# Hawks bow to Salem

By Dan O'Meara stoff writer

Patience in shot selection is a vir-tue on the basketball court.
Plymouth Salem demonstrated that quality Tuesday night in the Western Lakes playoffs on Farming-ton Hills Harrison's court.
The Rocks evidently attempted the right shots and certainly made them count as Salem posted a mild upset, 62-53, over the Hawks, who had beaten the Rocks cariler in the year and finished second in the West-ern Division.
Harrison pulled within four points,

The way this well as the west-ready in the West-ren Division.

Harrison pulled within four points, 37-33, when Salem connected for all three of its three-point field goals during the last 1½ minutes of the third quarter.

Jeff Elliott made two of the triples and Scott Hale the other. Those nine points, combined with Bill Anderson's deuce, gave the Rocks a 48-34 lead going into the last period.

period.
"IT COULD HAVE gone either way right there, and (the Salem players) didn't rush their shots," Rocks coach Bob Brodie said. Rocks ceach Bob Brodie said.
"We waited for the second and
third opportunity, which means we
waited to shoot when we wanted to
shoot and we didn't let Harrison dictate when.
"When you're ready to shoot
you're a lot more relaxed, and the
shots go down a lot easier," he added.



Bryan Wauldron tries to block a shot by Salem's Keith Smith during Tuesday's Western Lakes playoff game at Harrison. The Hawks fell

wou're a lot more relaxed, and the shots go down a lot easier," he added.

Shooting also was on the collective mind of the Hawks, but for a different reason.

Harrison coach Mike Teachman agreed the Salem triples played a decisive role in the game itself, but he believed his team was repeatedly denied a fair shot at the basket by different relaxed. The short shouldn't call fouls on the Rocks.

"I' hate is say it, but the difference by the game was the black and white," he said. "We were getting hit on most of our shots and there was held to be a short shouldn't call the short shouldn't call the short shouldn't call the short shouldn't call go the short shouldn't call go the short shouldn't call the short shouldn

Mack, Jason Lichtman and Bryan Wauldron combining to score the first eight points for a six-point dif-ference, 48-42. Todd Marion, who scored a game-lick 18 colors myliciped Salem's

Todd Marion, who scored a game-high 16 points, maintained Salem's lead until the Rocks could secure it in the final minute. MACK PULLED the Hawks with-n6449, but Park Repechs scored off a tip and Elliott and Hale hit the front end of two 1-and-is to keep Sa-lem safely in front. Plus, the Rocks got the rebound after each missed free throw to further frustrate Har-rison.

rison.
"My guys really fought coming back," Teachman said, "We'd come back, shoot a layup, get beited and nothing would happen. It's hard to score when you're getting belted."

Marion was the only Salem player in double figures; while a balanced attack saw M.J. Ewald and Elliott score nine apiece, Ruepecki seven, Hale and Jeff Gold six each and Ketth Smith ywe have a lot of experienced guys who all have the ability to contribute in a game, and that was illustrated lonight; "Frodie said. Mack led the Hawks, 11-6 overalf, with 15 points, Burgess sored 14, Lichtman had 12 and Wauldron added seven.

Lichtman had 12 and Waudron ado-ed seven.

The Rocks, 8-10, play Walled Lake
Central at 8 p.m. Saturday in the
semifinals at Salem. North Farming-ton meets Westland John Glenn in
the other game at 6 p.m. Harrison
plays Livonia Franklin at 2 p.m.,
also at Salem.

# **Raiders shock** unbeaten WLC

North Farmington's basketball fortunes did an abrupt 180-degree turn for the better last weekend. The Ralders thought they were eliminated from the Western Lakes playoffs and Farmington figured it was in after the Falcons beat North Friday night.

After some confusion over the league's liebreaking formula, the Ralders realized they'd get the playoff not instead if they won a makeup contest Saturday night.

All coach Tom Negoshian's team had to do was beat Walled Lake Central, the Lakes Division champs and one of only two undefeated Class A teams.

The state of the the contest of the c

FARMINGTON, which won its FARMINGTON, which won its last three regular-season games, fin-ished 4-6 in the division and had a half-game lead over North following Friday's game. But North's victory Saturday forced a tie, and the Ralders won the tiebreaker based on their win over the first-place team.

"That need to show you how crazy to the program of the progra

ers won the decreaser based on their win over the first-place team.
"That goes to show you how cray this game can be," said Negoshlan of the team of the said of the said of the late team of the said of the said of the layoff chances before going on the floor Saturday, and that knowledge served to motivate his players, Negoshlan said.
"We're not the type of team that can just go up and down the floor and beat people," he said. "We have to play hard and with emotion." Negoshlan said he thought the Raiders caught WLC, which defeated second-place John Glena to lock up the division crown Friday, at the right time and, secondly, played an excellent game themselves.

