

Sports

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(F10)

Hawks sprint past Churchill, 69-51

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

Farmington Hills Harrison went back to doing what it does best on the basketball court Tuesday night.

The fast break again was a big part of the Hawks' approach as they shot past visiting Livonia Churchill 69-51.

With the victory, Harrison captured the Western Division championship outright with an 8-1 record and one game remaining. The Hawks are 14-2 overall. Churchill slipped to 3-6 and 5-11.

We were trying to jack up the offense," Harrison coach Mike Teachman said, "I took the offense away trying to get them to execute, to shoot the ball again."

"When people stopped our break, we weren't executing well enough, and we went to the half-court offense hard in the last two weeks."

HAVING WORKED on that long enough, the Hawks were becoming a little stale playing a deliberate game and needed to instill some new life in their game with the league playoffs coming up.

Teachman added his players would pass the ball several times only to settle for the same shot they could have taken initially. Plus, with Harrison facing a bigger, bulkier team like Churchill, it would have been playing into the opponent's hands to set up a half-court offense, he said.

The Hawks jumped in front 32-23 at half-time and maintained that kind of lead throughout the second half, using the Chargers' full-court press as a springboard for their fast break.

"I'd say that was it," Churchill coach Fred Price said. "You can't stop them when they've got the transition game going. They get a rebound out long, and they're off and gone."

basketball

"We made them turn it over a couple times, but we let them get behind us in the first quarter. We broke down a couple times on defense."

CHAD BURGESS scored a game-high 23 points to lead the Hawks. After scoring 11 in the first half, he had eight in the last quarter as Harrison won going away. Burgess also had seven rebounds and three blocks.

Marcus Mack turned in a solid performance with 15 points and 10 rebounds, and Jason Lichtman scored 14 points, which included three triples. Harrison made seven 3-pointers while the Chargers had none.

"They're a good outside shooting team, too," Price said, "but, at the same time, you can't let them go inside because they'll beat you in the block."

But it was the up-tempo brand of basketball that made the difference. Besides the easy layups, Lichtman's triples also resulted from shots early in the offense — just what Teachman wanted.

"We worked the half court so much (in recent games) the other wasn't being talked about by me," Teachman said. "We have to get some open-court baskets. We have to get other teams moving in the open court."

Churchill's Mike Picha played his best game of the season, according to Price. He was tough to stop in the low post, scoring a team-high 19 points. He also had 10 rebounds and three blocks.

"WHEN HE GETS IT inside, we want him to take (the shot) more," Price said. "Picha

and Mike Judawikis) have a tendency to kick it back out."

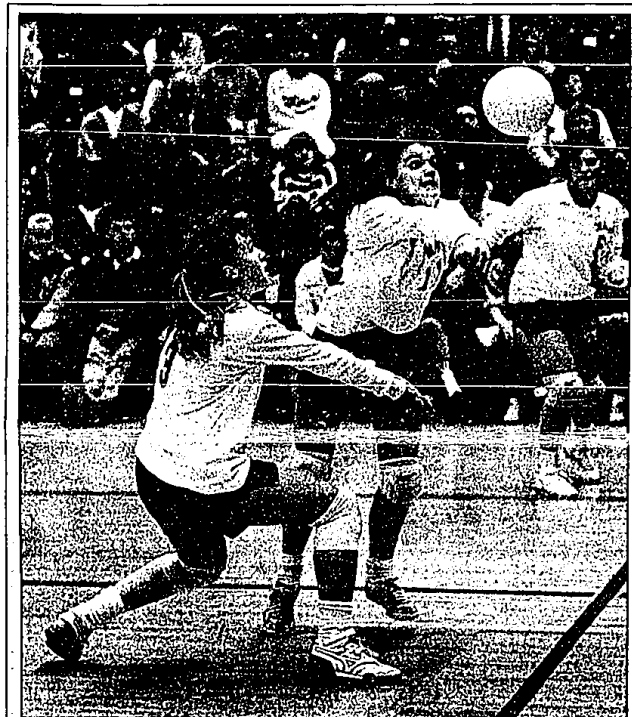
"I want them to take the ball to the basket. A couple times they didn't kick it out but just got it to another player inside. I need to keep encouraging them."

Judawikis scored 12 points, Chad Campbell had 10 and Eric Osen added eight. Jason Behnre pulled down five rebounds.

Harrison played its second straight game without starting center Bryan Wauldron, who was on the bench but not dressed for the game as he continues to recover from the flu. Reserve center Steve Hempel was also out with flu.

"But there was nothing wrong with his luck," said Teachman, noting Hempel won the booster club drawing for a pair of court-side seats to a Detroit Pistons game.

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RANDY BOST/Staff photographer

Volleyball victors

Andrea Veithoven of Farmington Hills Mercy bumps the ball across the net while teammate Maureen Paulin gives ground on the

play Monday. The Marlins defeated Birmingham Marian in two games in their Central Division finale. See story on Page 4D.

Harrison's Wauldron expects new grid role

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

A position change is in Bryan Wauldron's football future. He played tight end for Class B state champion Farmington Hills Harrison, but that won't be the case when he gets to Eastern Michigan University.

Wauldron and Harrison teammate Dale Katz signed letters of intent Wednesday — the first day high school players could officially commit to the schools of their choice. Katz is headed for the University of Cincinnati.

The 6-foot-2, 170-pound Wauldron earned all-state honors last fall and, though he lined up in a traditional blocking position, set several school pass receiving records. With 4.6 speed in the 40-yard dash and the ability to outpace defenders for the ball, Wauldron was a wide receiver masquerading as a lineman, and the Huskies plan to play him at his true position.

