

Delay can't stop Hawks

Andy Smith poured in a game-high 23 points Tuesday as Farmington Harrison (15-13) survived a slow-down by visiting Walled Lake Central (1-12) and pulled out a 48-43 victory.

"It was like watching paint dry," said Harrison coach Mike Teachman. "One of Central's strategies was to take the air out of the ball. They'd pass it 20 or 30 times before they shot, and sometimes they'd throw it out of bounds. In the second half they executed better. They would work, work, work, then shoot a bomb. They hit six three-pointers. We would work, work, work, draw a foul, but no call. We were taller than they were and I guess the body contact wasn't seen inside."

Paul Gilydis chipped in 10 points for the Hawks, who led 14-11 after the first quarter and 20-14 at halftime. Harrison held a 15-13 advantage in the third before Central outscored the Hawks 16-13 in the final quarter of play.

Jason Olson and Chris Cerulla scored 13 each for the Vikings.

"A sidelight to the game was that Mill Coleman got two chipped teeth and a possible broken nose," added Teachman. "With about 1:10 to go, Mill dove for a loose ball and one of their guys dove on top of his head. He got two chipped teeth and we sent him to the hospital for X-rays on a possible broken nose."

WESTERN 69, GLENN 54: Four players scored in double figures Tuesday for Walled Lake Western as the Warriors pulled off an upset with this victory over visiting Westland John Glenn.

The loss drops the Rockets to 7-6 overall while Western improves to 2-11.

Jeff Kubik and Chris Johnson scored 15 each for the Warriors, who led 17-15 after the first quarter. Chris Sobel scored all 13 of his points in the second quarter as the Warriors outscored Glenn 23-18 and increased their lead to 40-33 by halftime.

Glenn closed the gap to 53-48 by the end of the third before each team scored 16 in the fourth quarter.

Todd Blum added 12 points for Western. Jamal Ahmed led the Rockets with 14 points. Eric Spencer meshed in 13 and Mike Trussler and Bobby Lawrence finished with 10 points each.

CHURCHILL 53, NORTH 51: Randy Calcaterra got a piece of a Chris White shot with :08 remaining in the game and Alex Bedway came up with the loose ball to

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preserve the win Tuesday for Livonia Churchill.

With the Chargers leading by 10 late in the fourth quarter, Matt Hoffman sparked a North Farmington comeback, scoring seven of his 11 points in the final 1:30 of the game to pull the Raiders within a basket. White, who also finished with 11 points, had the final shot for North, before Calcaterra's block.

"It was a good win, I'm very happy," said Churchill coach Fred Price. "It was our best effort of the year. We're improving."

North rolled out to a 15-10 lead after the first quarter and led 28-25 at the half.

Churchill battled back with a 23-11 advantage in the third to take a 49-39 lead. Kevin Hannigan led the charge, scoring seven of his 10 points in the third.

"We played good defense in the third and our zone caused a lot of problems," Price said. "We prevented Hoffman from penetrating."

North battled back in the fourth, outscoring Churchill 12-4, but time ran out on the comeback.

Mike Thomas led the Chargers with 16 points, Mike Juddawikis added 11 points and grabbed 11 rebounds and Calcaterra finished with nine points and 11 boards.

Bill Chwalik led the Raiders with 14 points.

FRANKLIN 54, FARMINGTON 38: A team effort on defense resulted in an easy victory Tuesday for Livonia Franklin as the Patriots routed visiting Farmington.

Franklin breezed to 19-9 lead after the first quarter and led 30-20 at the half.

"We played good defense," explained Franklin coach Rod Hanna. "We helped out and we were communicating. We prevented the baseline drives and extended the defense because of their outside shooters."

Steve McCool led Franklin with 18 points and six rebounds. David Barina slammed in 10 points including one dunk, sophomore Keith Roberts scored eight points and Chris Overalls dished off five assists.

Brian Brown led Farmington with nine points.

The Patriots also held a large advantage in free throws, converting 13-of-22, compared to seven-of-13 for the Falcons.

St. Mary's eyes top spot

By C.J. Riasak
staff writer

In each of the last three seasons, St. Mary's College has climbed in the NAIA District 23 basketball ranks.