### basketball

"OUR KIDS made some really good decisions with the basketball," he said. "The way they reacted and played unselfishly was the key to the whole thing."

played enselfishty was the key to the whole thing." Sophomore guard Matt Holfman, who had 28 points in an earlier game with the Vikings, scored 25 Saturday. — 20 in the second half, if e was 1-of-of-15 at the free-throw line. Furthermore, Holfman, who is av-eraging 16 points, had an all-around good game, passing for six assists and pulling down six rebounds. "He's doing a nice job for us as a sophomore," Negoshian said, "being the point guard and having to make decisions and also score from that position."

position."

The Raiders, who had a bad shooting night against Farmington, were 23-01-47 from the floor Saturday and 20-01-28 at the line.

20-01-28 at the line.

"IT COULDN'T go any other way," said Niegoshian of his team's improved shooting percentage.

Jim Ratajski scored 14 points and had 10 rebounds, John Shelton had 10 points and Vanny Hill and Bill Green added eight apiece. Ratajski and Green split time in the post, giving the Raiders 22 points and 14 rebounds out of that position, Negoshian pointed out.

Layne Herrington led the Vikings.

an pointed out.

Layne Herrington led the Vikings,
9-1 and 16-1 overall, with 19 points.
Dave Nelson had 10 and Rob Wolski,
averaging in the neighborhood of 20,
was held to eight.
North led 37-28 at halfitme and
53-37 after three quarters. Hoffman
was 6-6-7 shooting free throws and
dad 19 points in the last period when
WLC started to press and foul.

### Falcon winning streak ends

Farmington's three-game winning streak was halted Tuesday night by a 52-47 loss to Northville in a Western Lakes crossover basketball game. The Falcons had won their last three regular-season games in an effort to make the league playoffs, only to lose a tlebreaker to North

fort to make the league playoffs, only to lose a tiebreaker to North Farmington.
Farmington: Bate-season surge began Monday, Feb. 15, with a 65-59, overtime victory over Livonion Stevenson. It was the first of three wins in the course of five days for the Falcons. Farmington's Drew McDougall had four free throws in the overtime and scored 17 points to lead all scorers.

Darin Magera added 16 for the Falcons, and Chris Cabill's three-point jump shot with 18 seconds left sent the game into overtime.

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### North stages back-to-back surprises

Continued from Page 1

Continued from Page 1

But the Ralders put on a late spurt and took a seven-point lead, 54-47, on a three-point play by Venoy Hill with 3.38 left, with 3.38 left, which are seven-point play by Venoy Hill with 3.38 left, and cannot expend a later and Canton came charging back on a pair of three-point bombs by Brian Paupore (15 points). Canton then sent the game into overtime when Matt Littleton scored a hoop with 16 seconds remaining. North had two shots in the final seconds, but neither dropped as the two teams went into overtime dead-

locked at 60-all.

IN THE OVERTIME, North took IN THE OVERITHME, North took a 64-60 lead on baskets by Shelton and Ratajski, but Canton answered with filve straight points, including two free throws by Mittch Pyke (16 points) with 45 seconds left, to regain the lead at 55-84.

But Ratajski, taking a nice feed from Shelton, answered with a hoop at the 18-second mark.

Canton then called timeout, but failed to convert two shots in the final seconds.

"We had the shots three different times, but it wasn't meant to be," said Niemi. "We had the shot selec-tion, but they wouldn't drop. We worked the ball and we were patient, but we had breakdowns defensively that hurt us inside.

"I'm proud of the way we came back. We showed a lot of character. But it leaves an empty feeling be-cause of how hard these kids worked. We're just going to have to pick up ourselves and work now for the district (state tourney)."

CANTON WILL PLAY Farming-ton Harrison at 4 p.m. Saturday in the consolation round at Salem. North will be the underdog again against Glenn, a team that has beat-en the Raiders twice already this season.

"To Canton's credit they came back," Negoshlan said, "but it shows character on our part not to quit el-ther."

Yes, Negoshian and his team is starting to believe anything is possi-ble.

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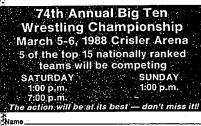
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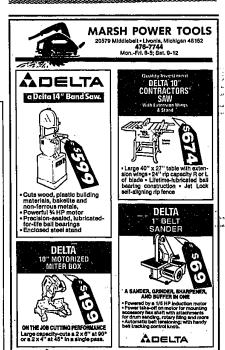
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