

Sports

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(F3B)

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Hawks drill Pats to stay unbeaten

By Steve Kowalski
staff writer

Knock, knock.
Is coach Rod Hanna done talking to his Livonia Franklin basketball team?

After the Patriots' 60-48 loss Thursday to visiting Farmington Harrison, Hanna met with his players in the team room for about a half hour.

He wasn't talking about the weather, which was miserable Thursday night.

So was Franklin during the third quarter, when the Patriots went more than six minutes without a point and watched the Hawks build a 48-38 lead heading into the fourth quarter. The Patriots missed 11 of

their 13 field goal attempts in the third quarter.

Franklin, which played more than two quarters of wonderful basketball, fell to 2-3 overall. Harrison remained unbeaten in six games. It was the Western Division opener for both teams.

"We made crucial turnovers when it came time to winning," Hanna said. "We're going to work hard and get it going."

"I MADE A statement in the summer and said, 'In time, this Harrison team will be among the top five (Class B) teams in the state. They have that potential because they have quickness and they're gutsy.'"

Franklin took its last lead, 35-33, on a jump shot by John Shea with 6:36 left in the third quarter, before Harrison turned the game into a rout. Harrison scored the next 15 points, getting eight out of senior forward Chad Burgess who completed the run with a basket off a missed free throw.

A three-point shot by Franklin's Craig Overallits made the score 48-38 after three quarters, but the Patriots weren't able to get any closer than seven points the rest of the way.

Burgess led Harrison with 18 points, 11 rebounds and four steals. Bryan Wauldron added 15 points and 10 rebounds and Jason Lichtman scored 13 points.

"They went to their potential all-

stater (Burgess), that's what happened," Hanna said. "They went to him and he came through."

HARRISON PLAYED without Mill Coleman, who was out with the flu. Adam Lowy, the Hawks' top reserve, started and scored five points. Burgess played some of the second half with four fouls.

"We missed Mill defensively and he's our court leader," Harrison coach Mike Teachman said. "Jason Lichtman and Burgess came to the front leadership-wise."

"Burgess has the ability to play with two or three fouls and not get his fifth foul. His performance was typical when you consider on four or five of the shots he was fouled, but

they weren't called. It's hard to play over that."

Franklin center Mark Donohue and guard Roy Hall both fouled out after scoring six and eight points, respectively.

OVERAITS led the Patriots with 15 points, making a pair of three-point shots. Shea, who buried three shots from 3-point range, finished with 11 points.

Franklin made only 17 of 51 shots from the field, but the effort can't be faulted. The smaller Patriots also battled the Hawks on the boards, getting outrebounded only 32-27.

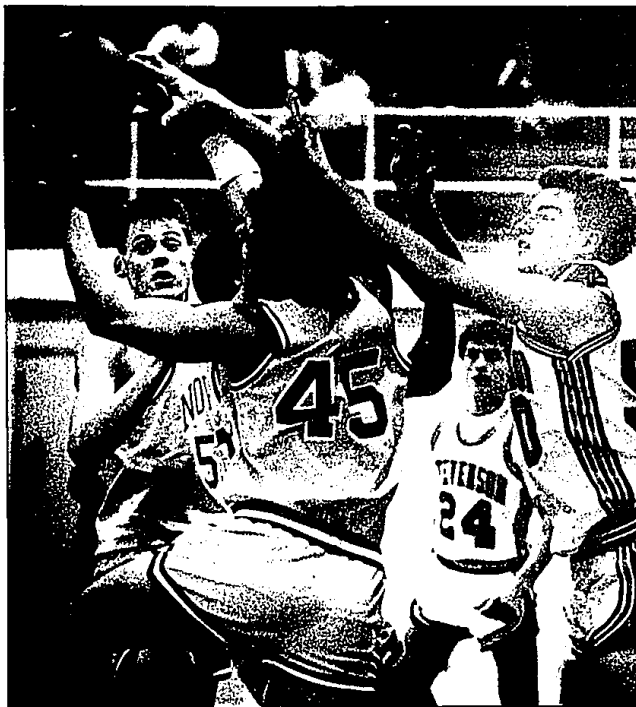
"They're not a bad team," Teachman said. "They played hard the whole 32 minutes, just like they did the other night against Stevenson (a

72-60 loss). There a team to be reckoned with."

Franklin could have given up after the first quarter when it trailed 20-9. But the Patriots outscored the Hawks 13-2 and with 4:35 left before halftime Joe Ransley tied it at 22 with a basket.

The two teams battled the rest of the half and went into the locker rooms tied at 31.

"The second quarter was our bad quarter," Teachman said. "They scored 22 points, not because we played bad defense. They scored 22 points because of our lack of shooting. We'd come down take a quick shot, miss it and go back on offense again. We were just like the (Detroit) Lions. Our defense was on the field all the time."



