

## Sports

Chris McCosky, Brad Emons editor/591-2312



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(F10)



Jim Hughes

## County cable: A big winner

LET'S HEAR IT for cable television. As if college football on Saturday, professional football on Sunday and Monday Night Football — which often has Special Editions on Thursday night — wasn't enough, now we have more football and other televised sports to occupy more idle time than one could accrue in a lifetime.

Cable television no longer is a thing of the future. It is now. Since it's a big money business, I'd like a piece of the pie.

What I present to you are some new TV shows which will air on my station. Now, with apologies to Ted Turner, I present some pilot episodes and feature presentations which will appear on Jim's Unique Network Corp. (call letters JUNC).

ADAMS 12: Rochester Adams football team attempts to win a game by putting one extra man on the field.

DYNASTY: Bloomfield Hills Andover girls' swimming team requests more room in school's trophy case for state championship trophies. No argument from boys' basketball coach Bob Shoemaker.

EIGHT ISN'T ENOUGH: Rochester football coach Dick Ulrich vows to win nine games next year after back-to-back 8-1 seasons.

FAME: Towering twins from Troy take their basketball talents to Brother Rice.

THAT'S INCREDIBLE: Greg Sliwa coaches the Southfield boys' basketball team to a third straight final-four appearance.

FANTASY ISLAND: Football coaches across the state, in an effort to improve their chances for a state playoff berth, schedule Brother Rice.

FALCON CREST: Birmingham Groves reaches the summit of its athletic history by knocking off city rival Seaholm in the last football game of the season to qualify for the state playoffs.

FALCON CREST II: Rochester's football team avenges its only defeat in two years by defeating Groves in the first round of playoffs.

THE TWILIGHT ZONE: Lahser coach Mike Rado delivers the best high school swimming times to the Eccentric office before deadline.

ONE LIFE TO LIVE: Rochester's Ed Wright — who coached three sports during one season — resigns his softball position to concentrate on boys' basketball.

HAPPY DAYS AGAIN: Bloomfield Hills Lahser boys' soccer team, once the dominant force in Oakland County, wins the state championship. Lahser won by forfeit over Athens because the Red Hawks were cheering at a girls' basketball game.

LET'S MAKE A DEAL: Athens girls' basketball coach Joe Clinton, tired of emotional games with West Bloomfield, merges his team with Mike Greene's Lakers. The new team — the West Athens Red Lakers — win the state championship with a 94-12 victory over Farmington Mercy.

20/20: Tampa Bay Kicker Bill Capece — who discovers he has one year of high school eligibility left — uses his extra year at Southfield-Lathrup. Capece misses an extra point with 20 time left as the Chargers tie Southfield High, 20-20.

JOKER'S WILD: Joe Clinton entertains reporters with his repertoire of off-the-wall quotes.

YOUNG & THE RESTLESS: Troy High basketball coach Larry Archey tries to figure out a way to be competitive with one senior player.

THE INCREDIBLE HULK: Country Day's Chuck Adams and Brother Rice's Matt Diggins square off in the Championship of the Oakland County heavyweight mud-wrestling tournament.

THE A-TEAMS: Avondale, Adams, Andover and Athens form their own athletic league with Adrian, Alpena, Armada and Allendale.

KNIGHT RYDER: Brother Rice football star Paul Ryder transfers to Bloomfield Hills Lahser.

THREE'S COMPANY: North Farmington's gymnastics team — so loaded with talent — uses just three competitors in dual meets and still wins the Northwest Suburban League IUC.

ST. ELSEWHERE: Following in the footsteps of Catharine Central and DeLaSalle, Orchard Lake St. Mary's moves to another building, but nobody knows where.

ABC MOVIE (Absence of Alice): Farmington Harrison girls' track team begins rebuilding year after Alice Short graduates.

NBC MOVIE (Shaft): Farmington Harrison football team goes undefeated, but misses out on the state playoffs.

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## Kratt sizzles, Falcons win

By Marty Budner  
staff writer

It was six days before Christmas, and all through the Seaholm gym, there were just a few fans stirring, especially the ones in the white-and-blue trim.

For out on the hardwood, there for everyone to see, the Falcons from Farmington High had just garnered their first basketball victory.

Farmington flew into Birmingham Tuesday night for its last game before the Christmas break and the Falcons escaped with a 48-43 overtime win. It was the best possible present the previously winless Falcons could have received.

