

Youthful Hawks off to quick start

The vastly-improved Farmington volleyball team continued its solid play Monday, beating Plymouth Salem 15-17, 15-8, 15-9.

"We were really tired after Saturday," said Hawk coach Ron Shortt. "And, we were without our captain (Collette Caslin who has the flu). I mean, you look at the score and it sounds like we really took care of them, but I was worried the whole time."

Especially after blowing a 12-7 lead in game one.

"We passed good, the defense was fair and we served excellent," Shortt said. "But, we didn't have any power at the net. We put the ball in play, but we weren't killing it."

Still, with the solid play of junior Jennifer Hughes (a perfect 13 for 13 on serves, 14 of 15 on spikes and only 2 missed sets), Kim George (99 percent passing efficiency) and sophomore Janine Whittemore (13 for 13 serving and 32 of 37 passing), the Hawks were able to put Salem away.

The Hawks (5-5) will compete with Farmington and North Farmington at 4 p.m. Friday for the Farmington city title at the Farmington Training Center.

FARMINGTON, meanwhile, is struggling. After a poor showing last Saturday at the Andover-Lahser Invitational (winning just one game in pool play), the Falcons dropped a match to lowly Northville in two games. Northville took the Falcons 15-18, 15-10.

"There was just no defense to communicate on the court," said a perplexed Farmington coach Kim O'Neill.

volleyball

"I mean, the girls were running into each other on the court. It was just terrible."

"It wouldn't be so bad if the skills were lacking. You can correct poor skills. Our problem is attitude. There's no enthusiasm, no communication. It's very frustrating."

The Falcons (3-5) will compete in the Farmington city tournament on Friday and host Plymouth Canton (6-2) on Monday.

FARMINGTON HILLS MERCY lost a toughie to defending Catholic League champion Bishop Gallagher Monday. After losing 15-0 in game one, Mercy rallied to take game two 15-12. Gallagher survived by clipping Mercy 15-9 in the finale.

"It was a real tight game," said Mercy coach Cindy Assemany, whose team is now 0-3 in the Catholic League. "We had some great blocks by our girls."

Judy Janitz and Cathy Loniewski were the ones doing the damage at the net for the Marlinas.

In game two, the serving of Jean Wambacher and Stephanie Cobb helped neutralize Gallagher's potent offense.

Throughout the match, said Assemany, Michelle Fryatt and Amy Stock were effective players both in the front court and on the back row.

The Marlinas (2-3 overall) host Mari-an tonight.



Jennifer Hughes is one of several reasons why Ron Shortt's Farmington Harrison volleyball team is raising eyebrows.

Raider spikers dominate tourney

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more experienced than the Hawks, dominating the rest of the match winning game two 15-5 and game three 15-4.

"I'm not at all disappointed," Shortt said. "They (GPN) just kept after it and kept after it. They played the ball longer than we did."

Harrison finished the tourney in fourth place, losing to Clarkston in a one-game consolation match, 15-11.

It was North vs. North for the championship and the North's from Farmington put on a clinic, winning in two games 15-9, 15-11.

THERE WAS little the Raiders didn't do right. Their serving was barely returnable, the net play baffled Grosse Pointe North, service reception and passing were flawless — even the coaching was error-free.

The key to it all, though, was North's senior setter Patli Kozicki. Had a tournament MVP been chosen, Kozicki would have won it. Her sets were on the money throughout the semifinal and championship matches. She expertly moved the ball around the court, finding the Raiders' hot hitter, mystifying the Grosse Pointe blockers. And, every once in a while, she'd nail a shot over the net instead of passing, confusing GPN even more.

"Patli is one of the best players

we've ever had at North at her position," Lubieniecki said. "She was marvelous today, she really was."

Lubieniecki wasn't half-bad herself. She, like a Las Vegas gambler, played a hunch at a critical time and the hunch paid off.

North, thanks to the serving of Suzanne Greenberg and the hitting of Julie Pistol, had trailed from a 8-3 deficit in game two and trailed 9-8.

LUBIENIECKI inserted Stephanie Hockema into the game to serve. "I'm not sure if she's hot or cold, but, if she's on she's really good," Lubieniecki said, then crossed her fingers and hoped for the best.

Hockema's first three serves scored and North was in control.

