

Inspired Rocks Crush Bentley, 91-61

Crushing Livonia Bentley cagers with their best performance of the year, Plymouth High's defending Suburban Six champions definitely proved they aren't ready to give up their crown when they rolled to a 91-61 victory before an overflow crowd in the PHS gym.

Beaten by the Bulldogs, in an earlier meeting on the Bentley court, the Rocks took advantage of the familiar confines of their home floor to rack up a 50-28 margin at half-time and just kept adding to the margin.

Bentley was playing without the services of Coach Ken

Timmons for the second straight game. He was taken to St. Mary Hospital a week earlier. Athletic Director and former coach George Felles stepped into the breach but learned quickly that nothing was going to stop the red hot Plymouth quintet this time.

There were some standout individual performances but it was the great balance of the Rocks that netted the victory.

IT WAS THE generosity of Coach Capt. Pat Cunningham who managed to settle the team when it appeared the pressure might cause a crack, the brilliant rebounding of Charley Wolfe, Scott Taylor and Howie

Schryer plus the spectacular marksmanship of the five starters that spelled the difference between the clubs.

In the first duel at Bentley the Rocks had one of their coldest shooting nights. In this second clash, the same Rocks had their hottest shooting of the entire year.

Especially was this true of Schryer who connected with his first eight shots, missed the ninth and then tossed in the next two to conclude the first half with 10 fielders and one free throw for 21 of Plymouth's 50 points.

"I told the team prior to the start of the game that if they

held Tom Guilloyle to 13 or less points they would win," said an ecstatic Coach Dick Bearup in the lockerroom. "They held him to 12 and they did win."

IT WILL BE recalled that Guilloyle had the biggest scoring night ever for a Bentley basketball player when he collected 50 points a week earlier against Allen Park.

This time the tight defensive play of Capt. Cunningham kept him under control and it wasn't until late in the game that he finally broke loose for three of his five field goals.

Incidentally, the 91 points for Plymouth was a school mark, shattering the previous high of 89 against Wayne three years back.

"We must have the best team in this section with a 6-5 record," smiled Bearup. "I might point out that the victory ended Bentley's unbeaten string in the Suburban Six League and boosted us to a tie for first with a 5-1 mark. Trenton is another game back in third with 4-2."

BENTLEY STARTED OUT as if it was going to roll to an easy victory, taking a 5-2 edge after three minutes. Then

Schryer hit three times from the corner and that quickly and Plymouth was in front 8-5 and never relinquished the lead again.

Craig Rosenhal of Bentley dropped in a pair of free throws for an 8-7 count and then Scott Taylor and Schryer boosted it to 12-7. The Rocks went on to register a 21-16 edge at the quarter.

Schryer continued his hot hand in the early moments of the second period to give Plymouth a 30-24 margin. Then it was Wolfe, Schryer, Cunningham and Taylor who built

the lead to 39-26 as Bentley hit a cold spell.

The barrage continued until the end of the period when Cunningham hit twice from the free throw line to give the Rocks a 50-28 halftime bulge.

WOLFE, CUNNINGHAM and Casey Jones took over the scoring in the first three minutes of the third stanza when Bentley staged a brief surge with Lou Lovett, Dave Veach, Guilloyle and Rosenthal hitting to trim Plymouth margin to 61-40.

Plymouth stormed back with Wolfe, Taylor and Schryer adding eight quick points for a 56-43 lead at the three quarter point.

The Bulldogs never gave up but it was apparent at the start of the final period that it was a lost cause.

Casey Jones found the range with six straight points. Wolfe added two charity tosses. Schryer hit from the side and Taylor was wide open on a fast break to build an 80-55 edge.



TYPICAL SCENE at the Plymouth-Bentley high game Friday. Livonia's Harold Hoy (53) has no place to go as Plymouth's Howie Schryer (rear) and Charley Wolfe (24) close in after he grabs a rebound. The Rocks had one of their biggest nights of the year, winning 91-61. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

THEN CAME ONE of the oddest events of the evening: Casey Jones was fouled while shooting and made the basket. A technical was called on a Bentley player and Casey split the cords. He still had a one and one situation and converted on both efforts for a five point play that put Plymouth out of sight, 83-57.

Lovett, who hit from the field almost as often as Schryer, topped the Bulldogs with 22 points on 10 buckets and two fouls. Guilloyle was in double figures with 12.

Schryer wound up the evening as the Rocks' leader with 12 of 17 shots from outside and one free throw for 23. Wolfe was close behind with 23. Jones had 16. Cunningham 10 and Taylor nine.

The box score:

PLYMOUTH	G	F	P
Schryer	12	1	25
Wolfe	23	1	23
Taylor	3	1	4
Jones	5	2	18
Cunningham	5	2	10
Cruce	1	2	4
Stanley	1	2	4
Totals	55	23	51

BENTLEY	G	F	P
Guilloyle	13	3	12
Rosenhal	12	2	8
Lovett	19	2	8
Casey	10	1	2
Veach	3	1	1
Hammare	1	1	0
D. Jones	1	1	0
Watts	2	1	2
Totals	61	23	40

Battle Groves Friday For Loop Lead

'Do-Or-Die' For NF Raiders

There were three teams-Oak Park, North Farmington and Groves—who were tied at the top of the Northwest Suburban League's basketball chase.

Oak Park has slipped, being jolted by Franklin.

Now it's North Farmington and Groves...and there'll be just one left in possession of the undepicted lead after they get through with their head-on collision in the North Farmington gym Friday night.

