

# Shamrocks pass early test with high marks



Billy Vitti is surrounded by the ball-hawking Wayne Memorial trio of Lewis Davis, Steven Thibault (30) and Chris Hebnor. Vitti was attempting to put back a rebound.

By Larry O'Connor  
staff writer

Both Wayne and Redford Catholic Central knew Tuesday's boys basketball game would be more than a pop quiz.

Even though it's early in the season, the game had all the makings of a final exam. The Shamrocks answered their questions correctly, taking a 69-62 win over the visiting Zebras.

Both teams strutted their stuff, showcasing their respective products for this season. Judging by Tuesday's clash, things definitely look good for CC and Wayne.

On the Catholic Central side, there was the balanced-scoring attack led by Billy Vitti and Brian Dugas. On the Wayne side, there was Shawn Wimberly making twisting drives to the basket.

CC, THOUGH, had the edge. Four players registered double figures for the Shamrocks (2-0).

Vitti led CC with 17 points while Dugas chipped in with 14. Ray Richards added 12 points and Anthony Arrington connected for 11 to round out the Shamrocks' scoring attack.

Yet no lead was a safe lead for CC. In typical Wayne fashion, the Zebras had more comebacks than Jason in the Friday the 13th movie series.

The Zebras (1-1) whittled a 10-

## basketball

point deficit to a three points with 45 seconds left in the game. Wayne Jackson tossed in a three-point basket to cut the gap, making it 65-62. But Vitti and Leo Hutchinson each connected on lay-ups to wrap up the win for CC.

IN THE FIRST half, Wayne pulled off a similar feat. The Zebras trailed by 10 after the first eight minutes of play only to come back to within one point in the second quarter.

"You don't put good teams away," said CC coach Bernie Holowicki, "and Wayne is a good team."

In the no-quit department, kudos certainly had to go to Arrington. The slick-shooting senior collided with

his teammate, Richards, in the first quarter and received a gash on his forehead.

With blood on his jersey, Arrington played on and still fired in 11 points. But it was the combo of Vitti and Dugas who proved lethal to the Zebras. Both players turned it on the second half, combining for 20 of CC's 35 points in the half.

WIMBERLY LED Wayne with a series of spinning moves to the basket and a fine display of outside shooting. The senior guard kicked in for a game-high 27 points, including nine in the final eight minutes of the game.

"I thought Shawn was the best player on the floor tonight," said Wayne coach Chuck Henry.

Wimberly is one of only two returning players (Lewis Davis the other) from last season's Wolverine A championship team. Despite the heavy losses to graduation, Henry

likes what he sees this year.

"If there was a game for our players to chicken out in, this was the one," said Henry. "They played hard, the whole game."

"At this point of the season, I like my team."

CC WAS the team to like in the first quarter, however. The Shamrocks took advantage of a few Wayne turnovers and ran off 21 points.

Arrington was particularly just during the siege, netting seven points.

Things slowed down in hurry in the second quarter, though. CC didn't score a basket during the first two minutes of the quarter until Terry Boykin popped in a jump shot at the 4:30 mark.

"When we ran it, it was OK," Holowicki said. "When we tried to set up, they double-teamed Billy (Vitti) which was their game plan."

The Shamrocks led 34-27 at intermission and picked up the pace again in the third quarter.

Dugas, who only scored four points in the first half, responded eight in the third quarter.

Wayne travels to Monroe Friday to open its Wolverine A schedule. CC participates in the Aquinas Tournament Monday and Tuesday.

## Lakers defeat Hawks

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Mike Myers scored 10 points and Jason Brown right for the Falcons, who were 1-1 at the free-throw line. Brown was 6-of-7 at the

stripe, Myers 4-of-4. Kettering sank 12 of 19 free throws.

The Capitals led 23-18 at half-time of what was a very physical game. A total of 35 fouls were called, 19 against the winners, 1-1.

## CC annihilates No. 2 Davison

Opponents of the Redford Catholic Central wrestling team should be forewarned. The Shamrocks are playing for keeps.

Many pre-season polls had CC ranked No. 1 in the state followed by perennial powerhouse Davison.

The showdown came early. Last Friday CC traveled to Davison for an afternoon assembly meet in front of the Davison student body.

Everyone expected a tough, close dual meet. But what happened must have shocked the state wrestling circuit. CC demolished Davison 71-2.

The only points the Cardinals scored was in the 167-pound weight class when defending state champ Roy Hall held on for a 9-9 tie against CC's Chris Lemanski.

Toby Heaton, CC's defending state heavyweight champ, earned a major (6-1) decision in his match. He was the only other Shamrock wrestler who didn't win his match by pin.

Catholic Central winners include Kevin Rowe (99), Jim Raglow (105), Jose Tandoc (112), Jay Helm (119), Mike Gentile (126), Matt Helm (132), Brendon Rock (138), Brian Tulley (145), Chris Rodriguez (155), Ted Rieple (185) and Lee Krueger (198).

On Saturday, the Shamrocks roared into the Battle Creek Lakeview High School Invitational and ran away with the team championship totaling 244 points. Muskegon Mona Shores finished a distant second with 164 points.

CC wrestlers earned eight individual championships led by tournament MVP Matt Helm, who won the 132-pound class.

Other tournament champs include

## wrestling

Rowe (99), Jay Helm (119), Lemanski (167), Rieple (185), Krueger (198) and Heaton (heavy).

Raglow added a second-place finish at 105, Tulley and Rodriguez finished third at 145 and 155 respectively. Tandoc rounded out the Shamrock scoring with a fourth-place finish at 112 pounds.

JOHN GLENN 47, WAYNE 21: The Rockets dominated the upper weight classes en route to this season opening victory over host Wayne Memorial.

Chuck Lauber (167), Abe Zahkem (185), Derek Sharp (198) and Joe Williams (heavyweight) each won their respective matches by pin. Williams recorded the quickest pin of the night, sticking his opponent in 15 seconds.

John Glenn's Scott Leffer (98) and Rob Matigan (132) also won by pin. Jim Pace (112), added an 11-10 decision. Nate Kempainen (119) won 7-4 and Jeff Allen (126) won 14-0 to round out the Rocket scoring.

Wayne scored most of its points in the middle weight classes led by Jason Kopeck (138) and Scott LePere (145) who each won by pin. Paul Kopeck (155) earned an 8-1 decision and Brian Hunt (105) won his match 15-1.

The Rockets travel to Farmington Harrison tonight and host the Big Red Invitational on Saturday.

## sports shorts

### COACHES NEEDED

Farmington Public Schools is accepting applications for a non-teaching position as assistant wrestling coach.

Interested people can write to Ronald G. Holland, director of athletics, Farmington Public Schools, 35500 Shawwasen, Farmington, Mich. 48024, or call 471-6337 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

### SOCCER OPENINGS

Canton Soccerdom is accepting limited team and individual registrations for its upcoming second session, which begins Monday, Jan. 4.

The entry deadline is Thursday, Dec. 31. Call 483-5824 for team information between noon and 7 p.m. daily, 397-1000 or 455-6020 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily for individual information.

Men, if you're about to turn 18, it's time to register with Selective Service at any U.S. Post Office. It's quick. It's easy. And it's the law.



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