Last year, the Eagles ended bad visions of upending district-leader Siena Heights. Indeed, they did beat the Saints once, but couldn't keep them from their Ironrunners position.

This season, St. Mary's is closer to accomplishing both. The Eagles are second in the district with a 5-2 record; Siena Heights is again No. 1 at 7-0. But St. Mary's plays four of its final five district contests on its Dombrowski Fieldhouse home floor, starting with Saturday's 7:30 p.m. showdown with Siena Heights.

"If we win," said Eagle coach Glen Donahue, "We've got a chance to win the district."

Nothing is that certain, however. A win Saturday would still leave St. Mary's a game behind the district leaders. An upset of the Saints by another district foe would be necessary for the Eagles to forge a tie.

BUT FIRST things first. And the No. 1 obstacle is beating Siena Heights Saturday, a formidable task. The Saints, defending district champions, are 20-6 overall.

"They're a very good rebounding team," said Donahue of his upcoming foe. "We have to out-rebound them to beat them. They're big and strong . . . just an outstanding rebounding team."

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basketball

A problem for St. Mary's might be the absence of point guard Denny Butcher, who hurt his knee two weeks ago. Butcher's status is listed as day-to-day; Donahue is hoping he'll be ready for Saturday. . . . I suspect he might be ready, but we're not going to rush him.

— Glen Donahue
St. Mary's coach

weeks ago. Butcher's status is listed as day-to-day. Donahue is hoping he'll be ready for Saturday.

"We don't know. He's probably 50-50 right now," said the Eagle coach. "I suspect he might be ready, but we're not going to rush him. We want him to be ready for the district playoffs."

The top four teams qualify for the District 23 playoffs; the top regular-season finisher is guaranteed homecourt advantage throughout.

And yet, St. Mary's hasn't looked so bad on the road. The Eagles just completed a four-game road swing

through the district and came home with three wins.

"I said if we won three on the road, we'd be in good shape," said Donahue. "I said if we won all four, we'd be in great shape."

THE LOSS came last week at Grand Rapids Baptist. The Eagles rebounded from that defeat to win 72-62 Saturday at Concordia.

"Our offense wasn't the key thing," said Donahue of the Concordia victory. "Our defense won this one."

Concordia started fast, hitting from long range. The Cardinals' first five baskets were three-pointers; 11 of their 17 field goals in the game were triples.

But after building a 40-27 lead with 4:00 left in the first half, Concordia fizzled. The Cardinals managed just 22 points the rest of the game.

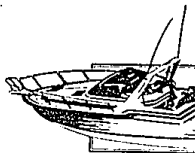
St. Mary's inside game, meanwhile, wore Concordia out. The Eagles outboarded their foes 39-25, with freshman Joachim Jerichow scoring 23 points and nabbing 10 boards. Kevin Nicfield added 12 points and Jeff Suspect got 11.

Concordia's offense was paced by long-range gunners Bob Monroe (23 points, five threes) and Shaun Hayward (21 points, four threes).

Concordia fell to 1-6 in the district, 6-19 overall. St. Mary's is 19-10 overall, and is one of only three district teams (out of eight) with a winning overall record. Siena Heights and Northwood (15-13) are the others.

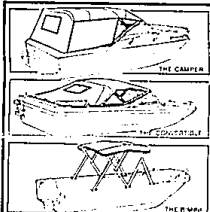
ST. MARY'S NOTES: Continental Cablevision will televise the Northwood Institute-at-St. Mary's game on tape delay. The game is Feb. 22; it will be televised Feb. 25.

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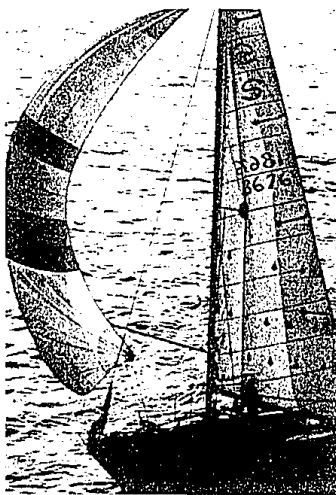
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