

Farmington Storms Past Rocks

Sharpshooters Paul White and Randy Cleveland led Farmington to an 84-76 non-league basketball victory over Plymouth Tuesday. The Falcons soon becoming the first team this season to score more than 71 points against the Rocks.

White, who set an on-game Farmington record with 45 points against Pontiac Northern only four nights earlier, got 33 at Plymouth, while Cleveland added 26. They were the only Falcons in double figures.

Charley Wolfe set the pace for PHS with 23 and Howie Schryer picked up 22, but Farmington's control of the game was evident from the start.

Farmington (84)	G	FM	FT	P
White	12	9	11	23
Wolfe	12	4	8	23
Narowski	2	4	8	8
Kaplan	2	4	8	8
Chapman	2	1	2	5
Cleveland	11	8	11	26
Kibbey	2	4	8	8
Totals	43	38	52	120

Score by quarters: Farmington 18 21 20 25-84; Plymouth 18 22 20 25-76

boars and pressing tactics combined to leave the Rocks with an 8-7 record for the season. The Falcons are 7-8.

WITHIN ITS OWN leagues, however, Plymouth went into the present weekend tied with Bentley for the Suburban Six lead at 7-1, while Farmington stood 5-3 in Inter Lakes Conference play.

The lead changed hands seven times Tuesday, and the score was tied on eight occasions before Farmington took over for keeps at 47-45 midway in the third quarter.

Plymouth kept command in the first half with a 40-29 edge, but Cleveland came up with nine second half baskets to push the Falcons in front.

Successive fourth period goals by Scott Taylor, Pat Cunningham and Casey Jones pushed Plymouth within one point at 63-62, and the Rocks later trailed by only three with 68 seconds left to play. However, Farmington rallied both times to hold its lead.

In the final minute, with the Rocks challenging as they lagged on the short end of a 77-74 count, Dan Steinko and Cleveland combined for five straight Farmington points to seal the verdict.

The summaries: 290 medley relay: Won by R. Smith, Jakust, Reed, Kiechwart. Time 1:47.9. RU varsity record.

200 freestyle - won by Stokey (RU); 2, Rook (P); 3, Houghton (RU); 4, LeClair (P) Time 2:07.7

200 individual medley: Won by Wendel (F); 2, Charles (RU); 3, Freeman (RU); 4, Erb (P). Time 2:15.9.

50 freestyle: Won by Finley (P); 2, LeClair (P); 3, Lind (RU); 4, Toth (RU). Time: 24.3

Diving: Won by Leggett (P); 2, Blackman (RU); 3, Mogle (RU).

Did NFL Investigators Report McLain Activities In 1968?

It could have been worse. One of the most interesting bits of information that came to light during the past week in connection with the suspension of Denny McLain is the fact that the "off-the-field activities" of the Tigers right-hander were reported to the Baseball Commissioner's office by the National Football League two years ago.

For some years past the National Football League has employed a staff of investigators to keep a watchful eye on the players. And, so the story goes, these investigators came upon Denny's activities.

THESE EXTRA CURRICULAR activities were reported to Gen. William D. Eckert, then the High Commissioner of Baseball, but no action was taken.

Gen. Eckert, who was dubbed "The Unknown Soldier" when he took over the Commissioner's office, didn't serve very long.

The club owners charged him with being lax and unimaginative and relieved him of his duties to pave the way for the appointment of Bowie Kuhn, the present commissioner.

Had Gen. Eckert moved when the football officials informed him of McLain's connections, it is possible that the action would have been taken in the spring of 1968.

It could have meant the banning of McLain at that time, the loss of his 31 victory season and possibly cost the Tigers the pennant.

Detroit would not have known the wild turmoil of the World Series and a lot of other things never would have happened.

So, even with the loss of McLain now, things could have been worse.

400 freestyle-won by Stolkey (RU); 2, LeClair (P); 3, Rick (RU); 4, Michalak (RU). Time 4:24.3.

100 breaststroke-won by Jakust (RU); 2, Kindree (P); 3, Kovach (P); 4, Freeman (RU). Time 1:58.8.

400 freestyle relay-won by Plymouth (Erb, McKeon, Norman, Emerick). Time 3:48.2.



Grace Luke, a Southfield housewife who carries a 133 average in the Bowlerettes League at Southfield Bowl, fired the best shot of her short bowling career Wednesday afternoon - but didn't see it.

Taking her regular turn at the foul line she was keeping pace with her average when she almost mobbed by the others in the league.

Then the howl went up - her teammates screamed and she was almost mobbed by the others in the league.

What happened was that her ball rolled far to the left, hit the 4-7 and these two pins slid over the pin apron to knock over the 6-10.

SID GOLD turned in an unusual series in the Tuesday Senior House League at Oak Park Lanes. He started with a 212 then followed with identical games of 211 and missed registering a triple.

Now the question arose—was he too good in the first game or did he falter in the last two?

There was no question about Bob Asco's series in the Junior House League. He pounded out a 275 in a 685 series, one of the best of the year in the league.

