



(F10)

Short-staffed Hawks roll on



photos by RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Tracy Solomon scored well in each of four events Monday to help Harrison defeat

Southfield-Lathrup and remain undefeated.

With its 118.05-88.4 win against Southfield-Lathrup Monday, the Farmington Harrison gymnastics team is off to a jackrabbit 4-0 start — which may lead you to think all's been rosy. Think again.

Harrison has had its full complement of gymnasts intact only once this season. Injuries (a rash of them) and vacations have kept the Hawks' scores below 120 points in three of the four meets.

Still, the team keeps winning. "We've already qualified for the regional meet as a team, you know, so I'm real happy about our start," second-year Hawk coach Linda Perkins said. "I think if we had everybody there (against Lathrup), we would have scored 125."

Missing from the lineup was the team's third highest all-around scorer Jody Solomon, who will be lost to the team indefinitely with a back injury. Tana Burningham, a sophomore, has been the major force in Harrison's success. She has set a team record in the vault (9.25 against Walled Lake Western) and shares the uneven parallel bars record with Tracy Solomon (8.5).

Against Lathrup, Burningham won all four events. She scored 9.05 on vault, 8.35 on bars, 8.0 on balance beam and 8.55 on floor exercise.

Tracy Solomon also had a productive meet. She placed second on vault (8.9), second on bars (8.35), third on beam (7.35) and second on floor (8.4).

Also chipping in were Jamie Lyons (third on vault, 8.4) and Julie Hunk (third on floor, 7.6).

Harrison's next action will come in the Farmington city meet Wednesday.

NORTH FARMINGTON won one and lost one Monday night.

The Raiders won the meet, beating Walled Lake Western 125-98.05. But they lost their fourth best scorer, Lisa Brundie took a fall on bars and injured her knee. She will be lost to the team for at least two weeks.

"Once Lisa went down, I think some of the fight went out of the girls," North coach Mary Giltz said.

Eileen Murtough led the Raiders, winning the vault with an impressive 9.05 and the floor exercise, 8.85. She also placed third on bars (7.6) and second on beam (7.4). Lucine Toroyan won the bars event

with an 8.65. She was second on vault (8.35), fifth on beam (7.05) and fifth on floor exercise (7.3).

Having a big night for North was Kara Karhu. She placed third on vault (8.1), second on bars (8.4), fourth on beam (7.2) and second on floor (8.3).

Wendy Reimer won beam for Western with a 7.8.

North is 3-1 on the season.

FARMINGTON, despite a solid effort from freshman Jackie Daly, lost its first meet of the season, 110.15-100.20 to Birmingham Scatolin, Monday.

Daly won vault with an 8.45, then placed second on beam (7.75), third on bars (6.80) and third on floor (7.65).

Pam Goodhue earned a fourth on bars with a 6.1.

Farmington is 1-1.



Tana Burningham, a sophomore, won all four events for the Hawks.

Late turnovers derail Pioneers

By C.J. Risak
staff writer

Oakland University's men's basketball team lost by chain reaction Saturday at Wayne State.

The scoring summary won't show that. It will reveal that the Pioneers threw the ball — and their chance for victory — away twice in the final minute in losing 84-83 at WSU's Matthai Building.

What caused the miscues? The beginning of the answer can be found in the early moments of the second half.

OU forward Chris Howze was the key factor. OU trailed 37-32 at the half, largely due to Grady Lowry's hot hand (13 first-half points) for the Tartars.

The Pioneers trailed 34-23 with 5:19 left before halftime; a 9-3 spurt down the stretch narrowed the gap.

Howze, limited to six points while drawing three fouls in the opening half, caught fire in the second. Roaming across the lane, Howze scored eight points in just over five minutes and had 14 before the 10 minutes were gone.

ROB SKINNER's pinpoint jumpers from the corner helped open the middle of WSU's zone defense for Howze, and by the 16:25 mark, OU was ahead 42-41.

Things were not going well for the Tartars.

But then, with 4:32 left and OU down by five (74-69), Howze fouled out. And that started the chain reaction that eventually led to OU's downfall.

"With Howze out, we didn't have to worry as much about the middle," WSU coach Charlie Parker said. Skinner, though, was still a problem. He sank four straight long jumpers in one stretch of the second half and finished with a career-high 21 points on 10-for-14 floor shooting.

"We made an adjustment in our zone to take away their outside shooting," Parker explained. "They were shooting basically from two positions, from the corner and higher up on the wing, so we had to change our defense."

Parker switched his zone defense from a 2-1-2 to a 1-2-1, which "weak-

ened the middle, but put two players on the free throw line extended." The move was possible because Howze wasn't there to challenge inside.

THE RESULT: With 58 seconds left and OU down 81-79, Scott Blidinger's looping pass toward Skinner on the wing was intercepted by Lowry, playing his new position. Scott Perry then hit one of two free throws to extend WSU's lead to 82-79.

After two free throws by Randy Strunk narrowed the gap to a point, Perry missed the first of a one-and-one chance with 35 seconds left. OU had the ball, trailing by a point.

But again, the new-look Tartar defense turned the trick. This time Lowry and Ted McCree combined on the steal, and Lowry hit two free throws with six seconds left, making Skinner's last-second driving layup inconsequential.

"It was just a matter of us getting too careful," was how a disappointed Greg Kampe, the OU coach, described his team in the final minute. Kampe then added another link to the chain of doom.

"At that time of the game, we needed someone to take over, to take charge out there. And our big guy (Howze) was on the bench."

Howze finished with a team-high 22 points. He also grabbed six rebounds. Strunk and Walt Dixon each scored 13 points, with Strunk getting 11 rebounds.

"WE DID everything we possibly could to win this game," Kampe said. That the Pioneers did, even with Howze on the bench. OU scored six straight points to recapture the lead at 75-74 with 2:56 left, with Dixon getting two buckets. The teams traded baskets, with Bittinger giving OU a 79-78 lead at 1:34.

Rahmeen Muhammed put WSU ahead to stay, scoring on a short hook. Strunk fouled Muhammed, who led all scorers with 25 points, and he hit the free throw for an 81-79 lead with 1:18 to go.

Lowry finished with 23 points, Dwight King had 15 and McCree netted 10.

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