"It feels real nice . . . we needed it," said Falcon coach Rich Roy, whose team is now 1-3 overall.

"We were 0-3, but we had played two fairly good games against Northville and Stevenson. If we were 0-4 going into Christmas, it would have been hard to motivate them (the players).

"Now, at least, they'll have a little more desire. It's not a league win, but it certainly makes up for some of the other games we've had this year."

SEAHOLM actually had a chance to win the game in regulation time.

Forward Rob Bosart made the front half of a one-and-one free throw situation with 15 seconds left, but his second shot bounced off the front of the rim. The Maples got the rebound, but couldn't get a decent shot off and the first four quarters ended 41-41.

It was all Falcons in overtime. Sophomore guard Bruce Kratt scored two quick baskets on break-aways to give the Falcons a 45-41 lead. He followed those easy hoops by making two critical free throws in a one-

and-one situation with just 20 seconds left.

Fellow guard Tim Carruthers made another free throw for a 48-41 lead before Seaholm's Scott Russell scored a lay-up as the buzzer sounded.

"It was not a stylish game, but I thought both teams played aggressive defense," said Roy. "We changed our lineup a bit, and Tim Berry gave us a good lift defensively."

Seaholm had a 10-5 lead after the first quarter, but Farmington rallied in the second quarter and took a 20-17 lead at the intermission.

The Maples played their best ball of the night early in the third quarter. They outscored Farmington 14-4 to take a 31-24 advantage. The Falcons, however, trimmed the margin to 35-33 entering the fourth quarter.

FARMINGTON, which outbounced Seaholm in the game, 37-19, outscored the Maples by two points in the last quarter to send the game into overtime.

"We were not ready to play. We have to work at being emotionally ready to play from the opening tip-off," said Maples coach Dan Hickey. "We're not good enough to just show up and win."

"The game was kind of indicative of how we've played so far this year. We've been inconsistent. We played well at the start of the second half but then we became lackadaisical."

"We're young and inexperienced, but we'll be back. This team has some character."

Kratt and Carruthers led all scorers with 14 points each. Berry added nine for the Falcons, who made 10 of 15 foul shots while Seaholm canned just five of 15.

The Maples' leading scorers — all with eight points — were Dave Kuhn, Tony Furber and Tim Jemal. Seaholm is now 2-4 for the season.

## OU cagers fall in last second

By C.J. Rileak  
staff writer

The last 10 minutes of Tuesday's Oakland University-Northern Michigan basketball game couldn't have been planned better if OU coach Lee Frederick had written the script.

Until the final three seconds, that's when Kirk Wyers snatched the ball off the floor under his own basket and banked it in for the winning basket in a thrilling 67-66 Northern victory at OU.

Things looked good for the Pioneers — until Wyers' basket. They rallied to take the lead in the final minute when Rob Skinner swiped Kevin Latimer's inbound pass with 27 seconds remaining. Skinner fired a pass to Mike Mohn, who was fouled by Ken Webb. Mohn hit both free throws and OU was up by one.

Northern called time out with 15 seconds left. When the Wildcats inbounded the ball, Frederick knew what they would try to do.

"It was perfect," the OU coach said of his team's defense. The ball went to Kip Taylor at the high post. The Pioneers converged on him. According to NMU coach Glenn Brown, Taylor's options were to either shoot or loop a pass to Wyers.

WYERS was covered. So Taylor fired up a brick that banged off the backboard. Just what Frederick wanted.

Walt Dixon, a transfer student from University of Detroit playing his first game for OU, grabbed the rebound. But the ball was stripped away and, in the scramble under the boards, Wyers came up with it and scored the final points.

"We did everything right," Frederick said of the defense, "except hold onto the ball. We just didn't make the last play."

That final few seconds put to waste a beautiful Pioneer rally that carried them from 11 points down at the 10:28 mark to a point ahead with 7:23 to play. Harold Davis had five points and Mohn had four in the 14-2 surge, but a

smothering man-to-man defense that forced four Northern turnovers kept the rally.

Wyers, who plagued OU with his superb inside play, hit three straight baskets to put Northern back in front by five, 67-62. A pair of three-point plays, the first by Mohn and the second by Davis, allowed OU to regain the lead by a point with 4:14 left and from then on it was anybody's ballgame.

