

Sports

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Super sub

Chwalik gives Raiders big assist

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

North Farmington coach Tom Negoshian debated whether to keep Bill Chwalik on the varsity basketball team last November.

He wondered if the 6-foot-5 sophomore would benefit more from being on the big team or the JV squad where playing time would be more plentiful.

On Friday night, the Raiders benefited from Chwalik's presence on the varsity when starting center Eric Carlson got in foul trouble.

Chwalik scored seven of his 10 points in the last three minutes to help North salt away a hard-earned, 65-57 victory over cross-town rival Farmington.

"It's a great situation because he and Eric are really challenging each other in practice," Negoshian said. "At this point, it's been very prosperous for him and (fellow sophomore) Chris White."

"When you have so many young kids, it's hard to find playing time for people. It's a credit to our bench that we've maintained such unity."

NEGOSHIAN CITES that as one reason for North's success, the Raiders, who weren't thought of as contenders entering the season, are now 4-1 in the Lakes Division and second in Plymouth Salem.

"Our No. 1 goal was to get back in the playoffs, being the defending champ, and that's still our top priority," Negoshian said. "We feel real good about our chances being 4-1 at the swing."

North also improved to 6-5 overall. The Falcons, who have played well and lost other games, slipped to 1-4 in the division and 1-10 overall.

The Raiders got another solid game from guard Matt Hoffman, who scored a game-high 20 points. He attempted only 14 shots, instead passing off a lot in the second half, and was 4-of-8 shooting three.

Burgess pours in 35 to pace Harrison win

Chad Burgess will remember Friday's night basketball game for a long time.

The 6-foot-2 senior had one of the best scoring performances and one of the most memorable of his career as Farmington Hills Harrison defeated Northville 67-54.

Burgess scored 35 points and became the school's all-time leading scorer. Instead of reaching that milestone in last Tuesday's win over Livonia Churchill, as reported by the Observer, he tied the record of 820 points set by 1972 graduate Jeff Sletoff with the 10 he scored that night.

But there was no doubt about the record Friday as Burgess shattered the mark with his second-highest single-game total. He scored 44 points in a district tournament game last March.

Combined with his brother, Brian, who is fourth on the Harrison list of career scoring leaders, the Burgess family has accounted for 1,561 basketball points.

Marcus Mack added 14 points. Bryan Wauldron added nine points and 10 rebounds. Burgess also led the Hawks with 14 rebounds.

Harrison, 10-1 overall, booked its Western Division-leading record to 5-0, but it had to overcome a physical challenge from the Mustangs, 2-3 and 5-6.

"They are a big team, and, the way the game was played, their bigness was allowed to come out," Harrison coach Mike Teachman said.

Rob Walsh led Northville scorers with 14 points. Keith Myers had 11, and Chris House added 10.

The Hawks also were 17-of-22 at the free-throw line, while the Mustangs shot just 50 percent, making 10 of 20 attempts.

Brian Temple benefited from some of those passes in the third quarter when he hit a couple of big triples and scored 13 points. White chipped in 11 and Joe Sturtz added seven. While the 6-3 White, who starts at forward, had a team-high nine rebounds, Chwalik and Carlson pulled down seven each.

FARMINGTON, HOWEVER, was in the ballgame until the end, and with three minutes left it was still up for grabs.

After Hoffman broke a 50-all tie with his last 3-pointer, Chwalik kept the Raiders ahead by two points with a pair of free throws.

Sturtz produced the pass of the game, deftly feeding the ball inside to Chwalik, who quickly stepped to the basket and made it a four-point difference, 57-53, with 1:33 remaining.

With the Raiders ahead 59-53, Chwalik virtually iced the victory when he took the ball to the hole again and converted a three-point play.

"I told the kids 'Hey, Farmington has a fine ballclub and, to their credit, they played as hard as anybody has against us all year,'" Negoshian said.

"They had to gamble at the last and started coming up on people."

basketball

Billy was open, and we were able to get the ball inside to him."

FARMINGTON COACH Bob Kaump felt frustrated by the loss. Though his team played well, he is getting tired of merely being close to winning.

For the second straight game, he started Greg Bjedov, Mike Williams, Brian Browne, Dennis Haimi and Chris Schmid, keeping 6-5 seniors Jason Brown and Mike Myers on the bench until late in the first quarter.

Kaump said he just wanted a smaller, quicker lineup on the floor and wasn't necessarily trying to shake up his team.

But the revamped starting lineup produced early results and set the tone that had the Falcons in the running until the very end.

"We've had some good games, but we're not finishing," Kaump said. "We haven't put the ball in the basket often enough."

"It's hard to maintain intensity when you're not winning. I give my guys credit for working hard, and I hope we can turn things around."

WILLIAMS, A 6-4 senior who transferred back to Farmington this year, was ineligible until the start of the second semester and was playing in only his second game. He and Brown scored 12 points apiece to lead the Falcons.

Williams was a force on the boards, posting up and scoring several key baskets in the first half and being very aggressive in going after rebounds. In fact, he ended up fouling out, and Kaump thought the officials unfairly penalized him for his determined style of play.

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RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Jason Brown drives the baseline past North Farmington's Eric Dettler and Brian Temple. Brown had 12 points and six rebounds in Farmington's 65-57 loss to the Raiders.

