



Rhonda Lancaster, ex of Farmington High, is one of the key members of the Schoolcraft College women's basketball team.

Pioneers booted in Div. II playoff

For the second time in two seasons, Seattle-Pacific shot down Oakland University's hopes for an NCAA Division II soccer championship.

This time it was by a 1-0 score, and it came in an overtime shootout on Seattle-Pacific's rain-drenched artificial turf Saturday in the opening round of the Division II tournament.

It was also the third time in the past two years that the Falcons beat OU. All three have been by a single goal. Last year, Seattle-Pacific won 3-2 during the season and 1-0 in the Division II semifinals.

The rain and the Falcons' artificial carpet, a surface the Pioneers rarely play on, hampered OU. They had 1 good shot at a goal, but Gray Haisel's attempt was stopped by goalkeeper Bill Glandon.

THE TWO teams battled through the 90 minutes of regulation and two 10-minute overtimes without scoring. Seattle-Pacific outshot OU 12-7, with Pioneer goalkeeper Paul Larkin making five

saves to Glandon's two. The Falcons went first in the overtime shootout, which allows five different players from each team a penalty shot. Four of their tries went in.

OU's first two kickers, Marty Hagen (from Troy Athens) and Mike Vign, both netted their shots, but Tag Graham (from Bloomfield Hills Lahser) and Haisel missed, giving the Falcons the victory. Bob Bruich was credited with the winning goal.

SEATTLE-PACIFIC now hosts Davis and Elkins of West Virginia, while OU ends its season at 16-3-1 (NCAA rules state that teams losing in a shootout are given a tie on their final record). The Falcons are 17-5-1.

The loss overshadowed the defensive performance by Mark Christian, normally a forward. Christian marked Seattle-Pacific's Tom Blahaas, an All-America candidate, and kept him off the scoreboard.

Christian was pressed into defensive duty because Greg Nasello was given a red card in OU's

final regular-season game against Wright State, which earns him an automatic suspension from the team's next game.

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Lack of depth worries S'craft

By C.J. Risak
staff writer

There's one problem facing Schoolcraft College's women's basketball team as it seeks to defend its Eastern Conference championship.

The Ocelots have a schedule full of opponents. But they don't have anyone to practice against.

Numbers are what stand between Schoolcraft and another title. Numbers of players, to be specific. The roster includes just eight names.

"I made the mistake of recruiting 11 players last year," said Schoolcraft coach Ed Kavanaugh, whose team was 19-7 overall and 9-1 in the conference last season. He spread his efforts too thin, it seems, and as he said, "You can't do that in junior college ball."

"I thought I had a solid roster of at least 11 players coming into the season, but some of them decided not to come to school."

STILL, ALL is not forlorn at School-

college sports

craft. Among the names on the roster are three that were there a year ago: 6-foot Sherry Evans, a Livonia Stevenson grad; 5-11 Caryn Lamb, from Walled Lake Central; and 5-10 Missy Aiken, from Plymouth Canton.

All three started during last season and should provide a solid front-line nucleus for this year's squad. Rhonda White, a 5-10 freshman forward from Highland Park, adds depth.

There's diversity in the backcourt, which will come in handy if injuries and fouls become problems. Amy Brow, 5-7 from Livonia Churchill, Kim Chandler, 5-6 from Dearborn Fordson, Almee Fry, 5-4 from Walled Lake Central, and Rhonda Lancaster, 5-4 from Farmington, will all get their share of

court time. Chandler can also play forward.

SCHOOLCRAFT OPENED the season with three losses at the Erie (Pa.) Community College Tournament last weekend but, despite the setbacks, it provided what the team needed.

"They were all very tough teams," said Kavanaugh of the tourney field, which included Allegheny, Lakeland and Erie. "I scheduled that to challenge us and to gain experience."

"I plan on using these upcoming tournaments to gain experience and go into the conference ready to win it again."

Brow scored 19 points and Chandler 18 in a two-point loss to Erie, the Ocelots' third tournament game. And Fry was the team's top scorer in game one, a 20-point loss to Allegheny. Despite jamming a finger in game two (which Schoolcraft lost by six to Lakeland) that forced her out of game three, Fry made the All-Tournament squad.