THREE FACTORS kept the Pioneers from ever taking control of the game: a lack of rebounding, Northern's man-to-man defense and Chris Howze's ineffectiveness.

Howze, OU's leading scorer, was plagued by illness and it resulted in a sub-par shooting night. He hit just three of 14 shots and finished with six points.

Northern jumped to a 34-30 halftime lead, largely due to a 21-7 advantage on the boards. For the game, the Wildcats outbounced OU, 39-18.

"That surprised us," Brown said of his team's superior rebounding. "I thought it would be hard for us, they have such great leapers."

THE PLAY of Wyers, however, was not all that surprising.

"He's played well the last three games," Brown said. "He utilizes every ounce of the talent he has. He plays excellent around the boards."

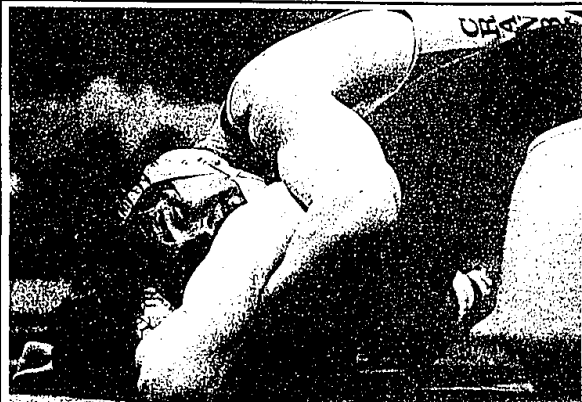
"He was ill, too. He threw up at halftime."

It was OU that felt sick about Wyers. He finished with 28 points, 16 in the second half, hitting 11 of 12 field goals. He also grabbed 11 rebounds, including five off the offensive boards.

Webb added 15 points and Mark Simon had 10.

Mohn's 25 points and five rebounds were both highs for OU. The senior forward hit 11 of 19 shots from the field. Davis added 15 points, including six of nine field goals, and Skinner dished out seven assists and had four steals to go with six points.

The loss was the Pioneers' second in eight games. Northern stands at 5-2.



North Farmington wrestler Brian Hood (bottom) gets taken down by Cranbrook's Kelly Lamb in the 165-pound champion-

ship match in last weekend's Oakland County wrestling meet.

## County's best Rice matmen take prize

By Jim Hughes  
staff writer

The new, two-day Oakland County Wrestling Meet format suits Brother Rice coach John Majors just fine. Now, he doesn't have to worry about his kids losing in the first round by virtue.

Since the inception of the Friday-Saturday system last year, Brother Rice is able to compete. In earlier years, wrestling Warriors missed the county meet because of first semester final examinations.

The Warriors, competing in the meet for only the second year, placed third overall with 122½ points. Defending champ Hazel Park won the title with 225 points after final competition Saturday at Troy High, and Lake Orion was second with 197½.

"I'm overly pleased with the way we wrestled," Majors said. "It was our best finish, but we've never been in it before because of school finals. Before (the two-day format) we'd weigh in, go take finals and void our first round matches."

"BUT I'M very happy with the way the team performed. The whole team contributed. A lot of the kids earned points the first day as well as the second day. I was hoping to finish somewhere in the top 10. I thought beforehand it might be the bottom half, but the kids really came through for us."

Last year, Rice placed 15th. Rochester, another

school which had its best team showing, tied Walled Lake Western for fifth place with 100½ points. The Falcons had never placed in the top 10, nor surpassed 100 points.

"For us to be in the top five is very complimentary," Rochester coach Max Hesse said. "We had the third highest number of people advance to the second day than any other team."

"We're still young, but we're coming back. I'm really impressed with the kids. It was an outstanding performance."

Rochester, which started the season with an 8-2 record, has reeled off eight wins in nine meets, and was second to Troy High in the Bloomfield Hills Lahser Invitational. Its losses — to Southfield-Lathrup, Pontiac Northern and Warren Lincoln — came in a span of 10 days.

AS USUAL, the story of the county meet was all Hazel Park as the Vikings sent six wrestlers to the finals, and five were crowned champions.

Todd Snooks of Brother Rice, Scott Isaacson of Lahser, Bill Rose of Lathrup and Kelley Lamb of Cranbrook were champions from the Observer & Eccentric's Oakland County coverage area.

Snooks won the 119-pound title when he defeated Clarkson's Greg Ellis, 14-2. Along the way, Snooks

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