

Sports

Chris McCosky, Brad Emons editor/591-2312

Monday, March 5, 1984 O&E



(F1C)

Falcons finish No. 3 as Rocks rule pool

By C.J. Rhaak
staff writer

Winning keeps coaches happy. Ever notice that? Since that's why they're in the coaching business — to win and therefore to be happy — it shouldn't be so surprising.

Chuck Olson was a happy coach Friday night. His Plymouth Salem swim squad had just won its second consecutive Western Lakes Activities Association (WLAAs) title. But his championship was a bit different.

"Last year it was real enjoyable, from a coach's standpoint," Olson said moments after his Rock team clinched the title with a winning performance in the 400-yard freestyle relay. "There were a lot more gray hairs this year."

THOSE "GRAY HAIRS" can be directly traced to the closeness of this year's meet. Salem won the title by a slim 14.5 point margin, ahead of Livonia Stevenson. Farmington finished third, 54.5 points behind Stevenson, with Northville fourth, Livonia Churchill fifth and Plymouth Canton sixth.

Four league records fell, two courtesy of Stevenson, and there were two double-winners in individual events. Salem and Stevenson each had three wins, while Farmington and Churchill had two apiece.

"We had a real good prelims and finals," Olson said. "Stevenson got real tough tonight after the diving."

"But our guys came through in the clutch, really. It's called intense."

IF BEING INTENSE means winning, then Erik Kleimsmith was on top of the intense list. The Salem senior won two events himself — the 100-yard (49.94) and 200-yard (1:47.35) freestyles — and anchored the Rocks' triumphant 400 free relay team of Bob Bowling, Jon Cain and Greg Wolf (5:21.83).

Kleimsmith's time in the 100 free broke his own WLAAs record of 49.19 set in this year's preliminaries.

Stevenson's Kurt Hein enjoyed a fantastic meet that might have been even better. Hein teamed with Kevin

Everhart, Dennis Ward and Steve Toarmina to win the 200 medley relay (1:40.21), shattering the previous record of 1:43.13 set last year by Stevenson.

Hein later got his name in the league record books by splashing to first in the 50 free (22.12), lowering the WLAAs mark of 22.51 to set a year ago.

The Spartan swimmer later came within an eyelash of a third victory, but was edged by Farmington's Alec Campbell in the 100 butterfly. Campbell was clocked at 52.92 to Hein's 52.95.

CAMPBELL was the meet's only other double winner in individual events. He was an easy victor in the 200 individual medley (2:01.12), finishing six seconds ahead of his nearest competitor.

The third Stevenson champion was Everhart in the 100 backstroke (57.68), who finished a mere .12 off his own WLAAs mark.

Churchill's Vic Valente scored 381.55 points to bust the league record in diving, set a year ago by Salem's Todd Riedel (362.25). Churchill's second league champ was Eric Hutchinson, who edged teammate Eric Baird for the 100 breaststroke title. Hutchinson was clocked at 1:03.88 to Baird's 1:03.93.

Harrison's Kirk Radatz captured top league honors in the 500 free (4:56.48).

The win kept Salem's WLAAs record perfect. The Rocks have never been beaten in dual meet or league meet competition.

swimming

WESTERN LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION SWIM MEET RESULTS

Team results: 1. Plymouth Salem (PS), 341; 2. Livonia Stevenson (LS), 234.5; 3. Farmington (F), 112; 4. Northville (N), 153.5; 5. Livonia Churchill (LC), 146; 6. Plymouth Canton (PC), 88.8; 7. Farmington Harrison (FH), 41.8; 8. Livonia Bentley (LB), 37; 9. Walled Lake Central (WLC), 34.10; Walled Lake Western (WLW), 18.

100-yard medley relay: 1. Stevenson (Dennis Ward, Kevin Everhart, Kurt Hein, Steve Toarmina), 1:40.21; 2. Farmington (Alec Campbell, Erik Kleimsmith, Greg Wolf, Bob Bowling), 1:44.97; 3. Canton (Dennis Ward, Kevin Everhart, Kurt Hein, Steve Toarmina), 1:44.97; 4. Northville (Erik Kleimsmith), 1:47.35; 5. Kirk Radatz (PS), 1:50.32; 6. Greg Wolf (PS), 1:51.81; 7. Darius Mikalonis (N), 1:53.81; 8. Jon Cain (PS), 1:55.12; 9. Roger Coeders (LS), 1:54.82.

200-yard individual medley: 1. Alec Campbell (F), 2:01.12; 2. Greg Wolf (PS), 2:01.12; 3. Drew Baird (LC), 2:07.45; 4. Steve Toarmina (LS), 2:08.96; 5. Mike Harwood (PS), 2:09.53; 6. Scott Anderson (PS), 2:10.00.

50-yard freestyle: 1. Kurt Hein (LS), 22.12 (new league record); 2. Bob Bowling (PS), 22.33; 3. Kevin Everhart (LS), 22.24; 4. Fred Coorville (F), 22.31; 5. Scott Sargyus (LC), 22.78; 6. Eric Davis (F), 23.00.

