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(F1D)

Farmington shocks unbeaten Canton

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

Farmington High School began a new basketball season Tuesday night.

After winning only one of their first seven games, the Falcons got a much-needed shot in the arm with a stunning, 63-60 victory over previously undefeated Plymouth Canton.

"It's got to do an awful lot for our confidence," Farmington coach Bob Kaump said. "The confidence level has to be unbelievable."

"I told (the players) all along we've got some talent and just had to put it together. If this doesn't do it, I don't know what will."

The game-winning shot was fired by 6-foot-5 junior Mike Myers, who sank a turnaround jumper with 1:12 remaining to put the Fal-

basketball

cons on top 61-60.

CANTON HAD a chance to regain the lead, but Roger Trice missed a pair of free throws with under a minute left.

Farmington got the ball into the front court and immediately went to a delay game. Myers, who had 14 points, as did teammate Jason Brown, to lead the Falcons, gave Farmington a three-point cushion when he downed two free throws with 26 seconds on the clock.

Canton still had a chance to force an over-

time period if it could capitalize on the three-point shot, and that's what the Chiefs attempted to do. But Brian Paupore's try for three with :09 remaining and Brad Carey's shot at the buzzer missed the mark.

"You've got to take them one at a time, and every one is a challenge," Canton coach Tom Niemi said. "And we didn't meet the challenge tonight."

"A lot of players had an opportunity to play, and we didn't get the lift from the bench that we have in other games."

WHILE THE Chiefs, 7-1 overall, have relied on their balanced scoring, they had two players in double figures as opposed to Farmington's five.

Trice notched a game-high 15 points, and Matt Littleton tossed in 10. Brad Carey and

Mitch Fyke added nine apiece, David Foxworthy seven.

In addition to Myers and Brown, who is another 6-5 junior, Brandon London scored 12 points, Drew McDougall 11 and Steve Quenneville 10.

"We got good play out of two juniors (Myers and Brown) tonight, and we had good play at guard from Quenneville," Kaump said. "But I think Brandon London had the best game. Rebounds, assists — he carried the team most of the night."

It was Myers who produced the big points when the game was on the line, and his winning shot was the result of an adjustment that Kaump has been encouraging him to make.

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"This is the first time we've put four quarters together and played very well. It's going to be a fun ride home for a change."

— Bob Kaump
Farmington coach

Raiders start fast but lose

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

North Farmington believed it was ready to test Livonia Stevenson's position as the dominant volleyball team in the Western Lakes Activities Association Monday night.

The Raiders, who went into the early-showdown having won two tournaments and boasting a 13-1 record, started to support that contention by winning the first game of the Lakes Division match 15-13.

But the Spartans, unbeaten and ranked No. 2 in the state, regrouped to win the next two games, 15-5 and 15-9, and retain position as the team to beat with a less than impressive performance on defense, according to coach Lee Cagle.

"The outcome is OK, but it was a pitiful match on our part," he said. "North Farmington hustled and played well."

"Our defense was far below what it has been all year. Our serve reception was average, but we didn't pass well to get the offense going."

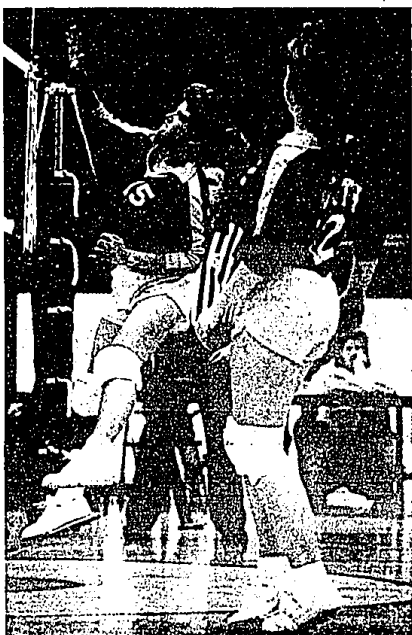
NORTH GAINED the upper hand in the first game when the Raiders scored five points behind the serving of Carrie Lee to take a 7-2 lead.

The front-row play of Stephanie Knapp and Missy Bosscauwen was instrumental in North's success and earned for two kills and a successful dink during that surge.

The Raiders were in position to turn the game into a rout as Knapp served up a pair of aces and boosted North's lead to 10-3. But the Spartans rallied behind six servers to take a 13-12 lead. Rocky Cibor's ace tied the score, and Stevenson took its first lead on Sue Zatorski's left-handed serve.

North came back to win the game after Bosscauwen's block forced a sideout and brought up Knapp again in the serving rotation. Bosscauwen got the tying point with a kill and the game-winner with a successful block at the net.

"Even though we fell behind 12-13, the kids didn't get intimidated," North coach Sandy Lubienicki said. "I've had teams in the past that would go out on the court, and you could tell they didn't think they could beat Ste-



RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Pam Konjarevich slams the ball at the Stevenson defense while teammate Stephanie Knapp looks on during Monday's volleyball match. North lost the second and third games.

venson. As long as we continue to play like that, I think we'll have a lot of success."

