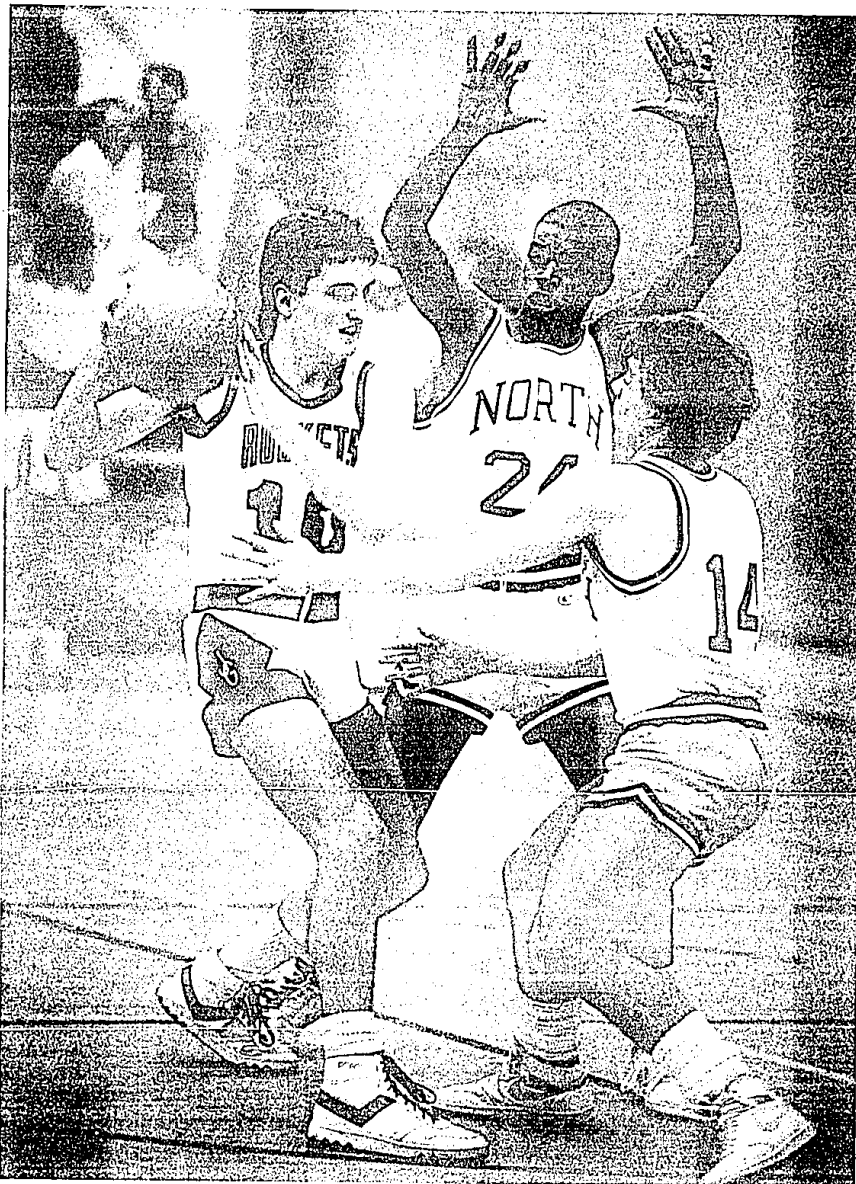


Sports

Chris McCosky, Brad Emons editors/591-2312

Monday, February 9, 1987 O&E

(F) 18



Glenn's Greg Bates (10) is boxed in by North Farmington's Venoy Hill (24) and Mark Taylor during the Rockets' win Friday night.

RANDY DORST/staff photographer

N'ville jolts the Hawks

basketball

All season long, North Farmington's basketball team has had problems, and a lot of them have been when the Raiders have the ball. Put simply, they don't score well.

When going up against a team like undefeated Westland John Glenn, that's trouble. It was Friday, when North was trounced by the homecourt Rockets 85-42.

The outcome was never in doubt, not after the first few minutes. Glenn (14-0 overall, 12-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association) raced to a 20-0 lead after one quarter and a 42-17 halftime advantage.

The Rockets continued to pour it on, limiting the Raiders to single digits in scoring in all but the third quarter. Andy Graziulis led Glenn with 22 points. Steve Hawley netted 17, Marcus Lowe had 12 and Kevin Wilson finished with nine.

North (6-8 overall, 6-7 in the WLAA) got 13 points from Rick Karcher, but the next highest Raider was Chuck Howard with six.

NORTHVILLE 47, HARRISON 42. As Farmington Harrison coach Mike Teachman said, "Everybody's got a bad luck gym, and Northville's ours."

That may be true, but the Hawks contributed to their own demise Friday with a poor offense. They made just one-of-11 floor shots in the fourth quarter and failed to take advantage of their opportunities for a win.