Diving: 1. Vic Valente (LC), 381.55 points (new

league record); 2. Andy Flower (PC), 371.00; 3. Jeff Pawlowski (N), 334.00; 4. Jeff Metz (N), 233.75; 5. Mike Pinesaga (F), 214.75; 6. Joel Grasley (N), 210.

100-yard butterfly: 1. Alec Campbell (F), 51.92; 2. Kurt Hein (LS), 52.95; 3. Eric Davis (F), 54.14; 4. Scott Anderson (PS), 54.34; 5. Chris Morassy (LC), 54.71; 6. Doug Buch (N), 57.44.

100-yard freestyle: 1. Erik Kleimsmith (PS), 49.94 (new league record); 2. Scott Sargyus (LC), 49.92; 3. Bob Bowling (PS), 49.94; 4. Fred Coorville (F), 50.34; 5. Eric Baird (LC), 50.72; 6. Dennis Ward (LS), 51.13.

400-yard freestyle: 1. Kirk Radatz (PS), 4:56.48; 2. Greg Wolf (PS), 5:01.92; 3. Jeff Albert (LS), 5:03.44; 4. Joe McBride (N), 5:09.27; 5. Tony Alwell (PS), 5:13.74; 6. Chris Loch (F), 5:14.64.

100-yard backstroke: 1. Kevin Everhart (LS), 57.68; 2. Jeff Balabridge (N), 58.01; 3. Mike Harwood (PS), 58.34; 4. Jay Westver (F), 58.32; 5. Greg Daska (LS), 59.05; 6. Darius Mikalonis (N), 59.16.

100-yard breaststroke: 1. Eric Hutchinson (LC), 1:03.88; 2. Eric Baird (LC), 1:03.93; 3. Tim Luce (PS), 1:04.42; 4. Joe McBride (N), 1:05.22; 5. Steve Toarmina (LS), 1:05.76; 6. Mike Detmer (LS), 1:06.72.

100-yard freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Bob Bowling, Erik Kleimsmith, Jon Cain, Greg Wolf), 5:21.82; 2. Northville, 5:28.38; 3. Churchill, 5:32.82; 4. Stevenson, 5:33.24; 5. Farmington, 5:34.28; 6. Harrison, 5:37.48.



LARRY CARLOS

North center Bob Chwalik has the ball ripped from his grasp by John Glenn's Mike Baydarlan. The Rockets routed the Raiders, 74-44.

District hoops: No fun

MARCH MADNESS could quickly turn into March Sadness for many area basketball teams this week.

This has not been a banner year for Observerland basketball. At least Observerland team is guaranteed a berth in a regional tournament. The Livonia Churchill District is comprised of five Observerland teams.

But that may be the only area team to escape district tournaments. Certainly teams like Plymouth Salem and Bishop Borgas have legitimate shots at winning their districts, as does Plymouth Canton and Catholic Central — but the odds, at this point, are stacked against them.

Let's take a look at the area hopefuls and see what kind of chance they have of tasting some March gladness. For the fun of it, let's list the teams according to their chances of escaping the district.

Livonia Stevenson: The Spartans have played great and terrible this season. They are indeed a mystery team. Luckily for them, they are in a weak district — Livonia Churchill. Even more fortunate for them, they drew a first-round bye. Churchill will offer the stiffest challenge to the Spartans. The Spartans have a wealth of talent. They can be anyone. But, if they lack a backluster, stand-around type of game they offered against Canton Wednesday, they won't beat anyone.

Plymouth Salem: The Rocks, despite losses to Canton and Churchill, are the best "team" in the area. They have, however, the task of bettering a very powerful Wayne Memorial team in the Canton district. It won't be easy. The Rocks have been deeply hurt by the ineptitude of Barry Bell. They have had to restructure their lineup and are still searching for the right combinations. This tournament is the last hurrah for seniors Rick Berberet, Erich Hietwert and Jeff Arnold. Look for them to be at the top of their game.

Bishop Borgas: The Spartans run smack-dab into Detroit Henry Ford in the first round of their district. The winner of that game tonight will most likely survive the rest of the tournament, although Redford Catholic Central is no pushover. Spartan guard Joe Gregory has averaged 21 points and nine assists this season. He is a very exciting player and, if he gets hot, he



Chris McCosky

could carry the Spartans into the Livonia Franklin regional.

Walled Lake Central: The Shamrocks have the best player in the area in John McIntyre. Mac leads the area in scoring (27.5 points), and averages 8 assists and 11 rebounds per game. And he's only a junior. Unfortunately for CC, the Chargers are Franck in the first round. The Pats ripped them two weeks ago. If Churchill survives that game, they will meet Stevenson in the semis. The district champion will most likely emerge from that game.

North Farmington: The Raiders are young and they are forever improving. After a 1-6 start, they have won eight of 11 games. Sophomore Rick Anderson has blossomed into a consistent scorer and rebounder. Junior Bob Chwalik is strong and physical inside, plus he possesses a soft shooting touch. Steve Bambach can be deadly from the perimeter and point guard Rick Pennala brings all the pieces together for Tom Negaska's team. To win the district, though, they will have to upset the host team — Southfield.