THOMAS ARNETT/staff photographer

Eric Dettler (No. 45) of North Farmington fights for the rebound against Stevenson's Chris Hoffman (No. 24). North went on to the Spartans' home floor, 69-63. Nazoli as teammate Eric Carlson (far left)

By Brad Emmons
staff writer

Tis the season to be jolly?

If you're North Farmington boys basketball coach Tom Negoshian, it is.

The Raiders, who struggled most of the month of December, gave themselves a nice present Thursday, opening Lakes Division play in the Western Lakes Activities Association with a 69-63 victory at Livonia Stevenson.

Junior forward Brian Temple gave Negoshian plenty of comfort and joy. He turned in his best effort of the season, scoring a game-high 21 points.

"As a junior you can't ask for anything more," Negoshian said. "He hit four clutch free throws at the end and made a couple of three-pointers."

Sophomore forward Chris White and junior point-guard Matt Hoffman (still rounding into shape after sitting out the first three games with a bad ankle), added 15 points each. Eric Dettler, another junior, contributed 10 points off the bench.

"We're 3-3 (record) and now we can get Matt (Hoffman) back into therapy for his ankle (injury) and he'll come back quicker and better after the holidays," said the North coach. "I'm really happy and pleased. We beat a team that's having a good year."

STEVENSON WENT into the game confident and sporting a 4-1 record, but the Spartans were gully of missing layups and free throws (nine of 24).

North, meanwhile, feasted at the free throw line, making 20 of 28.

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Temple was eight of nine, Hoffman seven of 10 and White five of six.

"We had our chances, but not very many," said Stevenson coach Jim McIntyre. "What I told my team after the game is that they should be thankful they had the opportunities that they missed. We had shots that we normally hit."

"North went to the line too many times and had too many shots. That's not our game."

The Spartans played "their game" early, jumping out to a 20-12 first-quarter advantage.

But the Raiders rallied to tie the game at 28-all at a basket by White with 1:38 to go before intermission.

STEVENSON'S SCOTT Kosikowski, a senior forward, then scored five of his team-high 17 points in the final minute to give the Spartans a 35-30 halftime.

But the Spartans couldn't stand prosperity as North, behind Temple's 10 points, inched closer by the close of three quarters, 48-47.

The charging Raiders eventually built a nine-point cushion early in the fourth quarter, 58-49, when Temple made a pair of free throws after Stevenson's 6-foot-6, 270-pound center Mike Vrooman (16 points) was called for a technical foul (slapping the blackboard).

But to the Spartans' credit, they didn't quit.

Stepping up the pressure, Stevenson clawed back and tied the game with only 27 seconds to go, 63-all, on

a three-point bomb by Kosikowski.

But North answered 14 seconds later off the fast-break when 6-4 Eric Carlson scored a layup thanks to a pass from White.

The Raiders then got some glad tidings when Stevenson's Ron Baran (12 points) called a timeout when the Spartans didn't have any left at the 10-seconds mark.

TEMPLE SHOT THE technical foul, making both ends to get the game away. The Raiders also got the ball out of bounds, as Dettler scored with four seconds left to make the final margin six.

"The kids executed the plays well when we had to come back, but we just mis-communicated (calling the timeout) at the wrong time," McIntyre said. "Normally, calling a timeout at that time is a smart move. Normally, it gives you a chance to set something up."

Negoshian also contemplated calling timeout after Kosikowski tied the score.

"There's two philosophies you can use in that situation," said the North coach. "One philosophy is to call time out and set something up, but then you set their defense up as well. The other is not call time out and can get the ball up."

"They double-teamed Matt (Hoffman) and he hit White in the middle. By then we had a three-on-two break and wasn't going to stop my guys at that point."

The defeat gives McIntyre time to re-evaluate his team.

"Maybe this will make us a better ballclub the next time we get into a

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Glenn's Rockets slam North in Lakes Division encounter

Westland John Glenn's wrestling team handed North Farmington easily Thursday, winning 48-15.

Glenn captured eight of the 12 matches, with six of the wins coming on pins.

Registering falls for Glenn were: Scott Lefler (103); Tony Pietryk (112); Karl Pace (119); Eric Ewing (125); Nate Kempainen (135); Rob Matigian (140); Mike McKinley (152); Craig Kuban (160) and Derrick Tharp (180).

North's wins came from Lucian Van Cleave (130), V.J. Matul (145), Jeff Jacobs (171) and heavyweight Zaim Cunniff.

PLYMOUTH CANTON is still looking for its first dual-meet wrestling win of the season, and the Chiefs certainly weren't going to get it Thursday against Northville.

Northville happens to be one of the area's best teams. Plymouth Canton continued its struggle Thursday under first-year coach Ray Kosakowski, losing a 46-21 match to the more experienced Mustangs.