BEFORE OPENING the Eastern Conference season (Jan. 3 against Mott), Schoolcraft will play single games against Muskegon CC Saturday and Kalamazoo Valley CC Dec. 19, and at the Lansing CC Tournament Nov. 30 to Dec. 1 and at the Lakeland CC Tournament Dec. 15-15.

Kavanaugh hopes the tournaments will give his team time on the court, something they don't get in practice. With only eight players, Kavanaugh is forced to recruit practice session stand-ins for five-on-five drills.

"Numbers are our biggest problem," he admitted. "We can't practice simple things like out of bounds plays."

He hopes to add one player when Schoolcraft's women's soccer team returns from nationals: Sue Ferguson, who played at Farmington Harrison. And he believes that the Ocelots can repeat as Eastern Conference champs — if his numbers hold up.

OLSM rests cage hopes on talented youth

By C.J. Risak
staff writer

Like a boy on the threshold of manhood, Orchard Lake St. Mary's men's basketball team is searching for its identity.

Which makes this season a test — but more so for coach Tim Domke than his players. For Domke, it will be a season-long question of too much or not enough.

"I'm probably overcoaching them," Domke said during Monday's practice session. "I should just let the talent take over."

There's no lack of talent, certainly. Start with a front line that includes 6-foot-8 returnee Mike Cozard; 6-8 Gary Pedersen, a transfer from Michigan State; 6-7 freshman Mike Belczak, from Redford St. Agatha; 6-6 returnees Steve Kopicki and Greg Baker; 6-6 freshman Jerome Washburn and his 6-4 sophomore brother, Rob.

BAKER, A SENIOR, averaged 14 points and eight rebounds and Kopicki pitched in 12 points and 11 rebounds a game last season. But the incoming talent is so abundant that if either go to the sidelines the dropoff will be minimal.

The story's the same in the backcourt. Keith Brooks, a 6-1 junior transfer from Tyler (Texas) Junior College who prepped at Detroit's Martin Luther King, is a gem. Redshirts Bobby Wade, a 3-3 sophomore from Detroit Cody, and Lance Davis, a 5-9 freshman from Orchard Lake St. Mary Prep, will see plenty of action.

So will freshman Erich Hartnett, 6-2 from Plymouth Salem, and 6-3 senior holdover George Winn. They can play either the point or off-guard positions. Rod Scharboneau, a 6-3 sophomore, adds experienced depth for the Eagles.

Lost from the starting ranks is leading scorer David Howard, a 6-3 guard who is scholastically ineligible. Howard will return next season, but even his absence is not as lamentable as it might have been.

ALL OF WHICH leaves Domke with some tough decisions, like who starts and who sits, and just how structured the team should be. Too much slack, and they play out of control; too little, and their talents may never surface.

"Because they're so young, usually I will say not to dunk unless you know you're going to make it," Domke said. "But I tell these kids to dunk it. I want

them to attack the basket, not screw around with the ball."

So there's a lot of slamming and jamming going on at every Eagle practice, and it has its purpose. Domke also has a simple offensive strategy:

"I tell them first to look for the shot, then to look for the pass, then to dribble," he said. "We have to attack the basket. That's exactly what we didn't do Saturday."

SATURDAY, OLSM lost to Wayne State 75-53 at West Bloomfield High. The Eagles trailed by five at the half (35-31) before falling apart in the second half.

Domke took the lion's share of the blame for the defeat. "I was terrible," he said. "I just quit coaching them in the second half."

Mistakes got the better of him, Domke said. "Instead of going on with something else and correcting the problems later, I let them get to me."

There weren't any highlights in this one for OLSM. Kopicki and Brooks led the scorers with 10 points apiece. Kopicki also nabbed 13 rebounds, while Brooks made 5 steals.

Grady Lowery bagged 20 points, Rabem Muhammad had 17 points and 17 rebounds, and Al Rugenius added 10 points for Wayne State.

THAT LOSS — after a come-from-behind victory over Alliance (Pa.) in OLSM's opener — clearly defined the work that lies ahead for Domke and his team.

"We just aren't playing together yet," said Domke. "But once we start, look out."

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