Redford Thurston: The Eagles have a great shot at getting into the Oak Park district championship game. If they do, however, they will probably have to deal with Oak Park, one of the best Class B teams in the state. That's a mighty tough assignment. Coach Gary Franck and the Eagles put together a fine season despite losing talents Greg Park and Tom Weiss from last year's NSL title team.

Westland John Glenn: The Rockets, Northwest Suburban League champs,

are in the Canton district and have Salem in the first round. It's a tough draw, but the Rockets are very capable of beating the Rocks. Mario Granulis, Mike Baydarlan and Jeff Hawley have steadily improved throughout the season. While many teams have faded toward the end of the season, Gordie Davis' crew seems to be hitting stride right now. If they do get by Salem, they will have to beat rival Wayne — a team that has defeated the Rockets twice this season.

Plymouth Canton: The Chiefs are enjoying their most successful season. Unfortunately, they drew Wayne in the first round of the district. Still, if the Zebras don't come to play, Mark Bennett, Gary Thomas and company will beat them. Just ask Salem and Stevenson. The Chiefs, a small team, have held their own against their taller Western Lakes foes. But Wayne is much more powerful inside than the most powerful among Western Lakes teams.

Garden City: You have to give Bob Dropp's club a shot at the Churchill district title. In fact, all five teams have a shot at it. That says something about the quality of the Churchill district, doesn't it? Scott McCoskey, though, is one of the area's top players averaging 20 points and 11 rebounds per game. He could carry the Cougars through this district.

Livonia Bentley: The Bulldogs have not enjoyed much success this season. But, Tom Nieri will bring the team a long way since December. Guard John White and big 6-8 center Phil Graczyk pose big problems for the opposition. In the wide-open Churchill district, Bentley could emerge.

Livonia Franklin: Jim McIntyre's team has suffered much the same fate as Bentley. At times, the Pats have played well, like in the Churchill win. But, for the most part, they have struggled. Dave Carravallah and Mike Williams are the Patriot keys.

North blown away, Hawks best Stangs

Westland John Glenn, the Northwest Suburban basketball champions, avenged its only league loss Friday night as seniors Jeff Hawley and Mario Granulis scored 17 and 15, respectively, to beat visiting North Farmington.

Granulis, a 6-foot-6 center, grabbed 12 rebounds, while reserve forward Todd Stein contributed nine points. Leading 33-23 at the half, the Rockets (13-6) blew things wide open with a 16-8 outburst in the third period. North, which enters district play 8-10 overall, got eight points from Dean Temple.

HARRISON 63, NORTHVILLE 61: Harrison coach Mike Teachman won for the first time Friday at Northville thanks to 24 points and five assists from senior point guard Brian Hickey.

basketball

The Hawks erased a 13-point first-half deficit to raise their season record to 6-13.

Hickey scored half of his points in the final period and went 8 for 8 from the free throw line down the stretch. John Miller, who played an outstanding defensive game, contributed 13 points and 12 rebounds. Dave Quarles added 10 for the winners.

Northville, 10-9 overall, got 24 points from 6-6 senior Steve Schrader.

"It was a great comeback from high-character people," said Teachman. "It was a supreme effort. Everybody contributed."

"We kept coming after them, playing man-to-man defense most of the way."

W.L. CENTRAL 57, FARMINGTON 50: The Falcons were beat at the free throw line Friday night as the host Vikings made 15 of 24 from the stripe.

Farmington was a paltry 2 of 3. The Falcons, outscored 14-7 in the final period, got 13 points from Tim Carvethers and 11 from Bill Robinson.

Tom Cummings and Scott Norris each notched 14 for Walled Lake. "Coming off our game with Plymouth Salem (a 68-40 loss), I was pleased with our effort," said Farmington coach Rich Roy, whose team is 3-17 overall. "We played hard, but of course, we were giving up a couple of inches."

Rusty Raiders beat Pats

A "rusty" North Farmington volleyball team struggled but defeated Livonia Franklin Wednesday, 15-11, 10-15, 15-12.

The Northwest Suburban League champs hadn't played a match in more than a week, and coach Sandy Lubienicki said it showed.

"We were very rusty from the layoff. I was so afraid we weren't going to get Wednesday's match in, either, after bearing the school closing," she said. She didn't want a rusty Raider contingent entering the district tournament at Birmingham Groves last week-

end. (Details of the district will be in Thursday's Farmington Observer.)

DONNA KONIAREVICH, a junior, rescued the Raiders in the last regular season home match for the seniors.

"If it weren't for Donna, we'd be in trouble," the seniors were off, "Lubienicki said. "She really held the group together. She played well all-around. She didn't miss a ball and had 10 excellent digs. Her passes were right on too."

Senior Mary Kozicki was on also,

nailing 20 of 22 spikes with five aces. Linda Rennard made five key blocks, also.

North (8-1 in league and 24-7 overall) will end its NSL season at John Glenn tonight. The match is the make-up of last Monday's snowed-out affair.

FARMINGTON HARRISON was ousted from district tournament contention by Birmingham Marion Thursday, 15-8, 15-3, in a pre-district contest. Marion will take on Farmington Saturday at Groves.