twice before this season, including an 81-79 overtime win at OCC Dec. 22. Back then, when a score wasn't surprising — OCC had been struggling.

The Raiders weren't now. They had won eight of nine games since, which elevated them into title contention. Combine that with the vengeance factor and, well, they should have been smelling blood last night when they invaded the Monarchs' court.

If they were, they couldn't sustain the feeling. As OCC coach Lynn Reed said in summation after his team's 77-69 defeat, "They beat us in every phase of the game. They outthrust us, they outboxed us, they outsmarted us."

That last factor bothered Reed most of all. He had received a focused, concentrated effort from his team throughout its streak. Against the Monarchs, the Raiders broke down.

Point guard Kevin Woodmore, who had excelled and been a pit-otal part of OCC's surge, was off his game against Macomb. Going against the Monarchs' standout point guard Terrance Walker, Woodmore "took it as an individual challenge," said Reed. "He resorted to playground tactics."

The individual battle may have come out a draw on the score sheet — Woodmore scored 13 points, Walker 14 — but it was Walker's team that won.

The game was close throughout the first half, which also bothered Reed. "We were in the bonus (at the free-throw line) and didn't take advantage of it," he said. In-bonus the Raiders reached the bonus with 8:22 left in the half, but Macomb was 12 of 15 from the line in the first half to OCC's five of eight.

OCC narrowed a 30-22 Monarch lead to 32-29 with 1:30 left in the half, then allowed Macomb to score six unanswered points before the break. The Raiders never caught up.

A Dave Ledbetter basket with 7:04 left in the game pushed Macomb's lead to 17 points, 62-45. The Raiders scored the next seven points and eventually trimmed the deficit to eight on two different occasions, but could get no closer.

Ledbetter finished with 21 points to lead Macomb. Bernie Burnett added 14. For OCC, Wil-

lie Payne scored 17, Troy Coleman had 13 and Ray Moreland netted 10. Payne and Bill Knight each had eight rebounds.

"That was a big win for us," said Macomb coach John Switchulis, whose team is 8-2 in the conference, 13-6 overall. "We were in a must-win situation twice before this season and came up short. Defense — that's been our salvation. I thought we played pretty good help defense tonight."

That showed in the amount of turnovers they forced OCC to commit — 29 in all, 18 in the second half. Free throws didn't help, either: Macomb was 27 of 34 (79 percent) to OCC's 17 of 23 (74 percent).

The loss left OCC at 11-9 overall, 7-3 in the conference, with a 7:30 p.m. game at Schoolcraft College Saturday.

Last Saturday, Craig Martin rallied the Raiders to a 77-66 win over visiting Mott.

Martin, who scored a team-high 21 points, sank three consecutive three-point shots to move OCC from four points down to five up with five minutes remaining.

OCC made 25 of 29 free throws, including its last 13 to seal the victory.

The Raiders had three others in double figures: Coleman (16), Woodmore (15) and Knight (13).

Lionie Partee led Mott with 23 points.

North preps for Salem with win

Teams have their pre-game warm-ups prior to every game.

North Farmington's lasted 32 minutes Tuesday.

The Raiders, perhaps preparing for Friday's Western Lakes Activities Association encounter with undefeated Plymouth Salem, trounced visiting Livonia Franklin 80-46.

And perhaps more importantly for North (3-1 in the W.L.A.A. and 6-4 overall) the game provided a nice rebound from a 61-39 loss to Walled Lake Central.

"This was a good win for us,"

North coach Tom Negoshian said. "It was really nice for us to bounce back off a tough loss. Everybody played and scored, except for one of our starters, and that's the way it should be."

"We're looking forward to our game Friday against Salem. We know it will be a tough game. Salem is well coached, very big and talented."

North led 17-9 after the first quarter, 40-20 at halftime and 63-28 entering the final quarter.

The Raiders' John Pennala, a junior guard, led all scorers with

21 points, while junior forward Tom May added 12. Junior forward Paul Kruschka paced Franklin with 16.

"We got our doors blown out — no excuses," said Patriots coach Dan Kennedy, whose team fell to 3-6 overall and 0-4 in the W.L.A.A.

■ CANTON 56, FARM. 52: Plymouth Canton held on for its second straight victory at Farmington Tuesday.

The Chiefs, who held a 47-37 lead

See BASKETBALL, 2B

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