

Harrison gymnasts lose meet

Plymouth Salem began a new girls gymnastics season with a solid victory Monday, but it came at the expense of a former teammate.

The Rocks defeated Farmington Hills Harrison, coached by former Salem standout Jackie Huff, 118.9 to 71.9 in the latter's gym. Huff was a senior All-American while competing for the Rocks last year and has taken on coaching duties this year.

"It was a totally different position to be in," Huff said. "It was a real relaxed meet, and (Salem coach) Kathi (Kinsella) was real supportive."

The Rocks were led by Debbie Popp, Dana Holda and Amy Pastori. The latter won the floor exercise (8.5) and all-around (31.1), was second on the uneven bars (7.55) and third on the balance beam (7.1) and vault (7.95).

Popp won the vault (8.2), was second in floor exercise (8.3), third in the all-around (28.15) and fourth on the beam (7.05).

Holda and teammate Sharon Way tied for first on the beam (7.15), won the bars competition (8.2), placed second in the all-around (30.95) and vault (8.1) and was fourth in floor exercise (7.5).

IN ADDITION, Salem's Jenny Krieger was third on the bars (6.4) and floor exercise (7.8) and fourth on the vault (7.6).

Kinsella was impressed by her team's enthusiasm and support for each other, comparing the disbelief level to that at a recent rock concert she attended.

"It reminded me of the Pink Floyd concert, because there was a lot of noise in that gym," she said. "The girls were really cheering for each other, and the captains have done a good job of stressing that. Team spirit will be important."

Jenny Rick had Harrison's highest scores in the vault (7.75), floor exercise (7.45), bars (5.95) and all-around (26.10). Julie Robbins recorded a 6.95 on the beam followed by Amy Solomon at 6.55.

The Hawks have a shortage of numbers and experienced gymnasts. While Huff didn't attempt to put a complete squad on the floor, many have shown a lot of improvement,



THOMAS ARNETT/staff photographer

Jenny Rick of Harrison steadies herself on the balance beam during Monday's gymnastics meet with Plymouth Salem. Rick was Harrison's top individual performer in the season's first contest, won by Salem.

Salem opens Lakes Division competition Monday with a home meet against Westland John Glenn at 7 p.m. Harrison entertains Grosse Pointe North next Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Mercy has quality team

Continued from Page 1

Meg Pinkerton, a 5-10 senior and part-time starter last year, was starting at outside hitter but moved to the middle when Slosser got hurt. Others who have been affected are sophomore Jennifer Goff and senior Sue McNish, both varsity returnees, and senior Lynn Elliott.

McNish was playing only in the back row, but plays around the court now. Goff and Elliott have become starters, with Goff playing in the front row and rotating out in favor of Elliott in the back row.

Five-foot-2 junior Christy Johnson is a back-row specialist and "the

volleyball

toughest kid I have," DeBello said.

"She'll do whatever it takes to get the ball up or win the game," he said. "I kinda wish she was 5-7 and I could let her play all the way around and hit."

Another player whom DeBello expects to contribute a lot this year and in the future is 5-6 sophomore Andrea Velthovin, an "outstanding attacker" who played on the junior varsity last year.

"She has the best jumping ability

of any kid I've ever coached," said DeBello, adding Velthovin has a 30-inch vertical jump. "I'm excited about her volleyball future at Mercy."

OTHER VARSITY newcomers on the 13-player squad are senior Yvette Klimes, juniors Teresa Coleita and Pam Thompson and sophomore Nikki Burns. The latter is a setter, the other three hitters.

The Marlins appear to have the hitters and offensive ability needed for a successful campaign, but DeBello is emphasizing passing and defense.

"Offense scores points but defense wins championships," he said.

OU women cagers struggle to win

Vacation's over.

Monday at University of Michigan-Dearborn, it seemed Oakland University's women's basketball team was still on holiday break. The Lady Pioneers struggled all the way against the Lady Wolves before finally claiming a 68-67 win.

Freshman Janice Kosman sank two free throws in the final 27 seconds to propel OU to the win, but it took four attempts.

Kosman was fouled with 27 seconds left. She hit the first free throw but missed the second, tying the game at 67. Leah Fenwick rebounded for OU and got the ball back to Kosman, who was fouled again.

Again she hit one-of-two from the stripe, giving the Lady Pioneers the lead. UM-D had a chance to go back ahead, but with 14 seconds to go Diane Callaway missed a layup and OU rebounded and ran out the clock.

NOT MUCH went well for the Lady Pioneers against a team that was blown out by Lake Superior State, the team OU is challenging for

the Great Lakes title, by 43 and 22 points.

It was OU's first game in two weeks, which included a 10-day vacation from practice, a Christmas gift from coach Bob Taylor.

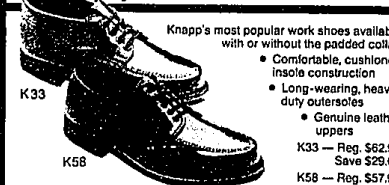
Sarah Knuth's 23 points and 11 rebounds was best for the Lady Pioneers. Kosman finished with 18 points and seven boards, and Kim

Klein-Green had 10 points.

Callaway's 24 points and 11 rebounds topped UM-D (4-8). Sally Long, whose three-pointer tied the game at 66 with just over a minute left, added 25 points.

OU plays at Michigan Tech Thursday and at Lake Superior State Saturday.

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WRESTLING TRAVELS

Darrell Tharnish, a 1986 graduate of Farmington High School, traveled to South America last month with the Olivet College wrestling team. Several teams from the United States competed along with South American teams in Caracas, Venezuela.

Tharnish was team captain, most outstanding wrestler and a state qualifier (placing in the top 10) while at Farmington High.

He was awarded his varsity letter as a freshman at Olivet last year, finishing with an 11-1 record. Olivet was ranked 15th in the nation among Division III schools.

CURLING ON TAP

The Detroit Curling Club will be host for the 102nd Annual Men's International Brier on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 8-10. The club is located at 5800 Drake Road, West Bloomfield Township.

Sixteen Canadian teams will match skills with 16 teams from the United States. Curling begins at 10 a.m. Friday and Saturday. The finals are scheduled for 1 p.m. Sunday.

LETTER WINNER

Chris Bayer, a freshman at Olivet College, earned his varsity letter as a member of the school's golf team last fall.

Bayer is a 1987 graduate of North Farmington High School and the son of Donald and Nancy Bayer of Farmington Hills.

RECORD SETTER

Cornell University senior David Quarles set school records for field goals made (12), field goals attempted (23) and most points (50) by a kicker in one football season last fall.

Quarles, who is from Farmington Hills, also tied another record with three field goals in a game against Brown.

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