THE KEENEST competition of the year is expected this month in the finals of the Michigan Major Association Tournament at Mayflower Lanes in Redford.

This is a two-day affair that has attracted the leaders of the area and the finals will be bowled late Sunday afternoon.

WITH THE PASSING of Melody Lanes in Southfield is going for a new bank building another establishment in the area.

Monte-Carlo Lanes has taken over the Farmington site. Ery Watson will remain as the manager.

THERE SEEMS to be no stopping the ladies when it comes to converting spits.

Doris McBride added her name to the list in the Girl PTA league at Farmington Lanes when she topped the 4-7-10.

And Esther Dorset fashioned a 218 in a 499 series to take top honors.

JULIE McGRATH showed the way in the Noon Classic at Farmington Lanes when she posted a 243 in 631 and Char Agnew contributed a 581 that included two games in double century figures.

Mike Flynn paced the Teen Classic with a 203 in 577 and Ken Staten topped the junior boys with a 266, while Bob Ritzo added a 200.

In the Prep Girls circuit Colleen Flynn was high with a 184.

JIM MACOMBER registered the highest series in Observeland during the week when he linked games of 246, 278 and 258 for a 781 - high mark of the season in the Westland Bowk Senior House League.

Chuck Ohonen also had a 278, but faltered in his other two games and settled for a 658 and finished third behind Macomber and Bob Cole posted a 720 on games of 247, 245 and 228.

Hugh O'Neil was high in the Classic with a 699 on games of 228-241 and 228.

Mike Frushko came through again in the West and Mixed circuit with games of 190, 231 and 201 for 622.

THEY HAD a battle royal in the Wonderland Classic over Pam Hedgewood finally landed on top with a 740, while Ron Shapp added a 724 and John Wodarski contributed a 713.

WALLY WADYCH, a 186 average bowler at Plymouth Bowl, and then standing on their seats this week when he opened with eight in a row. Then he faltered to finish with a 278 and a 630 series.

THE JUNIORS are setting a hot pace at Merri-Bowl. The top boy this week was 17-year-old Roger Peters who had games of 228, 178 and 246 for a 650.

in the Iron Workers James Agnew rolled 221 to beat out Lou Goode by two pins.

The star of the week, however, was Bernard Oleskowitz, teenager with a 118 average, who opened his series with eight strikes in a row before he ran into trouble and settled for a 233.

Darlene Cook showed the way in the Ladies Classic with games of 238 and 239 in 607, while Evelyn Hubble posted a 214-212-216.

And Dave Chaban showed the way in the Monday Night Classic with a single game of 267.



George Waskin

observing sports

One hears it frequently, especially when he's connected with a loser, in sports: "There's always tomorrow; there's always next year."

We've heard it repeatedly during the past winter in our travels with the Pistons. The remark was uttered one fine evening in New York...another night in Atlanta, Ga...another night in Seattle, Wash...still another evening in a place called Omaha, Neb.

People mean well when they approach you and bellow: "There's always tomorrow or next year."

What's behind their thinking is obvious. They're merely trying to soften the tortures you must bring through with a loser.

The only time the remark is altered somewhat is when you're down to a seventh game in the World Series...or a seventh game in the Stanley Cup or hockey playoffs...or the finals of the state high school basketball or any other tournament.

Then they'll say: "There's no tomorrow."

FROM WHERE WE SIT, this business about "There's always tomorrow or next season" is irritating.

After all, there can't be a tomorrow, before you have today.

And what happens today often is contingent in a big way on what happens tomorrow. This holds true in every aspect of life - not just in athletics.

Let's take the high school students who are in the 10th or 11th grade. He or she goes on an exam in physics or history today. It could mean that when tomorrow rolls around, the college he or she wishes to enter will say:

"Sorry, friend, those grades you had back as a 10th and 11th grader aren't what we are looking for."

Or, what about the baseball coach or manager in the spring?

Because of changes in the schedule, caused by the weather, the coaches finds his team faced with back-to-back league games.

The first one is against a so-called lesser light...the next one against the team you have to beat for the title. Or, at least, that's what you think.

Even though your ace pitcher is set to face the first foe, you say to yourself: "We'll save him for tomorrow. We'll use the other guy...maybe he can surprise 'em and come through."

Maybe, too, as the manager, you elect to rest another one or two of your starters.

Well, of course, you face the lesser light team and get creamed. Now, tomorrow comes, and the game that was supposed to be so big isn't.

In addition, you've lost some of the momentum your team has had.

That's why we marvel the managers who say...and then do what they say...take each game as they come up. Who's ever done to pitch or play today...plays, regardless of the opponent.

The same approach in business can make a difference also.

The merchant, who complains about bad business and figures that tomorrow will solve his problems, generally finds that tomorrow becomes today and nothing happens. Business still stinks.

But the merchant who today tries to do something often discovers that it pays off when tomorrow rolls around.

All of which gets me back to the Pistons for just a few sentences. The Pistons were having their problems...big problems...much of the season. They could have sat back and said: "Well, let's wait until the season ends and we'll try and do something."

But it was decided that waiting could be dangerous and harmful.

