

# Ex-Rice star still winless

By C.J. Rieck  
staff writer

## The Curse of Crisler

Sounds ominous. Might expect Freddie or Jason to come bursting through a wall waving a meat cleaver or butcher knife with a title like that.

This curse isn't that frightening, although B.J. Armstrong might imagine such visions every time he takes to the floor at University of Michigan's Crisler Arena.

If that sounds bad, it's because it is that bad. Since Armstrong left Birmingham Brother Rice for the University of Iowa, each trip the Hawkeyes have made to Crisler has been a nightmare.

Armstrong is now a junior. He has never won at Crisler. Until late last season, when the Hawkeyes ended an eight-game losing skid by beating U-M in Iowa City, he had never managed to beat U-M. It was their first win against the Wolverines since 1981.

ANOTHER STREAK may have started Wednesday. Hawkeye fans should have foreseen it. Their poor record at Crisler was strike one; the loss of starting center Al Lorenzen to injury was strike two; and the accelerated Armstrong received from other Big Ten coaches, who referred to him as the best point guard in the conference, was strike three.

As if U-M needed any more ammunition in preparing to do battle with Iowa. Those final statements fueled Wolverine point guard Gary Grant with a personal incentive.

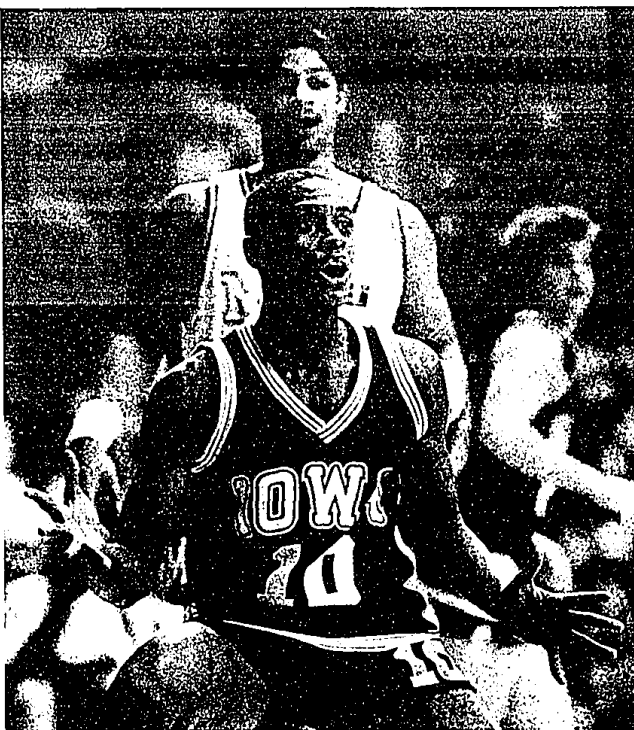
The object of his revenge? Armstrong.

The result, a 120-103 loss, was predictable. The score reached 30-7 by the 11:43 mark; Grant had scored 16 points, including four three-pointers, by then. Armstrong, meanwhile, struggled through the first half, going zero-for-five from the floor and committing five turnovers.

YEECH.

"It's been tough coming back," admitted Armstrong. "We just couldn't get it going tonight. They just stuck it to us. They were obviously on a roll."

"We've just got to bounce back and get ready for the next one."



File photo by DAN DEAN

Former Brother Rice basketball star B.J. Armstrong has become one of the Big 10's top

This was one of the lowest points in an otherwise bright season for Armstrong. He finished with 15 points after Iowa put together a school-record 77-point second half, but he hit just six-of-17 from the floor and had six turnovers. He also dished out six assists.

Not too good, considering his season stats entering the game: 16.8 points, 4.1 assists, 37-of-54 (68 percent) on three-pointers — all team-highs. Armstrong was hitting 52.2

percent from the floor and 87.3 percent from the line.

But it wasn't the confrontation with Grant that made the difference, Armstrong felt. "I knew it wouldn't come down to that. I was just trying to get us back in the game, back to within 20. I wasn't even thinking about Gary. Their whole team played well."

STILL, THE HAWKEYES can't afford to play many more games like Wednesday's if they hope to challenge for a conference title. After the U-M loss they were 15-6 overall, 5-3 in the Big Ten.

"We were upset we didn't play better," Armstrong said. "You've got to be tougher than that on the road."

So what are their title chances?

"We're really just got to take care of ourselves and everything else will take care of itself."

And what about the upcoming rematch with U-M (Feb. 27) — this time at Iowa's Carver Arena? Is revenge for Wednesday's embarrassment (Iowa trailed 61-26 at the half) already brewing?

"Not at all," insisted Armstrong. "I just put in my mind what we did (wrong), so we don't do it again."

Still, maybe Wolverine coach Bill Frieder planted the seed of vengeance after Wednesday's win. "Gary (Grant) won't tell you this," he said, "but we're tired of hearing this nonsense of Armstrong being the best point guard in the conference."

We shall see. Round two is coming up.

# Sub scores 22 in Hawk victory

## basketball

Marc Mack, given the opportunity to be a starter, rose to the occasion Friday night for Farmington Hills Harrison's basketball team.

Replacing forward Chad Burgess in the starting unit, Mack, a 6-foot-2 junior, scored a game-high 22 points to spark the Hawks in their 63-45 defeat of Walled Lake Western.

Burgess, one of Harrison's leading scorers, sat out the game with an injury.