Harrison trailed 43-42 with 1:10

left, took two shots and missed both. Brad Ridgeway rebounded but was whistled for a foul. After Northville's Dan Magdich hit two free throws, Harrison missed another floor attempt, and once again they fouled on the rebound. Dave McCreadie made a pair of foul shots for the Mustangs to make it 47-42.

"They beat us fair and square," said Teachman, whose team dipped to 8-6 overall, 7-5 in the WLAA. "We didn't play real well, we didn't execute well."

What Harrison also failed to do was take advantage of its chance to take over first place in the WLAA's Western Division. Plymouth Canton was edged by Livonia Churchill Friday. A Hawk win would have put them a game ahead of Canton.

Ridgeway was one of the few bright spots for Harrison. The 6-foot-8 senior finished with 15 points, 10 rebounds and six blocked shots. Scott Bissell scored 12 points, but eight of those came in the first quarter. After that, Northville went to a box-and-one defense, with the chaser covering Bissell. Chad Burgess had nine points for Harrison.

McCreadie collected 15 points and Magdich and Tony Briningstool had 10 apiece for Northville (6-8 overall, 4-8 in the WLAA).

Churchill creates logjam

By Chris McCosky
staff writer

Look who has stuck its nose into the Western Lakes Western Division title chase.

Livonia Churchill, with a heartstopping 52-51 victory at home against Plymouth Canton Friday, is suddenly one game behind league-leaders Canton and Farmington Harrison. Harrison was upset at Northville Friday, 47-42. The Chargers will travel to Harrison Tuesday night. Harrison goes to Canton Friday night.

Chargers coach Don Albertson succinctly summed up Friday's game this way: "We had it won, choked it up, gave it back to them, missed a bunch of free throws down the stretch and still came away with the 'W'. Hey, I've got to be happy." Oh, but his Chargers came dangerously close to reliving an ugly nightmare. Earlier this season at Canton, Churchill was beat at the buzzer by a Tyrone Reeves jumper after failing to connect on a pair of free throws with eight seconds left.

With six seconds left Friday night, and Canton behind 52-51, Churchill missed a free throw. Canton came down the court and Tyrone Reeves

called one from 31 feet. This time, however, Reeves' shot came just a shade after time ran out.

"I really feel for this Plymouth Canton team," Albertson said. "That was a hard way to lose. I know, I've been there. We did it at their place and now the shoe's on the other foot."

SPEAKING OF shoes on other feet: Churchill's hero was Brad Wylie, the same Brad Wylie that Canton head coach Tom Nicmi tutored two years ago when both were at Livonia Bentley.

Wylie scored a game-high 16 points including a game-winning three-point play with 34 seconds left. The Chargers, down 51-49, forced a Canton turnover and called timeout with 46 seconds left. Off the inbound pass, Steve Owens made a pinpoint cross court pass to Wylie, who scored the basket and was fouled. His subsequent free throw stood up as the game winner.

When asked if he was thinking about his former coach, Wylie said: "A little. I wanted to show him what I learned. He coached me and gave me my chance. He's an excellent

Please turn to Page 3

Spartans' spikers win 2 from Raiders

Livonia Stevenson's volleyball team dashed any hopes North Farmington had of winning the Lakes Division title in the Western Lakes last week. The Spartans beat North twice, 15-7, 15-6 on Wednesday and 15-7, 15-10 on Friday.

"We have served very well this year," said Stevenson coach Lee Cagle. "We scored a lot of points off our serves both nights. We serve so well that if we don't get the ace, we get the ball back easy. The other team isn't able to get into its offense."

Kristine Bailey and Sue Zatorski were the key performers for Stevenson in all facets of the game. The Spartans are 9-0 in the league and 21-4 overall. North falls to 5-5 in

the league and 16-10 overall.

FARMINGTON HARRISON got superb net play from Theresa Spisz and Janine Whittemore Wednesday in a 15-3, 15-13 victory against Livonia Franklin.

Spisz (seven) and Whittemore (six) combined for 13 kills. Setter Heidi Reyst passed extremely well and added two service aces.

The Hawks are 15-7 on the season. **FARMINGTON HILLS MERCY** lost to Bishop Borgess Thursday, 15-4, 15-9.

The Spartans (18-7) got excellent play from Beth Zacharski and Lisa Dreske. Mercy falls to 5-12.

Mercy skiers escape

Farmington Hills Mercy's ski team escaped an upset Thursday with a narrow 17-19 win against East Lansing on an icy Mount Brighton slalom course.

Lexi Davis, one of the few Marlins to complete two runs without disaster, won individual honors with a

combined time of 42.82. Beth McIntosh placed third (48.83), Corky Frizzell fifth (52.55) and Stephanie John eighth (57.13).

The win leaves Mercy with a 4-1 slalom mark. The Marlins will compete in a seven-team giant slalom meet today at Mount Brighton.



Super Doc

Dr. Robert Mandell recently was enshrined as a lifetime honorary member of the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame for his contribution and development in the field of sports medicine with the Farmington, Northville and Walled Lake school districts during the last 18 years.



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