"I'M GOING wideout," Wauldron said. "EMU coach Jim Harkema said I'm a little skinny for tight end."

"He said he might want me to put on 10-15 pounds but no 260. I'd like to be at 185 but not that big."

Wauldron had early contact with Indiana and Iowa, but his final decision was a choice between EMU and Toledo, both members of the Mid-American Conference.

Besides the fact EMU offers a degree in criminology, Wauldron liked the idea of the Huskies having to find replacements next fall for both of their 1988 starting wide receivers, Craig Ostrander and Mark Ziegler.

"I was wondering about that when I went up there (for his official visit)," Wauldron said. "Harkema said they were losing their two best. 'Well, who's behind them?'"

"He said the others they have are not that tall, and they don't have the leaping ability. He said maybe if I

Dale Katz
picked Cincinnati

work hard enough I'll get some playing time.

"HE SAID HE'S really excited about me going up there," Wauldron added. "Hopefully, he'll keep thinking that way for the next four years."

When he visited the campus, former Harrison teammate Chris Cox served as Wauldron's host. Cox is a freshman linebacker for the Huskies.

With Harrison's junior quarterback Mill Coleman expected to be a top prospect next year, Wauldron would like to show him the EMU campus and put in a plug for the Huskies.

The ultimate would be the Coleman-to-Wauldron connection reunited in college.

"I'd love it," Wauldron said. "I think he's got a better chance of going somewhere big, but I'd like to talk him into something."

Katz (6-6, 235), who starred at offensive tackle and defensive end,

was sought after by EMU, Toledo, Wyoming and Cincinnati. Eventually, he opted for the big-city appeal and big-time schedule offered by the Bearcats, who are on NCAA probation.

"I WANTED to play a higher caliber of ball, and that's what Cincinnati and Wyoming were offering," Katz said.

"Wyoming was too far away. I didn't want to spend five years living in Wyoming. Cincinnati is a metropolitan area. I liked the idea of more people being around."

"If I went to Wyoming, I'd be dealing with just athletes. I like the size of the school (35,000); I like to be where people are."

Katz, who will be redshirted next season, said the Cincinnati coaching staff would like to increase his weight to 270. As with most freshman linemen, he will get a tryout on defense first.

"It'll be a huge adjustment," he said of playing college ball. "Those guys are big! I met all the guys when I was down there, and I felt like a beanpole."

"As a freshman, you play on the scout team, and they push you around. But everybody goes through that."

"THERE'S GOING to be a lot of openings on the offensive and defensive line (for the 1990 season)," he added. "By my sophomore year, if I put my mind into it and want it bad enough, I could be playing."

Hillsdale, Ferris State, Wayne State and Youngstown State have talked to Harrison's Chad Burgess, a 6-2, 170-pound wide receiver and all-state defensive back, about playing football.

But be plans to wait until after basketball season and see what offers he receives in that sport. Indiana State, Grand Valley, William & Mary and Ferris State have contacted him about basketball.

CC star tops Cunmulaj for heavyweight crown

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

Just as in boxing, the heavyweights of high school wrestling attract the most attention. Few will argue that division of the Class A individual district tournament at Plymouth Salem offered the state's best show Saturday.

Lee Krueger of Bedford Catholic Central emerged as the winner of the highly competitive bracket, defeating North Farmington's Zalm Cunmulaj on a 4-2 decision in the final.

While his battle with the Western Lakes Activities Association champ was a major contest, Krueger had to overcome a big obstacle — literally and figuratively — in the semifinals. In that bout, he tangled with Michigan's No. 1-ranked heavyweight, 6-foot-7, 280-pound Helios Tenaglia of Berkley, who was undefeated. The 210-pound Krueger, who was unranked, won on points 4-1.

"IT WAS NO surprise to me," CO coach Mike Rodriguez said. "I knew he was going to win it."

"If (those doing the rankings) had seen the size of some of the kids he wrestled in Ohio, they would've

wrestling

rated him No. 1, because he tore the hell out of people down in Ohio."

In the prestigious Medina Tournament last December, Krueger defeated a two-time state champion from West Virginia and the defending Ohio state champ from Lakewood (Ohio) St. Edward.

That Krueger was unranked until this week was rather puzzling. He won the Class A crown at 189 last year and has compiled a 39-2-1 record as a heavyweight. If he wasn't before, his district victory makes him a bonafide contender, if not the favorite, for another state title.

"Lee knows what he's doing," Rodriguez said. "He doesn't care if he's ranked or not. He'll just go in and win it."

"(The St. Edward coach) made the statement he's probably the best heavyweight he's seen in the country."

"HE ASKED ME: 'Is he rated in the state?' I said: 'They don't even

know who he is, but that doesn't make any difference.'"

The heavyweight division will offer more top-notch wrestling and should be even tougher in the Salem regional this Saturday.

Krueger, who faces Mike Mayville (37-5) of Gibraltar Carlson in the first round, would have to wrestle either Tenaglia (35-1) or Tony Ruehle (35-4) of Lincoln Park in the semis.

The other bracket has Cunmulaj (31-2) wrestling Bedford's Roman Rimmer (46-4) and Westland John Glenn's Joe Williams (22-10) opposing the Lincoln Park district winner, Paul Nowicki (26-0) of Remus.

In addition to Krueger, the Sharpshooters had five district champions and qualified nine for the individual regional. The top four wrestlers in each weight class move on.

The WLA team champion Rocks, with three individual winners and seven regional qualifiers, were right behind Temperance Bedford, which has eight wrestlers going to the next round.

DEMONSTRATING its usual prowess, CC's other champions were Mike Gentile (119), Matt Helm (130), Jay Helm (140) Brian Tulley (145) and Chris Rodriguez (155).

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