

Raiders Nip Falcons In Overtime For 8th In Row

N. Farmington Gets Scare But Triumphs

Eight straight and without a loss.

But winning No. 8 was no easy problem for North Farmington High's basketball team.

No. 8 opponent happened to be rival Farmington High and

when the teams meet in any sport, the form sheet goes out the window.

Add to the fact Farmington boasts, in Paul White, one of the area's premier prep players this season, it's little wonder North Farmington was

extended into overtime to gain an 82-79 victory.

White, who has averaged more than 30 points per game in recent weeks, was fantastic again. He had 39 more ... he made 13 baskets and hit on 11 of 12 free throws to up his total of conversions to 52 out

of 102 for the season. That's 90%.

It was WHITE who helped to bring the Falcons back from a nine-point deficit.

It was White who made it possible for Farmington to lead by three points with 20

seconds to go in regulation time. The Falcons appeared to have pulled off a major upset. But Ken Kikka then came driving down the middle for the Raiders. He not only swooped the ball into the hoop for a basket, but he was fouled on the play.

Swish ... went Kikka's free throw ... The game was tied at 73-73 and into overtime the teams went after Farmington missed on a last shot just before the buzzer.

It was first one team ahead, then the other in the overtime. But with time again running

out, Farmington had engineered a one-point bulge.

A FOUL gave North Farmington a break. The try missed, but there was Kikka, the man of the hour again for the Raiders. He tipped the ball and the Raiders were in front

for keeps, 80-79.

North Farmington then intercepted the ball and fed to Kirk Herpich for a basket that merely fattened the final margin to three points.

North Farmington went up by eight points in the first half when Kikka, who finish with 39 points, had 10 points in the first quarter and Drew Mahalic, who collected 26 for the game, tossed in 10 in second.

Meantime, White had 10 for Farmington in the first quarter and 11 more in the second to slice the Raiders' advantage to 34-30 at the intermission.

North Farmington regained a nine-point bulge in the third period when Mahalic added in nine points and Kikka added eight. But with White getting eight in each of the last two periods, Farmington rolled back, took the lead and was on top until Kikka's dunks with 20 seconds remaining.

The box score

N. Farmington	B	F	P
Mahalic	11	4	26
Herpich	2	2	6
Kikka	12	6	30
Gilmour	5	0	10
Tallis	0	2	2
Dhue	1	0	2
Gorris	2	2	6
Totals	35	16	82

Farmington	B	F	P
White	33	11	37
Cleveland	6	4	16
Maniewski	2	0	4
Steinke	7	0	14
Kidney	1	0	2
Chapman	1	1	3
Kupferschmidt	1	1	3
Totals	58	17	80

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Fetzer Puts 1970 Finish On Shoulders Of Players

By W.W. EDGAR

All hopes of the Detroit Tigers returning to the rule of pennant winners during the 1970 season are wrapped in a neatly done package of "ifs."

The package was prepared by the Tiger officials, themselves, and delivered to members of the press at the annual winter get-together on Wednesday.

The first nugget was taken from the package by Owner John Fetzer when he stood before the sports writers and some of the players and said:

"We have the material, we have eliminated some of the problems of the past, and now can win if the players have sufficient desire. If they

really want to win I know they can do it."

NEXT CAME Mayo Smith, the field boss, who added:

"If we play like we did in 1968 we can win it again."

Then, he added, "If the Baltimore Orioles, who beat us by 19 games last year, play like they did in 1969, they'll win again."

Not to be outdone, General Manager Jim Campbell reached into the package and came out with:

"If we work as a team—from the field to the front office—I know we'll have a good chance of landing on top."

We have removed some of the trouble spots and with our young players coming along

we can do it, but we need team work."

OWNER FETZER, who is a smooth operator in a quiet way, touched on one of the real sore spots of last year when he added:

"Our players have found out that you can't get by on your reputation alone. You've got to play ball and give your best all the time. We're not the defending champions this year and that should make a difference."

While no names were mentioned in the statement that the trouble spots have been eliminated, it is no secret that the retirement of Johnny Sam, the pitching coach, and the trading of Joe Sparr, the erratic pitcher, to Montreal

have taken some of the pressure off Manager Smith's shoulders. He had been at odds with Sparr for several seasons, and there was no team work between he and Sam.

In his statement General Manager Campbell inferred that with the trouble spots gone there should be more harmony and "team work" between the front office and the playing field.

UNLESS EVENTS of the training season prove otherwise, Manager Smith plans to go with his famed one-two punch—Denny McLain and Mickey Lolich—on the mound with young Mike Kilkenny and the veteran Earl Wilson as the other two starters.

He feels confident that Cesar Guterres, the newest member on the squad, can do the job at shortstop and with the return of Dick McAuliffe at second base, Norm Cash at first and Don Wert at third, the infield will be strong enough.