N. Farmington topples league power



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Steve Tunney won two events, the individual medley and the butterfly, and also was on North Farmington's winning freestyle relay team Thursday. The unbeaten Raiders knocked off Plymouth Salem, the number seven-rated team in Class A, 88-84, and find themselves in the Lakes Division driver's seat.

North Farmington still has three Lakes Division dual meets ahead of it, but the Raiders must be the odds-on favorites to win the title now.

They set themselves up as the frontrunner Thursday night by toppling No. 7-rated Plymouth Salem, 88-84.

North, which beat Livonia Stevenson the previous week and has knocked off the top contenders now, improved to 4-0 overall, 2-0 in the division. The Rocks are 1-1 and 4-2.

"This is probably the biggest win North Farmington has had in a long time," second-year coach Sue Gendron said. "This was more exciting tonight, because nobody beats Salem."

"I coach the kids on Salem's team in the Livonia Spartans program, so it's really weird. I know most of them real well."

THE RAIDERS needed first and third place in the freestyle relay to beat Salem and did just that.

Chris Knoche, Chuck Chuba, Steve Tunney and Dan Knipper won the race in 3:28.15, beating Salem's Rick Steinholtz, Chris Calala, Eric Bunch and Mike Hill to the wall. The Rocks swam 3:32.26.

North's Rob Mahle, Jim Nicholas, Jamie Greenstein and Jerry Zehle came in with the all-important third place, touching out at 3:47.07. Salem's second relay went 3:49.65.

"This makes me feel great," Gendron said. "The kids swam great. I just put my toughest lineup in the water and hoped the kids could swim fast."

In individual events, Tunney was a double winner, and Chuba and Knoche contributed one first place each.

Tunney won the individual medley (2:10.42) and butterfly (56.8). Chuba was first in the 100 freestyle (51.82) and Knoche the 500 freestyle (5:09.10). The latter dropped nine seconds off his previous best time, Gendron said.

THE RAIDERS had one other victory, and that came in diving where Rob Kuzelman compiled 209.55 points. North showed its depth in that event with John Juliano taking second and Gerard Meteyer fourth.

The winners also had an emotional leader in senior Doug Schwedland, who teamed up with Mike Drellis, Knipper and Keith Lee for runner-up honors in the medley relay, one of several key second places for North.

swimming

'We're just going to keep training hard and swimming fast. We want to keep up the good work. The boys have been training hard, and they want to win. That's what it takes. It also helps to have a nice, deep team.'

— Sue Gendron
North swim coach

"Doug Schwedland swam out of his mind he was so fired up," Gendron said. "He was the only one who went in there and said we could beat them."

In a close meet, the Raiders earned crucial points with second-place swims by Knipper in the breaststroke, Drellis in the backstroke, Chuba in the 50 freestyle and Knoche in the 200 freestyle.

The Raiders must still compete against Walke Lake Central, Westland John Glenn and Farmington before claiming the dual-meet title, but they appear to be in control of their own destiny today.

"We're just going to keep training hard and swimming fast," Gendron said. "We want to keep up the good work."

"THE BOYS HAVE been training hard, and they want to win. That's what it takes. It also helps to have a nice, deep team."

Overshadowed by North's team success were the three victories by Salem's Ron Orris, who anchored the winning medley relay team and won the 50 freestyle (23.31) and breaststroke (1:02.03).

Sean Fitzgerald, Mark Erickson and Fred Seidelman combined with Orris to post a 1:46.31 time in the relay.

The Rocks also won the 200 freestyle and backstroke with Mike Hill going 1:32.65 in the former and Fitzgerald 1:02.46 in the latter.

Harrison registers 1st victory

Farmington Harrison's swim team proved something to itself Thursday night.

The Hawks know they can stand on their own and be successful after trouncing Walke Lake Western 115-47 for its first victory of the 1988-89 season.

"This is the first time the guys have won a meet without all the seniors from last year to do it for them," Harrison coach Peter Leonhardt said. "So it was an especially good experience for a young, moving-up kind of team."

Harrison is 1-1 in the Western Division and 1-4 overall. WLW is 0-2 and 1-4.

The Hawks won both relays with the same foursome of Ed Sero, Jason Barringer, Chad Hughes and Jeff Nekirk getting the job done. They went 1:30.7 in the 200-yard medley to begin the meet and finished with a 3:40.3 time in the freestyle relay.

In individual events, Harrison's Bill Wolford was the only double winner, taking the 1M in 2:35.1 and the butterfly in 1:09.9.

The only event in which the visiting Warriors managed a first place was diving as Scott Rust racked up 185.15 points.

The Hawks sent Dennis Sayles out to win the 200 freestyle in 2:14.0, and Jeff Hurley did likewise in the 50 freestyle (26.3). Ryan Osterbeck won the endurance contest known as the 500 freestyle in 8:24.9, and teammate Jason Springel raced home in 1:01.9 to capture the 100 freestyle.

Rounding out the list of successful efforts, Harrison's John Bowen won the backstroke (1:12.9) and Danny Slaim the breaststroke (1:15.7).

The Hawks entertain Westland John Glenn in an inter-divisional meet Tuesday.