Northville won the first five matches and nine overall.

Canton's first win came from Liam Renta, who pinned Kevin DeLaney at 140 pounds in 1:10. Jim Yack (145) recorded the next Chiefs' triumph, defeating Kurt Cureta, 3-1.

Canton's only other win came from Jeff Huff who pinned Sean

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Payne in 3:30 in the 160-pound division, and heavyweight Mike Kelly, who also recorded a pin.

GARDEN CITY, a young wrestling squad, learned a couple of rough lessons Tuesday in a quad meet at Dearborn Fordson.

The Cougars beat Redford Thurston easily, 49-24, but lost a pair of close meets to Royal Oak Dondero, 35-33, and Fordson, 39-35.

The 1-2 evening left GC with a 2-6 overall mark. "We're young and improving tremendously," said Cougar coach Phil Freeman. "We're just one step behind where we should be at this time."

In the win over Thurston, GC won seven matches in a row after the Eagles captured the first two. The Cougars' Dan Dusak (119-pound weight class), Tony Gentilia (135) and Mike DeBerry all won on pins. Jim Horvath (125) defeated Jeff Romain 8-2, Scott Claus (130) pinned Jim Ryan in 2:06, P.J. Schillaci beat Jason Jeffords 12-2 and Russ Hawkins pinned Ross Pappley in 1:30.

Other GC winners were Howie Boucha (189), on a pin of Matt Fo-

dal in 1:34, and Ken Hamilton (heavyweight), on a pin of Rich Darry in 1:15.

Thurston winners were Mario Secluna (103), on a pin of Keith Altherholz in 1:10; Jed Kramer (112), on a pin of Darryl Dzendziel in 3:21; Matt Nagel (160), on a pin of Ray Wyn in 3:20; and Steve Kost (171), on a pin of Bill Sellers in 1:00.

The Cougars had six winners against Dondero. Drendzel (112), Gentilia (135), Schillaci (145) and Boucha (189) all won on pins, and Hamilton (heavyweight) beat Jeff Kurz 2-0. Hawkins (152) won on a void.

Against Fordson, GC had five wins on pins and another on a 17-0 technical fall. Ted Larkin (103), Schillaci (145), Hawkins (152), Sellers (171) and Hamilton (heavyweight) all succeeded on pins, while Horvath (119) was the technical fall victor.

LIVONIA STEVENSON won the final five matches Tuesday to defeat Redford Union 43-25.

The meet was even until the Spartan surge. It started with Kurt Will's technical fall over Eric Buckberry in the 152 weight division. Mark Gibson (160) then pinned John Platt in 1:50. Todd Rockwell (171) got a 15-0 superior decision over Dan Laakey; Matt Sladka (189) pinned Joe Battaglia in 2:50; and



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Jeff Jacobs (left) of North Farmington scored a 10-5 decision over Westland John Glenn's Garnett Woody, but the Raiders lost the dual meet.

Brett Harvey (heavyweight) pinned George DeBates in 3:30.

Other Stevenson winners were Brian Berry (103), on a pin of David Stoddard in 1:40; Brian Rala (130), on a 10-0 major fall against Tracy Berry; Tony Fasad (135), on a pin of Jon Provenzola in 1:37; and

Chris Woodbeck (140) on a void.

RU's winners were: Ray Cetta (113), on a pin of Wayne Krums in 8:00; Craig LeTourneau (119), 8-4 over Tony Sierra; Mike Bianchi (125), on a pin of Bo Diamond in 3:30; and Chris Stoddard (145), on a 10-2 decision over Doug Carmack.

Rock star breaks old standards

Ron Orris must get bored with breaking records set by former Plymouth Salem swimmers.

So instead he's breaking everybody else's records.

In Thursday's 119-52 win over visiting Farmington Harrison, Orris shattered a Salem pool record 26 years ago by the famed Marty Simba of Dearborn.

The Salem junior swam the 100-yard freestyle in 47.71, which surpassed Simba's time and he also won the 50 freestyle in 21.80. The 50 freestyle time also broke a pool record, though it was his own.

Mike Axford also recorded double wins, swimming the 200 freestyle in 2:01 and the 500 freestyle in 8:23.6. Other winners included Rob Shimmel in the 200 individual medley (2:20), Eric Bunch, 100 butterfly (1:01.4) and Chris Butzlaiff, 100 back stroke (1:04.3).

Salem won both relays, including the 200 medley relay of Shawn Fitzgerald, Mark Erickson, Mike Hill and Fred Seidelman (5:48.6). Members of the winning 400 freestyle relay were Chris Calala, Steve Wells, Craig Wilsher and Orris.

Ryan Koonce (diving) and Jason Harrington (100 breaststroke) recorded Harrison's only wins. Koonce compiled 101.80 points and Harrington finished the breast stroke in 1:01.4.