Kozicki, who possessed the hardest serve of any player among the final four teams, served out the last 4 points of the match.

North got solid play all day long from Brooks Landback, Konjarevich and Greenberg — their consistency really anchoring North's play. Pistol and Nancy Cochran gave the Raiders some much-needed hitting strength, especially against Grosse Pointe North.

Four Andover-Lahser titles in a row — suppose they might consider renaming the tournament North Farmington's Andover-Lahser Volleyball Invitational?

Just a thought.

OU cagers win with pain

It's hard to figure these Oakland University Pioneers.

Here's a basketball team that loses its best outside scoring threat before the season begins. So what happens? It wins 7 of its first 12 games.

But that's not all. The team's top rebounder and inside scoring threat breaks a leg — out for the season. What happens then?

The remaining Pioneers — and this is not the deepest of benches, mind you — react predictably: they win 2 straight by lopsided margins, including a sound trouncing of defending Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) champion Wayne State.

"It's a tough one to figure out," admitted first-year coach Greg Kampe. "Take our team, from the beginning of the season, and take the one, two and three top players. We lose two of them (guard Craig Tomi and center Walt Dixon) — and we didn't have much depth anyway."

"We're just doing the things we have to do."

TRANSLATED, THAT means play defense. OU was superb in each of its last two wins defensively, subduing Wayne State 66-57 Saturday and Illinois Institute of Technology 87-71 Monday. Both games were at OU's Lepley Sports Center.

In Monday's game, a 10-2 spurt in the final 2:18 of the opening half extended the Pioneer lead from 30-26 to 40-28. With four players reaching double figures and a 47-41 advantage on the boards, the only question was how much OU would win by.

Chris Howard, an Orchard Lake St. Mary's grad, scored 22 points, hitting 8 of 10 floor shots, to lead the Pioneers. Howard also had 12 rebounds and 7 assists. Rob Skinner, who scored 5 points in OU's first-half surge, finished with 18. Randy Strunk and Scott Bittinger added 10 each. Jimmy Trivett scored 8 points and grabbed 8 rebounds.

Tech hit only 39 percent of its first half shots, and no one reached double figures in

OU sports

scoring. Kerry Musser was high point man with 9.

OU WAS even tougher on the Tartars Saturday. Using a sagging defense aimed at stopping Wayne State center Ishaem Muhammad, the Pioneers bottled to a 26-9 lead with 6 minutes to play in the half. By the end of the first half, they led 34-17, and Wayne State never recovered.

"Our defense is so good," Kampe said. "That's the key. We're really playing defense."

That's what Kampe stressed during the preseason. He spent a majority of his time drilling the Pioneers on defense.

That work has paid off. "The game that made them believe defense was important was Northern Kentucky. We didn't play well offensively, but we always had a chance. And we did win it, in the final 2 minutes."

HOWE AGAIN turned in a fine all-around effort against Wayne State. The junior forward scored 18 points and grabbed 10 rebounds. Strunk had 14 points and 8 rebounds, and Skinner collected 14 points and 4 assists. OU outrebounded the bigger Tartars 44-39. Muhammad led the losers with 12 points and 17 rebounds.

For the game, OU limited Wayne State to 39 percent of its total shooting. The Tartars hit just 27 percent in the first half.

OU is 2-2 in GLIAC play, while Wayne State slipped to 1-3 in the league and 9-5 overall.

SWIMMERS SPLASH ON

Bonnie Gleffe, Kim Poque, Linda Scott

and Nancy Schermer made their final swims of the meet count Friday.

OU's women swimmers trailed Purdue 56-50 entering the final event, the 400 free relay. But the visiting Pioneer foursome came through with a victory in 3:40.14, finishing ahead of the Boilermakers (3:41.38) in the event and in the meet, 57-56.

For Schermer, a freshman, her anchor swim in the 400 free relay capped a perfect evening. She also won the 200 (1:56.40) and 500 (8:11.13) freestyles.

Lee Ann O'Neill won for OU in the 1-meter (215.55 points) and 3-meter (216.65) diving. Scott was first in the 100 free (54.32).

It was the second-straight win for OU over a Big Ten team. The Pioneers also beat Michigan State.