There'll be no changes in the outfield where Willie Horton, Jim Northrup, Mickey Stanley and Al Kaline hold forth. To make good use of Kaline's bat, Al may see a lot of service at first base.

But, unlike other years when they headed south imbued with confidence, the Tigers this spring will take a lot of "ifs" to camp with them when they report at Lakeland on Feb. 20.



GETTING READY? That's the question Catcher Bill Freehan (right) asked Mickey Stanley during the annual Tiger dinner for the news, radio and television media. Both Tigers appeared in top shape for the start of spring training in mid-February.

(Observer photo by Vince Witek)



WHAT'S GOING ON? Plymouthite Neal (Doc) Fankell (left) and two Tigers stars Al Kaline and Tom Tresh (right) are watching activities of the annual Detroit Baseball Club party for the various media. Doc is in charge of the radio and television programs for the Tigers.

Marks Set In Swim

North Farmington High's swimming team had no trouble routing Oak Park, 82-23, in a Northwest Suburban League meet.

Tom Matousek accounted for one North Farmington record with a winning time of 4:40.4 in the 400-free style.

A second Raider mark was set by Fred Bertsch, Frank Worack, Jim Ackroyd and Matt Conklin when they won the freestyle relay in 3:49.5.

Other Raider winners: Medley relay, Dolan, Pierdon, Panosian, Smith, Time: 1:57.5.

200-yard free: Metousek, Time: 2:08.7.

Individual medley: Conklin,

Time: 2:26.8.

50-yard free: Bertsch,

Time: 24.6 seconds.

Breaststroke: Panosian,

Time: 1:06.8.

100-yard free: Worack,

Time: 58.5 seconds.

Backstroke: Dolan, Time: 1:09.8.

Early Auto

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NOW HEAR THIS. Members of the Corencville (left) and West Bloomfield High basketball teams get a few words from coaches during a time out in the game last Tuesday at Clarenceville. The strategy worked for West Bloomfield who registered an easy victory.

(Observer photo by Craig Gaffield)

RU Swimmers Sink Bentley

Victory in the freestyle relay, final event on the program, enabled Redford Union to squeeze past Bentley in a Suburban Six League swimming meet, 54-51.

Pete Kochevar of RU was a double winner-taking the individual medley and the butterfly.

Bentley produced a pair of twin winners—Blake Lawless in the 50 and 100-yard freestyle events and Jim Davis in the 200-yard and 400-yard freestyle races.

The results: Medley relay: 1-RU (Smith, Freeman, Reed, Toth), Time: 1:53.2.

200-yard free: 1-Davis (B), 2-Stolkey (RU), 3-Kuczek (B), Time: 2:00.2.

Individual medley: 1-Kochevar (RU), 2-Jakust (RU), 3-Warren (B), Time: 2:18.1.

50-yard free: 1-Lawless (B), 2-Reed (RU), 3-Ehrenfeld (B), Time: 24.5 seconds.

Diving: 1-Blackman (RU), 2-Giannetti (B), 3-Pryor (B), Butterfly: 1-Kochevar (RU), 2-Palmer (B), 3-Kuczek (B), Time: 1:02.4.

100-yard free: 1-Lawless (B), 2-Link (RU), 3-Houghton (RU), Time: 53.5 seconds.

Backstroke: 1-Powless (B), 2-Simpson (B), 3-Smith (RU), Time: 1:03.7.

400-yard free: 1-Davis (B), 2-Stolkey (RU), 3-Michalak (RU), Time: 4:14.6.

Breaststroke: 1-Jakust (RU), 2-Montes (B), 3-Free-man (RU), Time: 1:05.3.

Freestyle relay: 1-RU (Link, Srock, Toth, Houghton), Time: 3:47.9.

Pick Hal Beardsley New Farmington Coach

Harold W. (Hal) Beardsley, now head football coach at Redford High in Detroit, will be the new coach at Farmington High next fall.

Beardsley's appointment was one of four assignments announced by the district athletic department Tuesday.

Beardsley has been in coaching for 15 years. He has been Redford High's head grid mentor for the past two years and was at Western High in Detroit

for seven years before being transferred to Redford.

Beardsley replaces Richard Tyler, who was forced to resign from the Farmington post after three games last fall for health reasons.

Use Waise replaced Tyler for the remainder of the season. He was a member of the coaching staff and served as a fill-in.

Tyler, who was also head baseball coach, will move to the district's new Harrison High in the same capacity. Harrison is scheduled to open next September.

Also announced was the appointment of John Harrington as head football coach at Harrison. Harrington, an assistant at North Farmington, compiled a 55-5-2 record as boss of the Junior varsity.

Head basketball coach at Harrison will be Kenneth Dean now an assistant in basketball and football at North Farmington.

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HOMEOWNERS CORNER

by MARVIN KEMP

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