

Northern stops Farmington

Harrison stumbles, 74-58

By BRAD EMONS

Plymouth Canton basketball coach Craig Bell was looking for a little help. And after his team went out and beat Farmington Harrison Friday night at home, 74-58, Bell received word that Northville had upset league leader Waterford Mott, 56-48.

That means first place is now a tie between Mott and Canton, both with 6-2 marks in the Western Six League.

"That's super," said Bell. "My relatives from Northville just informed me about it."

"Mott still has to play Wednesday at Harrison. If they lose and we win Friday we could be in the driver's seat."

Canton will travel Friday to Walled Lake Western and then close out its season Feb. 29 at home against Livonia Churchill.

The Chiefs used a big second quarter against Harrison to post their sixth straight victory.

Harrison's pressure man-to-man defense gave Canton problems in the first quarter as the Chiefs led, 14-12.

"We knew Harrison would come at us and step in the passing lanes," said Bell. "In the second quarter we went to more back door plays and back picks."

"The Chiefs exploded in the second quarter outscoring the Hawks, 26-12, to take a 40-24 halftime lead.

DAVE VISSER scored 11 of his 16 points for Canton in that second period.

Harrison Coach Mike Teachman thought officials Al Stewart and Tom Vaughan took his team out of the game.

"Just terrible," he said. "They (officials) had no concept of what was going on. We were driving and getting bumped."

"It's not fair to take anything away from Canton," (Brad) Westin did a nice job for them and (Scott) Adler was get-

ting the ball to their guys inside." Two calls particularly irked Teachman in the first half.

On a desperation shot at the end of the first quarter, Harrison guard Goran Vasovski was knocked down on the play.

"They (officials) were both watching the ball," Teachman said.

The Harrison coach also was disturbed when his forward Brian Burgess was called for an offensive foul in the second quarter.

"There was no consistency at all," claimed Teachman. "Their calls beat us at critical times."

Harrison had a chance to control the first quarter, but missed numerous inside shots and hurt itself with poor foul shooting.

Burgess, who scored 11 points, made just one of nine free throws. As a team, Harrison hit 15 of 22 for 50 percent. Meanwhile, Canton connected on 20 of 27 for 74 percent.

The second half was dominated by fouls and turnovers.

HARRISON COULD come no closer than 52-40 late in the third quarter.

Canton center Sean Houle had a fine night as he scored 19 points and grabbed 14 rebounds. Westin chipped in with 17 points and nine rebounds.

Visser also hauled in nine.

Guard Scott Adler tallied 10 points and his running mate, junior Dave Malek, was credited with eight assists.

Houle was particularly effective in the third quarter as he made some quick moves to the basket from the high post.

"We brought our postmen out a little higher in the second half," explained Bell. "It was not a good flowing game because Harrison is a hard team to play."

"But it was a nice win to keep our

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streak going. It's helping build our momentum toward March."

Steve Shanbon, coming off the bench, led Harrison with 12 points. Vasovski added 10.

"If we could have hit our free throws," reminded Teachman. "Even though we gave up 74 points I thought we played hard."

Canton is now 11-6 overall while Harrison slipped to 8-9.

PONTIAC NORTHERN 70 FARMINGTON 63

Ken Lamb poured in 35 points to lead Pontiac Northern to a come-from-behind victory over Farmington, 70-63, Friday at Farmington.

Northern had a two-point advantage (49-47) after three quarters, but Farmington stormed back early in the final period and swept to a six-point lead with six minutes left.

But after a Farmington player was whistled for a foul, an argument ensued and the Falcons were assessed a technical foul as well. Lamb canned three free throws and Northern got the ball back trailing by only three points.

Farmington could not regroup after that, as the Falcons fell to 6-10 on the season and 3-5 in the Inter Lakes League, the same record as Northern.

Jeff McGrath and Jerry Liphardt led

Farmington with 16 points apiece. Ron Sarcevic contributed 13. Earl Ewing added 15 for Northern.

Farmington connected on 23 of 48 floor shots (49 percent) to 31 of 53 for Northern (53 percent). Northern outrebounded the Falcons, 36-23, with Lamb grabbing 13.

Farmington's next contest is at Farmington Harrison Tuesday at 8 p.m.

THURSTON 61 NORTH FARMINGTON 51

Redford Thurston got 21 points from center Darren St. Ledger and defeated North Farmington, 61-51, last Friday in a Northwest Suburban League basketball game.

"Patience on offense was really there," said Thurston coach Gary Pralick, whose squad owns a 4-4 conference record.

"We were switching zones — a 2-3 and a 1-3-1, and I think we had North a little confused. We had them off balance most of the game."

Rex Baker scored 17 points for North Farmington and teammate Rich Anderson added 12.