The OU men did not fare as well, losing at Purdue 69-42 Friday. Matt Croghan's wins in the 500 (4:47.20) and 1,000 (9:47.70) freestyles highlighted the Pioneer effort. Mike Kolebar also won the 50 free (22.40). Kolebar, John Christensen, Mark Vander-May and Steve Larson were first in the 400 free relay (3:15.75).

UMIN SPARKS WRESTLERS

OU's Jerry Umin (167-pound weight class) kept his perfect match record intact as the Pioneers placed ninth out of 16 teams at the Midwest Classic Friday and Saturday at Indiana Central in Indianapolis.

Umin, who placed fifth at 158 in the NCAA Division II meet last year, edged Todd Yde in the 167 finals in overtime on a referee's decision. Yde was fourth in the 168 class last year at the NCAA Division II meet. Umin is now 8-0, while Yde dipped to 2-7.

Dave Wilgen placed third at 142, defeating two seeded wrestlers on route. John Solomonson captured sixth at 177, defeating three seeds along the way. Wilgen's record is 6-4, Solomonson is 3-4.

Lancaster's 15 helps S'craft

The recent scoring of Dearborn Fordson product Kim Chandler has put Schoolcraft College back in the victory column.

Chandler, who has scored a total of 80 points in the last three games, notched 20 Monday night as the Lady Ocelots scored an easy 94-29 women's basketball win over host Madonna College.

Plymouth Canton grad Missy Aiken led Schoolcraft and all scorers with 24 points. Three other Lady Ocelots were also in double figures — Rhonda Lancaster (Farmington), 15; Caryn Lamb, 15; and Amy Brow (Livonia Churchill), 12.

On Saturday, Chandler poured in 29 points, while Aiken and Almee Frye contributed 12 and 11, respectively, as the Lady Ocelots turned back visiting Henry Ford CC, 72-45.

Livonia Franklin product Alicia Leckie scored 14 in a losing cause.

Schoolcraft is 6-9 overall and 1-2 in the Eastern Conference.

THE MEN'S TEAM, meanwhile, was thrashed Saturday by Henry Ford, 106-76.

Schoolcraft is 0-3 in conference play and 7-12 overall.

Ford led at the half, 52-36, and gradually pulled away in the second half to increase its overall record to 17-2.

Schoolcraft, dressing only eight players and beset by foul problems, was led by guard Clarence Jones, who popped in 14 points. Tony Randle and Brad Turner added 16 and 15, respectively.

Ocelot volleyball coach Jandasek resigns post

By C.J. Risak
staff writer

Joe Jandasek's time was running short as Schoolcraft College's volleyball coach.

That's why at the end of last season, Jandasek and his wife, Joann, who served as assistant coach, turned in their resignations.

It wasn't that Jandasek's record was poor. In his two seasons at Schoolcraft, he coached the Ocelots to a 32-15 record, including an 8-0 mark and an Eastern Conference title this past season.

And it wasn't that he had tired of coaching.

"I had a thoroughly enjoyable season," he said. "Frankly, I'm going to miss the coaching."

But time was the problem. There wasn't enough of it, not considering Jandasek's other volleyball responsibilities.

"I'll just say it's personal reasons," he said.

Jandasek also coaches an independent team, called the Spirit of Six. The team plays in United States Volleyball Association (USVBA) sanctioned tournaments during the winter months.

IN ADDITION, his daughter, Stephanie, is interested in the sport, and Jandasek hopes to help cultivate that interest. Stephanie Jandasek is

currently a seventh-grader in the Brighton school district.

"It's a very time-consuming job," admitted Mary Gans, Schoolcraft's athletic director. "I sort of sensed something like this might happen, they had so much going on."

A replacement has not been named, but Gans did say he had "a solid candidate in mind" with previous coaching experience, both in college and high school.

"The job's been posted," the AD added.

As much as Jandasek enjoyed the coaching end of the Schoolcraft job, there were other reasons for his resignation, both in recruiting and the voluminous amount of paperwork associated with the position.

JANDASEK WON'T be leaving the program abruptly. "I'm still working with the kids coming back and with some who will be coming in," he said.

Gans said he hoped "to make the transition smoothly, whoever we get. Joe's not leaving the program cold. He's still a part of it. He'll work with whoever comes in to make sure the transition is smooth."

"We want to maintain our volleyball tradition."

Gans praised Jandasek for his work. "He did a fine job with the kids. He was really excellent. We had no problems."

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