The Hawks are 5-2 in the Western Division, one game behind first-place Plymouth Canton, whom they will meet Thursday night at Harrison. Coach Mike Teachman's ballclub improved its overall record to 9-4.

Harrison had only a 43-38 lead going into the fourth quarter against the Warriors, but the Hawks tacked on 22 points — their biggest output of the game — to win going away.

Center Jim Hill had 12 points and seven rebounds, and guard Jason Lichtman added 11 points for Harrison, which led 20-13 and 34-26 after the first and second periods.

Western, 2-6 and 3-8, was led by Tom Kubik with 14 points.

SALEM 84, N. FARMINGTON 65: Todd Marion paced a first-half shootout that eventually carried Salem past host North Farmington Friday.

Marion scored 21 of his 23 points, which included four baskets from beyond the three-point circle, in the first half as the teams engaged in a run-and-gun affair.

"It was the shootout at the OK Corral," Salem coach Bob Brodie said. "Right from the word go, both teams were shooting the lights out of the buckets."

The Rocks put down six triples in the first half, the Raiders four. Matt Hoffman had two of North's triples. Surpassing the 20-point mark in each of the first two quarters, Salem led 47-38 at halftime.

The action settled down in the second half, but the Rocks still led 61-54 at the end of three and put the game away when they outscored North 23-11 in the last period.

SALEM, 4-3 IN the Lakes Division and 6-7 overall, led by 10 in the fourth and spread the floor to pull the Raiders out of their zone defense. That created easier scoring opportunities for the Rocks, Brodie said.

Holding the Raiders to their lowest scoring total in the fourth, Salem also "took away their inside game" and only gave them one opportunity, said Brodie of his team's defense.

Bill Anderson had 16 points for the second straight game, matching the team-high total he had in last week's game with Walled Lake Central. Jeff Elliott, playing in his first game after recovering from a broken arm, scored 10 points, and Keith Smith was the top rebounder with nine.

Forward Kurt Dudek paced North, 3-4 in the division and 5-8 overall, with 19 points.

Brodie added he was especially pleased that "everybody played and played well." It also was the first game in which the Rocks have had all their players healthy since December.

# Seaholm edges Falcons

Wins in all four events weren't enough for Farmington's gymnasts, who couldn't match Birmingham Seaholm's depth in losing 127.4-125.55 Wednesday at Farmington.

Jackie Daly had a pair of firsts, capturing the vault (9.05) and floor exercise (9.05). Daly was also second in the balance beam (8.45) to teammate Julie Lawton's first-place score of 8.55. Daly recorded the highest all-around total of the meet (34.45).

The Falcons' other winner was Debbie Ford in the uneven parallel bars (8.45). Lawton had the third highest all-around score (31.75).

Farmington, now 3-6 in dual meets, travels to Grosse Pointe North Monday.

**"It's been tough coming back. We just couldn't get it going tonight. They just stuck it to us. They were obviously on a roll."**

— B.J. Armstrong  
Ex-Brother Rice cager

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## ADVERTISEMENT

Sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk, City of Farmington Hills, at the City Hall, 31555 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan until 10:00 A.M., February 16, 1988. Bid opening will be at 10:00 A.M. E.S.T., for the purchase of:

- Bid No. 87-88-29 Aluminum Sign Blanks
- Bid No. 87-88-30 Gravel Materials (Road)
- Bid No. 87-88-31 Refuse Hauling And Disposal
- Bid No. 87-88-32 Sign Posts
- Bid No. 87-88-33 Culverts, Corrugated Steel Pipes
- Bid No. 87-88-34 Transit Mt Concrete

Specifications may be obtained from the Purchasing Department on or after February 4, 1988.  
All bids submitted are to be clearly marked for the specific item.  
The City of Farmington Hills reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in part or in whole, to waive any informalities, and to accept the bid which it believes to be in the best interest of the City.

JoAN REYNOLDS,  
City Clerk

Public February 8, 1988

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**CITY OF FARMINGTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS (Summary)**

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was called to order by Mayor Tupper at 8:00 p.m. on February 1, 1988, in Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan.

**PRESIDENT:** Campbell, **HARRISON:** Richardson, **TUPPER:** Yoder.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** City Manager Deadman, Director Lauhoff, Director Billing, City Attorney Kelly, City Clerk Buhey.

Minutes of previous meeting of January 18, 1988, were approved as written. Minutes of other boards were received and/or filed.

Council instructed the City Clerk to write congressmen for legislation to overturn the position taken by the IRS on tax revolving fund notes; also to write voicing Council's opposition to the collection of federal taxes on gas and diesel fuel purchased by local governments.

Council issued a proclamation designating March 24, 1988, as SEMCOG RECOGNITION DAY and recognizing SEMCOG's 20 years of regional planning services.

Council granted permission to the Downtown Development Authority to operate a Banner Program under guidelines adopted by the DDA Board of Directors. Council reviewed the City Manager's progress report on the Municipal Offices remodeling project.

Council introduced Ordinance No. C-555-88, which would amend the Employees' Retirement System ordinance by adding Options A & B.

Council authorized payment of \$1,777.59 to T & M Contractors for work completed on the 1987 Water System Improvement.

There were no public comments.

Council received the General Fund and 47th District Court financial reports for six months ended December 31, 1987, and the Department of Public Services second quarter report for October 1 through December 31, 1987.

Monthly bills were approved for payment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

RICHARD L. TUPPER, Mayor  
JOSEPHINE M. BUSHEY, City Clerk

Public February 8, 1988

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