North, now 5-3 in the league and 8-8 overall, plays next on Tuesday (Feb. 19) at Waterford Kettering. Game time is 8 p.m.



Ted Kallgren finds the going a little cramped as three Canton players (white jerseys) converge. Harrison hit just 16 of 32 free throws in a 74-58 loss. (Staff photo by Gary Caskey)



John Rudel is having an excellent season in the freestyle events for Farmington Harrison. (Staff photo by Randall Borst)

Divers help North tankers

By TOM BAER

Diving supremacy made the difference for North Farmington's swimming team last Thursday in its meet with Livonia Franklin.

North went one-two-three in diving to break a 31-all tie and eventually win the Northwest Suburban League meet, 92-80. The victory put coach Pat Duthie's Raiders at 9-2 overall and 3-0 in the NSL.

North's Scott Whetter won the diving event with 202.50 points.

Leigh Haugen placed second with 163.00, and John McCann landed third with 138.15.

North won only three other events. The Raiders' 200-yard medley relay (Brian Kirk, Jim Gasser, John Gunderson and Kirk Knock) won with a time of 1:47.8. Knock won the 100-yard backstroke (1:01.7), and Gasser took the 100-yard breaststroke (1:04.7).

North's Phil Holcomb recorded a pair of personal bests with second-place finishes in the 200 freestyle (1:53.4) and the 100 freestyle (52.0).

Franklin's Tim Weber won both events, going 1:50.2 in the 200 and :51.1 in the 100.

Earlier last week, North Farmington downed non-league Plymouth Canton, 123-48.

Knock won the 200 individual medley (2:15.1) and the 100 back (1:02.1). Holcomb topped the 50 and 100 freestyle races.

In another meet last Thursday, Farmington High bested Pontiac Northern, 114-51.

Farmington won 10 of the 11 events. Falcon sophomore Mark Grover won two individual events — the 200 IM (2:21.9) and the 100 fly (1:01.1) — and swam a leg on the 200 medley relay (with Dave Tupper, Jim Koniskey and Doug Antishin), which won in 2:02.3.

Dave Polus also won two events for Farmington, going 1:07.1 in the 100 backstroke and :57.3 in the 100 freestyle. Farmington won the 200 freestyle with Steve Crane logging a 2:14.9.

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Raider girls top Hawks

Gymnasts trip Trenton



Doug Roberts of North Farmington works out on the still rings. (Staff photo by Randall Borst)

Jeff Dwyer won three events to pace North Farmington's 133.5-130.39 victory over Trenton High last Thursday in a Southeast Michigan Interscholastic Gymnastics Association meet at the Downriver school.

Dwyer, a senior, won the side horse (6.4), parallel bars (7.3) and all-around (45.0) and finished second on the high bar (7.5). Teammate Doug Roberts set a school record in winning vaulting (8.95) and established a personal best in winning floor exercise (8.55).

Roberts, a senior, also established personal bests in still rings (6.7, third place), high bar (5.85, fourth), side horse (4.55, fifth) and all-around (41.8, second).

Earlier last week, North Farmington bested Taylor Truman, 126.25-122.37.

Dwyer won parallel bars (7.35) and all-around (43.55) and placed second in floor exercise (8.2), side horse (6.25), still rings (6.5) and high bar (5.9). David Gaines, a North junior, finished fourth in on parallel bars to "set the pace for us in the last two events," according to coach Dennis Fitzgerald.

In a recent girls' gymnastics meet, Kathy Temple finished first in every event to lead North Farmington past Farmington Harrison, 80.7-72.7.

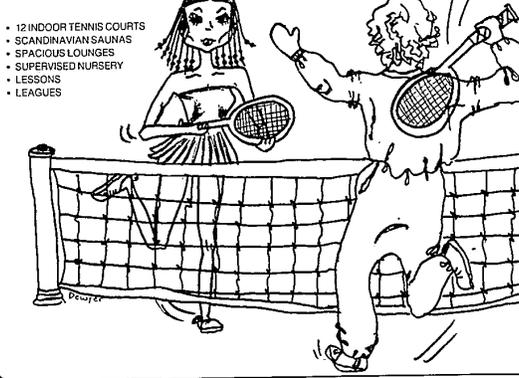
Temple won vaulting (7.079), uneven parallel bars (6.15), balance beam (7.9) and floor exercise (8.45). Harrison's Janet Thibodeau placed second in vaulting (7.7) and beam (6.95) and landed third in floor exercise (8.2).

On Monday (Feb. 18), North Farmington travels to Birmingham Groves and Farmington High's girls' team moves to Southfield-Lathrup for dual meets. Harrison competes at Clarenceville High on Wednesday (Feb. 20).

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