North Farmington and Groves each stands 3-1 in league action.

North Farmington decided Glenn, 70-59, in a battle of "a slowdown" Friday night.

Groves, meantime, rushed

along with a 78-58 victory over Thurston.

"THERE'S NO question, this will be the big game of the season, the way things have developed," said Coach Dick Wilson of North Farmington.

"Sure, it won't decide the title right off the bat, but the winner figures to be sitting in a very good shape with a game lead and only three conference contests remaining."

Glenn made matters difficult for North Farmington. It wasn't until after the final 45 seconds that North Farmington was able to pull away into a safe lead.

Glenn went out in front 11, in the first quarter when

Steve Brown led the way with seven points and Tim Harlow tossed in six.

But North Farmington came back with a big second period to take a 23-26 halftime bulge when Craig Dhue had seven points to pace the fireworks.

THE THIRD PERIOD was pretty much all Glenn as the Westland team knotted matters at 43-43 when Brown pumped in eight more.

But North Farmington finally gained the lead for keeps late in the third period and locked it up when Tim Driggs sank three free throws and Dhue two more in the last minute.

Rick Herpich had eight

points and Ken Kilka seven for the Raiders in their last-period outbreak.

Herpich wound up with 16 points, Kilka 14, Dhue 12 and Mahalic 10 as North Farmington enjoyed good balance.

Glenn also had four men in double figures, topped by Brown's 18 and Joe McKay's 16.

A 24-15 SECOND period helped make things easy for Groves against Thurston. Also some brilliant scoring and rebounding by Scott Love, who tallied 31 points and pulled down a Groves record of 31 grabs off the boards.

Thurston had problems find-

ing the range. Only 17% of the Townshippers' shots went in.

"That was the big reason we lost," said Coach Mike Pasternak.

After the second period, the teams played on fairly even terms.

Tom Rex was the top scorer for the winners with 16 points. Jeff Gilten had 14, Paul Hayes 11. Pat Woelke nine and John Keenan nine for Thurston.

The box score:

GLENN	F	P
Brown	18	3
Harlow	7	6
McKay	16	6
Sran	0	0
Wysskibicki	0	0
Demaray	0	0
Totals	41	19

N. FARMINGTON	F	P
Mahalic	10	2
Dhue	12	4
Talia	4	4
Gilmour	4	12
White	2	5
Driggs	2	5
Totals	26	38

It's West - Cherry Hill In Game Of The Week

Take note, Hal Schram of the Tree Press.

Looking for the "game-of-the-week" in suburban high school basketball circles?

You don't have to hunt very far. Just pick Cherry Hill at Garden City West Friday night. You can't go wrong.

LOOK AT WHAT'S in store: 1-West had an 11-0 record, starting the week which included a Tuesday night rematch with arch rival Garden City East.

2-West stands 10-0 in the defense of its Tri Rivers League title.

3-As for Cherry Hill, this team is 9-1 in the league and 10-1 overall. It's only loss came at the hands of West, 63-51, earlier in the season in the Cherry Hill gym.

4-Oh, yes, your friends over at the Detroit News rank West sixth and Cherry Hill 10th in their state Class A ratings.

5-This will be another opportunity for West's great Rick Drezwitz to show how good he is.

DREWITZ HAD another of his sparkling efforts Friday night when West turned back Riverside, 72-54.

Drezwitz, a cinch for all-star and maybe even All America honors, tossed in 39 points and nailed 21 rebounds against Riverside.

But what he did in the second period alone had to be the deciding factor in the game.

West held only an 18-16 lead after the first quarter.

By halftime, the margin swelled to 47-27, when Drezwitz personally hit eight out of eight from the field and notched one free throw for 17 points... compared to 11 points

in the period for the entire Riverside team.

"WE CHANGED to a combination offense and that helped us in the second period," said West Coach Chris Babler.

Babler also hailed the contributions of Bobby Kobelia and Jerry Gutowski, a pair of subs who helped tremendously when two regulars ran into early foul troubles.

Gary Nustead was the only other West player to score in double figures. He had 14.

Dennis Leszczynski and John Rutler each had five and Guzowski four for the winners.

Patriots Finally End Slump

Take heart, ladies and gentlemen...and boys and girls.

Take heart from the story of the Franklin High basketball team.

The Livonians had lost their first 10 games of the season. Now they found themselves matched with Oak Park, one of the powers in the Northwest Suburban League.

On paper, it looked like defeat No. 11 was in the works for Franklin.

But when the night was over, the scoreboard flashed: FRANKLIN 62, OAK PARK 51.

in turn capitalized on its own charity shots.

The Livonians were called for only seven charities all evening which gave Oak Park just eight chances.

The Parkers canned eight.

IN CONTRAST, Franklin

paraded to the foul line 24 times and dropped in 20.

"It sure was a big improvement over the week before when free throws beat us," said Visser. "We shot 100 free throws a night getting ready for Oak Park. It paid off."

Larry Sherman's 21 points topped the losers.



JUST LIKE THEIR pro counterparts, the prep hockey players mix it up when battling in close quarters. An unidentified Assumption High winger does a bit of shoving trying to break away from a Stevenson Wings' defenseman during Monday's twin bill at the Ford Field Arena. Assumption blanked the Wings, 6-0; and Notre Dame nipped the Stevenson Bruins, 3-2, in the nightcap. (Observer photo by Craig Gaffield)

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