

Raiders dismantle Southfield

By C.J. Risak
staff writer

Someone put this ad in the paper: "Wanted — a challenge." If there's anything North Farmington's girls' basketball team needs right now, that's it. The Raiders certainly weren't pressed Tuesday in a 53-22 demolishing of Southfield at North.

Southfield is a team down on its luck with just one win in six games. But it would have taken more than luck for the Blue Jays to overcome the superior Raiders, unbeaten in five outings this season.

girls basketball

NORTH'S LISA MUMMENT set the tone of the game in the opening minutes, swiping the ball out of Southfield hands twice and scoring a pair of baskets.

After nearly seven minutes of play, North's side of the scoreboard twinkled with 14 points. The Blue Jays' side was dismal in comparison — 0.

By quarter's end it was 18-2 and for all intents and purposes the mercy rule could have been invoked right then, if only the baseball/softball provision applied to basketball.

Not that Southfield didn't improve. Indeed, in the second and fourth quarters the Blue Jays battled on even terms with North. The Raiders out-

pointed them by only a 12-8 margin in the second and 7-6 in the fourth.

THAT IS WHY North coach Greg Grodzicki is looking for a team to challenge his squad.

"We really haven't been tested," the Raider coach lamented. "And when we play a weaker team, we tend to play down on their level."

Although Grodzicki didn't say so, that's precisely what happened Tuesday. The margin could have been greater than 20 points at the half (30-10).

Basford nets 25, Mercy rolls

Somebody came up to Our Lady of Mercy basketball coach Larry Baker after Tuesday night's game against Harper Woods Regina and said, "Hey, that looked like the Mercy of old."

Baker replied, "No way. We want to be better than the old Mercy. We looked sharper tonight than the old Mercy."

Old or new, it was a vintage Mercy performance. Its unrelenting man-to-man defense shut down Regina's top scorer, JoLynn Schneider. Sarah Basford returned to form, scoring 25 in Mercy's 66-53 win.

"This game was more fun than the last three games combined," Baker said, even though he acknowledged there were some tense moments.

Baker credited Mary Rosowski for stopping Schneider. Schneider scored only four points.

"JoLynn is one of the best one-on-one players in the state, and Mary stopped her. She is a threat to go inside and out. Mary stopped her from penetrating. JoLynn couldn't drive on her."

Rosowski managed to score seven points and pull down 10 rebounds in addition to her defense.

The scoring lead was handled by Basford and Annette Ruggiero. Ruggiero scored 17 to Basford's 25.

Basford hit on 11 of 11 free throws, and pulled down 10 rebounds. Ruggiero was the team's floor general, directing the offense and helping control the pace of the game.

As a team, Mercy was 24 of 25 from the line.

Mercy broke open a relatively close game with a 20-12 spurt in the third quarter. Terri Ford came off the bench

in the third quarter to score six points quickly.

"Cudos go out to Terri, Amy (DeMatia) and Bev White for their work on the boards. They, along with Sarah and Mary, helped control the boards."

Mercy is now 5-1 on the year, 1-0 in the Catholic League.

Churchill 63, Farmington 56: The Falcons put up another mighty fight, but came up short.

They raced out to a 20-12 first-quarter lead and maintained a 31-30 lead at the half. But Churchill took command with a 16-5 spread in the third quarter.

"We played exceptionally well in the first half," said Falcon coach Bruce Brown. "They tried to trap and press us, and we took advantage of that."

In the second half, they fell back into a zone and forced us to shoot from

the outside. We just couldn't score from our half-court offense."

Alyse Fortune scored 25 points for the Falcons to lead all scorers. Rhonda Lancaster scored 15.

Farmington pulled to within four in the fourth quarter but couldn't connect on freethrows down the stretch. The Falcons made just eight of 22 from the line. They missed seven in the fourth quarter.

"We are proud. We worked very hard, and Churchill is a fine team. This was a fun game, and either team could have won," Brown said.

WL Central 69, Harrison 31: The woees continue for the low-flying Hawks.

Playing without starters Karen Sklar and Michelle Wise, both out with the flu, coach Gary Sine was left with just six players to start the game.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Amy Austin (32) throws in two of her 14 points against Southfield Tuesday night.

Lemanski named

Greg Lemanski, a defensive middle guard on the Albion College football team, has been named the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association's defensive player of the week.

Lemanski, a graduate of Farmington High School, made 10 tackles, two pass interceptions and broke up two other pass plays in Albion's surprising 35-17 win over Wabash Saturday.

Lemanski, a 6-foot, 205-pound senior co-captain, is one of eight Farmington area residents on the Albion team.

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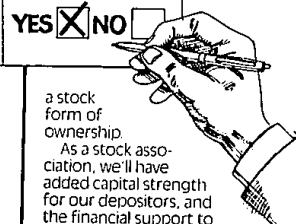
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