So deals were made that sent Happy Hairston on his way...then Walt Ballamy and Eddie Miles.

GRANTED, THE PISTONS aren't world beaters yet, but if you've watched them of late, you have to agree - however partial you are - that they are playing extremely better basketball.

The departures of Hairston, Ballamy and Miles appeared to have helped, instead of hampered.

And the team now has some extra draft picks available which could strengthen the Pistons even more for the next season.

You sense the same approach to operations in the Red Wings.

Their management doesn't sit and figure that tomorrow will solve any headaches. By acting now...by acting today...life and winning has improved immeasurably for the Wings.

And, the Tigers...well, they seem to have some unasked for headaches...so let's not jump at them for the moment.

And, as for you and me...Today is the biggest day of all.

After all...who can be certain that THERE WILL BE A TOMORROW FOR ANY OF US.

Charities Pay For Raiders

North Farmington, sharpening up for its last last ditch drive to at least tie Birmingham Groves for the Northwest Suburban League title, breezed past Royal Oak Donders, 69-58, in a non-leaguer.

After Donders took a 15-13 lead in the first quarter, the Raiders went in the first quarter, the Raiders went in the first quarter, the Raiders went in the first quarter.

North Farmington outscored Donders, 20-11, in the second period and 16-7 in the third as Dondero, who tossed in 26 points to lead the winners, was the big gun.

Dondero dominated, 25-18, in the final period, but had too much of a gap to overcome.

DONDERO HAD a 23-20 edge in baskets during the game, but North Farmington clicked on 29 out of 41 free throws to gain the verdict.

Dondero went to the line 23 times and dropped in only 12.

Mahalic and Ken Kilkka were the big shooters for North Farmington from the charity marker.

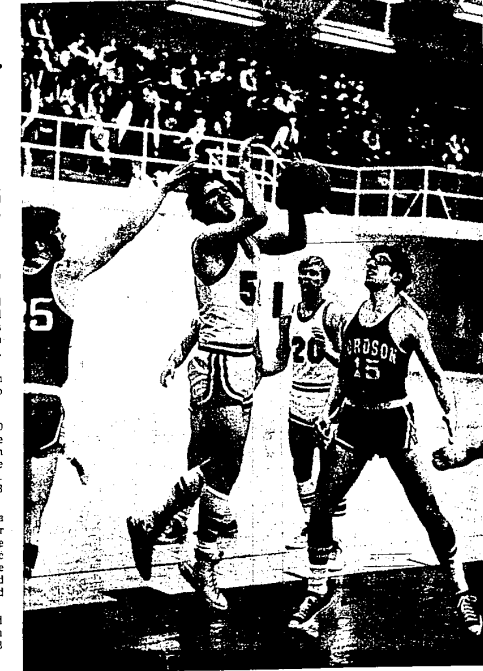
Mahalic clicked on 10 of 15 tries while Kilkka went six for six and also added five baskets to wind up with 16 points.

North Farmington's also had a five for five foul night from Driggs, who finished with 15 points.

Eagles Post 7th Victory In Wrestling

Thurston high's wrestling team posted its seventh victory in 12 meets by downing Crestwood, 25-15.

The winners for Thurston: 110 pounds—John Wheeler. 118—Craig Bayha. 135—Tom McCrevey. 140—Dave Kroil. 146—Dave Bolman. 158—Earl Duncan. Heavyweight—Jim Wiebeck.



TRYING TO BLOCK a shot but catching the corner of the eye of Franklin's Randy Lee (50) is Fordson High's Steve Burke (25). Burke and Jim Pavle (15) closed in on Lee. The Franklin star had to leave the game for work on the eye but returned later. (Observer photo by Craig Goffield)

RU Grapplers Rip GC East

It was Redford Union over Garden City East, 29-17, in a non-league wrestling match.

Redford Union got off on the right foot when Bill Klaus won the 98-pound match on a fall. Then after Bob Barstoh took the 107-pound encounter for Jerry Wright at 185.

RU's Tony Long triumphed in the heavyweight bracket to help RU win its 11th match against four defeats.

For Metz it was his 13th win without a defeat this season.

Slow Start Is Costly To Patriots

A good start helps in basketball and Fordson had won against Franklin in a non-league battle last Tuesday.

The Dearbornites poured ahead, 20-9, in the first quarter when Franklin was held to one basket and seven free throws.

Franklin held Fordson even the rest of the way, but that wasn't enough to overhaul its foe and Fordson wound up a 64-52 victory.

The loss was the 12th against only two victories for Franklin which has played strong basketball in recent weeks, but has found a difficult time emerging a victor.

Randy Lee drilled in 17 points and Frank Kasparek 15 for Franklin.

Fordson had three men in double figures - Steve Burk with 16, Will Zion 15 and Jim Pavle 12.

Raiders Lose To Andover In Swim

Blomfield Hills Andover splashed to five pool records in routing North Farmington High's swimming team, 66-41. Andover won nine of the 11 events.

Only wins for North Farmington were scored by Bertsch in the 50-yard free style and Peterson in the 100-yard breaststroke.

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