"STEVENSON was No. 1, and even with that, we're upset with our loss."

With Zatorski finding the groove from her middle hitter position, the Spartans did what North did in the first game, breaking open a close contest to take an 11-4 lead on eight service points by Cibor, Zatorski and Charlene Sudek.

Tricia Kosikowski finished off the match-tying victory with four straight serves for points, the first three of which were aces.

Stevenson started out doing the same thing in the third game, rushing ahead to an 11-4 advantage as the offensive attack that sparked North earlier faded and Zatorski's well-placed hits fueled the Spartans' momentum.

The Raiders renewed their hopes, however, as Lee served for

five points to cut the difference to two points, but Zatorski's attack for a sideout halted North's rally. After an exchange of sideouts, Sudek served up the last four points Stevenson, the deciding one being an ace.

"THEY LIKE to win, of course," said Cagle of his players. "But if you were to talk to any of them I don't think they'd be satisfied with the way the team played overall."

Cagle added the Spartans, 15-0, haven't had an opportunity to play two times in the same week yet, and that hindered the team as far as developing consistency in its play.

"Defensively, we just didn't play the kind of game this team has earlier," he said. "One of our strong points was serve reception, and it's been our weak point in the last two matches and practice."

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CC whips challengers to capture own tourney

By Brad Emons
staff writer

Is anybody closing the gap in Redford Catholic Central's powerful wrestling team?

The answer is no, according to CC coach Mike Rodriguez, whose team captured the Shamrock Invitational Saturday for the second straight year with a team-high 194 points.

Seven of the state's top 10 Class A teams competed in the 16-team field. But it was dominated by host CC for the most part. The Shamrocks finished 33½ points ahead of Catholic League rival Birmingham Brother Rice, which finished second. Grandville was a distant third with 12½.

Two area schools also competed. Plymouth Salem was ninth with 77½ and Livonia Churchill dead last with four. (See statistical summary.)

"This is one we try to shoot for and it's one that's better than the halfway mark of the season," Rodriguez said. "Last year we won this by the skin of our teeth and then Lansing Sexton sneaked by us at the state meet."

"I'm confident about this team and I'm pleased with the boys right now, but we're nowhere near our peak yet."

BUT SEVERAL CC wrestlers appeared to be in peak form on Saturday, including individual winners Toby Heaton (heavyweight), Matt Helm (126 pounds) and Lee

wrestling

Krueger (198). Three others also reached the finals before losing, including Jay Helm (119), Brendan Rock (138) and Chris Rodriguez (145).

Heaton, the defending state Class A heavyweight champion, has lost only once this year, a 4-3 decision to an Ohio wrestler.

On Saturday, the 6-foot-6, 250-pounder defeated Davidson's Rich Loren for the third time this season, scoring a 4-1 decision.

"It was close, but I felt I was in control," said Heaton, who is entertaining football offers from such schools as Michigan State, Southern Cal and Indiana. "I just kept the pressure on him (Loren) because he's a defensive wrestler. But he is the type of wrestler that could catch you if you're not careful. He could still beat me. I'm not invincible."

Helm, No. 1 seed at 126, defeated Chris Snooks of Rice in the finals, 14-6. Krueger, a junior, was seeded No. 1 at 198 and came away with a 7-4 triumph over Mike Fry of Grandville, outscoring his opponent 5-2 in the final period.

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Mercy rebounds to have strong tournament effort

Farmington Hills Mercy rebounded from its dual-meet volleyball loss to Livonia Ladywood to make a strong showing in Saturday's tournament at West Bloomfield.

The Marlinas, who suffered a 15-9, 3-15, 0-15 loss to the Blazers a week ago, finished second behind Mount Clemens Chippewa Valley in the weekend action.

Mercy went undefeated in pool play and rallied to beat Milford Lakeland (9-15, 15-10, 15-8) in the semifinals before taking runner-up honors in the wake of 11-15, 15-2 loss to the Big Red in the final.

"This was a really an important tournament because of how poorly we played last Thursday," Mercy

volleyball

coach Tim DeBellis said.

"On Friday, we got together as a team, and I told them we had to make some changes in the lineup and had to get back on track. The kids came out and played really, really hard."

IN POOL PLAY, the Marlinas defeated Berkley, 15-10, 15-7; Orionville-Brandon, 15-1, 15-10; West Bloomfield, 15-10, 15-11; and Troy, 15-2, 15-8.

Candi Boyle had an outstanding day setting the ball to Mercy's hitters, DeBellis said, and Kristin Orlandoni led the attack from her middle hitting position.

(Orlandoni) scored the crucial points and sideouts we had to have throughout the day," he said. The Marlinas, 14-3 overall, raised their record to 2-1 in the Central Division of the Catholic League when they defeated Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher 15-5, 15-14 Monday.

Orlandoni had 16 attacks and five kills to lead the Mercy offense once again, and Andrea Velbovin had 11 attacks and four kills. Bishop Gallagher dropped to 0-3 in the division.