

Over 30 icers have new leader

The Southfield Over 30 Hockey League will start the new year with a new league leader — Sawyer-Puller Funeral Home.

Sawyer-Puller, now 8-2, climbed into first place by beating Concourse Camera, 5-2, at the Civic Center Arena last Thursday. Spartan Concrete, which had led the league, dropped a 2-1 decision to Suburban Sports Center. Sawyer-Puller fell behind, 2-1, in the early going against Concourse, but the winners rallied for two goals in the second period and one in the third. Roy Brandon, Don Ellis, Jim Gudenberg, Ray Brunett and Dennis Bagley each scored a goal for Sawyer, and Elio Marulli had two assists.

Concourse, which was short five players because of the holidays, got goals from Jim LePine and Paul Kezlee.

Spartan Concrete, which fell to second place with a 6-1 record, also suffered from lack of players in its loss to Suburban. John Wieman and Ralph Wolfstrom each scored a goal for Suburban, while Larry Dume called on Spartan.

The "holiday flu" really hit Northland Heating, which had to forfeit its

game to Roger Penske Chevrolet last Thursday — even though Northland beat Penske, 5-2, with only eight players.

Southfield Holiday Inn, like Northland, won a game (3-1 over Star Lincoln-Mercury) only to have the decision overturned on a forfeit. The forfeit came about because a Holiday Inn delay caused the game to be shortened to three 10-minute periods instead of the regulation 16-minute stanzas.

A league decision concerning the unusual circumstances of that game is expected. If Holiday's abbreviated win is allowed, it would be tied with Sawyer-Puller for first place in the standings.

OVER 30 HOCKEY LEAGUE

LEAGUE STANDINGS — Sawyer-Puller Funeral Home—8-2 won last 4; Spartans Concrete—6-1, Southfield Holiday Inn—6-1; Concourse Camera—4-3, Star Lincoln-Mercury—4-3; Suburban Sports Center—4-2; Roger Penske Chevrolet—3-4; Northland Heating—3-2.

GAMES COMING UP
THURSDAY JAN. 31 — Star Lincoln-Mercury vs Spartan Concrete, 7:30 p.m.; Suburban Sports Center vs Southfield Holiday Inn, 8:30 p.m.; Roger Penske Chevrolet vs Concourse Camera, 9:40 p.m.; Sawyer-Puller Funeral Home vs Northland Heating, 10:30 p.m. All games will be played at Southfield Civic Center Arena, 3800 Evergreen Road.

Dakesian lifts Lathrup, 75-49

Unbeaten Southfield wins 6th

Southfield's 53-50 victory over Livonia Churchill last Tuesday wasn't really as close as the final score may have looked.

Southfield, which has proved itself to be one of the stronger clubs in the northwest suburb with six-straight victories this season, led Churchill by as many as 15 points in the second half before Coach Don Kaup cleared the bench.

Southfield led by just a point (27-26) at halftime. The third quarter, when Southfield scored 14 points to Churchill's six, was pivotal.

Three Southfield starters finished in double figures. Forward Scott Kopach led with 16 points. Eric Griffin and

Scott Russell added 11 and 10 points respectively. Darryl Clausell, who has been Southfield's big scoring threat so far, had an off night with just six points.

Churchill, now 6-3 overall, got 16 points each from Craig Hanton and Dave Kietly. Southfield made 25 of 58 floor shots for 43.1 percent to Churchill's 41.3 percent on 18 of 46. The rebounding was even at 35 apiece. Clausell and Russell each grabbed 12 rebounds for Southfield.

Southfield returns to Southeastern Michigan Association action Friday, when it entertains Hazel Park High at 8 p.m.

LATHRUP — OAK PARK

Jack Dakesian, a 6-4 junior forward, turned in his best game of the season with 26 points and 14 rebounds to lead Southfield-Lathrup past Oak Park High, 75-49, last Tuesday in a non-league game at Lathrup.

The victory was the sixth straight for coach Jim Kourtakos' Lathrup team since it dropped its season opener to Royal Oak Kimball.

