

Class D cage power shocks Lahser, 77-64

By BOB GROSS

Every cloud has a silver lining. Coach Nick Conti found one in Bloomfield Hills Lahser's 77-64 loss to defending Class D state champion Detroit East Catholic.

"Hey, I'm disappointed that we lost," said Conti. "I feel that there were some things that I think with or without Tim Wain we're capable of doing a little better, but it's a learning process and we're going to be better because of it."

The ship doesn't sink because of this, and we just bounce back."

Lahser played the game without the services of senior sharp-shooting guard Tim Wain, who was on the bench in street clothes, suffering from illness.

The score, and the 13-point bulge, was in no way indicative of the closeness of the game. The Knights trailed by four, 68-64, with a minute left. But East Catholic center James Ross converted a three-point play at 52 seconds left to make it 71-64, and his teammates

chipped in with six points to make the final 77-64.

Ross, a 6-foot-5 junior center, led all scorers with 32 points.

But teammate Art Grier was the real spark of the East Catholic offense. Grier, a 5-11 senior guard, finished with 23 points. He did most of his damage in the first half with 14 points. And he did most of his damage from long range, defeating Lahser's zone defense with jump shots from the perimeter.

Lamar Ragland also hit double figures for East Catholic with 11 points.

Lahser's lack of perimeter shooting was a big factor in the game according to Conti.

"Their defense," he said, "for the entire halfgame was one of containment. It was very clear from the onset that their intention was to just shut down everything inside and make us hit the perimeter shot, and my best perimeter shooter (Wain) was sitting next to me." LAHSEr DEFINITELY missed the perimeter."

Wain, not so much because of any points he might have scored, but because of the threat of his outside shooting.

"The factor was very clearly," said Conti, "and Dave Soules (East Catholic coach) will tell you the same thing, when your best perimeter shooter is sitting on the bench, you play sag. He'll tell you exactly that. That's what he did. It's very easy to gang up on the inside when you don't have to defend the perimeter."

Steve Hirsch picked up some of the outside scoring slack. He led Lahser with 19 points. Milton Carthens had 17 and Glenn Cross had 14.

"I think we played very, very hard," said Conti. "It was, I think, a four-point game with two minutes to go and I thought the kids picked up the slack. You have a perfect example in Steve Hirsch. Tonight he really just busted his butt — he never came out, he brought the ball up, and he took up the scoring slack."

Ferndale overcomes Seaholm's Maples, 63-56

By DENNIS O'CONNOR

It was like Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. Unfortunately for Birmingham Seaholm, the Hyde appeared in the second half — when it needed the Jekyll most.

The Maples fired out to an amazing 13-0 lead, but it was Ferndale's 47 second-half points that finally overcame the Seaholm surge.

The Eagles, favored by many to win the Southeastern Michigan Association title, defeated the host Seaholm squad,

63-56, for this league victory Friday night. It was Ferndale's second conference win and fifth triumph in six tries this season. Seaholm is 1-1 in the league and 3 overall.

First-year Seaholm coach Bob Folin said before the game, "We're kind of loose — no one really expects anything. If we hang tough like we did against Hazel Park in a Maples' loss (victory), we could make it interesting . . . or it could be a crushing."

A crushing it wasn't, but, ah, was it interesting, as the first five minutes be-

longed to the Maples.

Ferndale missed its first nine shots of the game, as it sluggishly watched the Maples grab a 13-0 lead.

Ferndale scored the final nine points of the period to pull within four, 13-9, but the Maples maintained a 13-point advantage, 29-16, at halftime, thanks to the second-quarter wizardry of guards Greg Lotzar and Rob Jeske.

The two small junior guards, Lotzar, a 5-10 Brother Rice transfer, and Jeske, standing 5-11, dominated guard play in the second period, halving Ferndale players every time they touched the ball.

Lotzar scored 13 of his game-high 23 points in the first half, and Jeske netted 10.

BUT IT DIDN'T LAST.

Ferndale came out in the second half, began to play defense, and the Seaholm lead started to dwindle. The Eagles finally caught Seaholm midway in the fourth period and broke away for good with 1½ minutes left in the game.

Ferndale's comeback was largely due to sharp free-throw shooting, and an abundance of Maples fouls. Ferndale converted on 17 of 22 free throws in the second half, compared to only two of four in the first two quarters.

Jeske scored only four points in the second half to finish with 14 before fouling out. Teammate Ed Williams also fouled out after scoring 11.

Dwayne Holston and Scott Johnson led Ferndale's scoring with 17 and 14 points, respectively.

Seaholm travels to Clawson Tuesday for a non-league game.

BROTHER RICE 48, U-D 38

The Warriors made it four straight Friday, defeating U-D by 10 points. Rice, coached by Bill Norton, stands 4-2 overall this year.

The defending Catholic League champions are idle Tuesday before hosting rival Detroit Catholic Central Friday.

After letting U-D take an 8-6 first-quarter advantage, Rice came back with 20 points in the second quarter to take a 26-20 halftime lead. The Warriors maintained their margin throughout the second half for the road victory. Senior guard Brian Brennan led all

scorers with 12 points and six assists. Teammate Judd Hart added nine points. U-D's Rob Atkins took scoring honors with 17 points.

Rice outrebounded U-D 30-28. Sophomore Paul Jokisch and John Shasky grabbed eight rebounds each, while Rob Minilla had seven. Kerwin Smith had six assists.

Rice shot 42 percent from the floor, while U-D shot 39 percent.

Friday, Rice travelled to Grand Rapids and defeated Creston High School 53-48. Jokisch was the leading scorer with 17 points. Brennan netted 12 and Minilla scored 10.

Curlers inhabit new home in WB

(Continued from page 6B)

season, so we decided to let the rest of the work go until next summer."

Curling enthusiasts are not unlike those who follow other winter sports. They are eager for the cold weather to come (the curling season starts in November and runs through the cold months until March or April) and don't want to waste any part of it.

THE ICE SURFACE in curling differs from skating ice. It is rippled or bumpy to allow the skipper, the person who throws the disc, to make the disc curl towards the target.

A game is divided into 10 innings, each inning consisting of eight stones (the metal discs) per team. Scoring is fairly simple. The team that places a disc closest to the center of the target scores a point.

While the object of the game may be simple, the strategy is not. Who shoots first and placement of the discs are only two of several key parts of the game.

The Detroit Curling Club held its grand opening by hosting the International Bonspiel, a tournament in which 35 teams participated. Twenty-one of those teams were from Canada, 12 were from the Detroit club and three were from around the country.

Most of the competitors were "between 25 and 40," Bowling said. But the sport is not limited to them. Women, teens and older people also compete.

Instruction usually comes in the form of an older player giving advice to a novice.

"They try to show them the ropes," Jim Oliver, the Bonspiel tournament director, said. "We have some very good older players, some in this tournament."

"It's like riding a bicycle. Once you learn . . ."

Curling, I was told, dates back to 13th century England. Curling is a warm feeling of the clubhouse and the friendliness of the competition, it's no wonder the sport has survived.

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