Dakesian made eight field goals and went 10 for 10 at the free throw line. He scored seven points in the third quarter, when Lathrup rallied from a

four-point deficit to outscore Oak Park, 27-10.

Peter McKnight added 15 points for Lathrup, and teammate Karl Taylor had 12 before fouling out in the fourth quarter. Brandon paced Oak Park with 18 points.

Lathrup held a 44-50 rebounding advantage. Lathrup shot 43.4 percent from the field, making 30 of 69. Oak Park was 19 of 53. Oak Park, now 1-5 overall, made 29 turnovers.

Lathrup plays next on Friday at Bloomfield Hills Lahser. The Metro Suburban Association game begins at 8 p.m.

SOUTHFIELD 53 — CHURCHILL 50

SOUTHFIELD HIGH (53) — Scott Kopach 8, 0-6; 16; Scott Russell 11, 0-3; 10; Darryl Clausell 7, 2-2; 6; Eric Griffin 6, 1-2; 11; Howard Sher 2, 0-1; 4; Dave Combs 2, 0-0; 4; John Papp 1, 0-1; 2 TOTALS: 53-50

LIVONIA CHURCHILL (50) — Dave Kietly 8, 0-2; 16; Craig Hanton 8, 0-2; 14; Dave Kietly 4, 0-2; 16; Ben Frazier 1, 0-1; 2; Ralph Jarne 4, 0-2; 15; Don Kaup 1, 0-1; 2 TOTALS: 50-53

FOLDED OUT: Peter Clausell; SOUTHFIELD: 15 10 14 12 15 20; CHURCHILL: 15 11 14 12 15 20

LATHRUP 75 — OAK PARK 49

SOUTHFIELD-LATHRUP (75) — Craig Kietly 1, 0-0; 2; Karl Taylor 12, 0-2; 3; Jack Robinson 8, 10-10; 26; Peter McKnight 15, 1-3; 3; Karl Alexander 4, 0-0; 8; Larry Kling 6, 2-2; 2; Phil Kouty 1, 0-1; 2; Eric Gura 2, 0-0; 4; Phil Nelson 0, 0-1; 1; John Alexander 1, 0-1; 2 TOTALS: 75-49

OAK PARK (49) — Donald 12, 15; Stewart 6, 2-2; N. Way 2, 2-4; Brandon 8, 2-2; 18; Allen 0, 1-1; 2; M. Way 0, 1-2; 4; Johnson 1, 0-1; 2; Walker 1, 0-1; 2 TOTALS: 49-75

FOLDED OUT: Taylor; LATHRUP: 15 15 15 15 15 15; OAK PARK: 12 15 15 15 15 15

Ferndale downs Groves, 55-52

By BRAD EMONS

Plagued by turnovers and poor foul-shooting in the fourth quarter, Birmingham Groves was unable to overcome a talented Ferndale squad, losing to the Eagles, 55-52, in a game played Tuesday.

Groves committed 25 turnovers in the contest while missing two crucial bonus free-throw attempts with just under two minutes to play.

Trailing 43-38 starting the fourth quarter, Groves began full-court pressure, causing Ferndale to turn the ball over on many times.

Senior guard Ali Ucar led the Groves comeback, scoring two lay-ups in 19 seconds to pull the Birmingham team within two points with just under three minutes to play. Ucar scored 22 points.

Using a four-corner stall offense, Ferndale forward Kyle Keener was fouled with 1:30 to go. He sank two free-throws giving the Eagles a 53-50 lead.

Ucar scored with four seconds remaining, bringing his team within one, but the Eagles' John Cobb connected on two free-throws with two seconds left to seal the victory.

Ferndale's 6-5 senior center Dave Milburn had the contest under his control for the first three quarters as he constantly swatted away field goal attempts tried by the Birmingham squad's front-line players.

Milburn blocked nine shots in the game and was the Eagles' key outlet passer off the defensive boards. The senior center blocked four shots in the opening quarter and connected for two slam-dunks in the first half. He scored 13 points in the first half.

Coming off the bench to stake Ferndale to their third quarter lead was senior forward Daryl Robinson.

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