Eric Detter tries to maneuver clear of Salem's Jake Baker, who scored 17 points in leading the Rocks to a 55-47 victory Tuesday.

OCC gets assist from Lady Luck vs. Alpena

By C.J. Risak staff writer

Living proof: That's what Oakland Community College's men's basket-ball team was Monday.

The Raiders were perfect examples of the better-to-be-lucky-than-good theory. Tolne Murphy provided the proof when he threw a 16-foot, off-balance baseline shot off the glass that caught the rim and somehow

off-balance baseints and war and a second second and Murphy's gave OCC fell through the basket. No soft touch on this one. But a hoop is a hoop, and Murphy's gave OCC the winning points in its 72-71 victory over Alpena in the opening round of the Eastern Conference playoffs at OCC's Orchard Ridge campus in

Farmington Hills.
Whatever spirits were guiding the Raiders' fortunes did not stop with Murphy's basket. There was still :25 remaining; after a timeout, Alpena worked the ball in to Bobby Allen, who had already shredded the OCC defense for 25 points. Allen drove the baskline and put up a short shot that rimmed the basket and fell out.
"I thought he was folded," said Alpena coach Frank McCourt. "But we didn't get the call. Don't get me wrong. The officials didn't cost us the game. What cost us the game was when we had the ball with a minute left and we didn't run our offense."

left and we didn't run our offense."

WHAT MEOUNT rieferred to was a mental mistake by guard Embry Pope. Pope sighted and sank his first free throw in a one-and-one with region of the pope sighted and sank his first free throw in a one-and-one with region of the pope second shot missed, but the rebound was steed back to first in an an angle to the steed of the population of the populatio

Prieskorn used his 6-foot-8% bulk to post up and score a team-high IP points, 10 in the second half.

But in the last 8:25, it was Alpena that did all the scoring — except for Murph's game-winner. The 'Jacks outpointed OCC 13-2 in that stretch, Allen had six and Scott Olsen netted five in the run, with Olsen tying the game at 70 with a 15-footer, He Inished with 10. Mike Kollien had 12.

OCC got 11 from Tim Roberson and eight cach from Mike Bailtey and EJ Whitaker.

EM Whitaker.
"We've got to learn how to play the close ones," said OCC coach Lynn
Reed. "I went to my beach and they didn't come through like they have
all year. I broke up my (starting) combination too soon."
"But the Raiders did manage to pull it out. Alpenn bows out of the state
durnament with a 10-13 overall record.

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North bows to defending champ

For a time Tuesday night, it looked like shades of 1988 in the Western Lakes Activities Association basketabl playoffs.

In the end, the Plymouth Salem North Farmington semilinal game more resembled 1989 with the defending champion Rocket sking a 55-47, borne-court victory in a game that got quite chippy.

The Rocks, who are in the final for fourth straight year, will try to re-

ine itoeks, who are in the final for a fourth straight year, will try to re-peat at 8 p.m. Saturday when they play Livonia Stevenson for a third time at Salem.

play Livonia Stevenson for a third time at Salem. The Lakes Division champs, rateo No. 8 in the state and 18-1 overall, were in danger of not advancing that far as the Raiders, who beat Salem in the '88 championship game, held the hot hand early. Behind Jake Baker's game-high 17 points, the Rocks came around late in the first half and led throughout the second, though a championship berth wasn't assured until the final minute.

"IN THE FIRST half, we didn't hit the boards that hard, and we were giving them second shots," Salem senior Ryan Johnson sald, "We got to the glass in the second half and boxed out a lot harder. When we his-te like that, that's when we score a lot of our points." Salem extended a 38-25, third-quarter lead to a rather comfort-

basketball

'We needed to shoot the ball much better than we did tonight. We had to get a real good percentage out of it and, obviously, 19-of-57 is not it.'

- Tom Negoshian North basketball coach

able, nine-point margin of 48-39 with two minutes left. Matt Hoffman, however, sandwiched a pair of triples around a Johnson layup to keep North in the ball game at 50-45 with 1:13 to play.

keep North in the ball game at 50-45 with 1:31 op July 3.

Baker, who was 10-06-12 shooting free throws, scored the team's last four points that way, and the Raid-town points that way, and the Raid-town made two costly turnovers on consecutive possessions when the score was 53-47.

"We fell, if we could keep the score in the 50s, we'd have a real good shot at it," North coach Torn Negoshian said.

"Not only did we have to hold them down, we needed to shoot the ball much better than we did tonight.

not it."

The Raiders, 10-9 overall, held the lead until a late first-half spurt, including a trey by Mike Mulder that broke a 22-22 tie, put Salem on top 29-24 at halitime.

NORTH SHOT 7-of-24 in the sec-ond half, and the Rocks, maintaining their halftime momentum, kept the cold-shooting Raiders off the boards. K.C. Kirkpatrick and John Hoff-tneyer pulled down eight rebounds aniece.

apiece.
"In the first half, we made some poor decisions as far as throwing the baskethall away," Salem coach Bob Brodle said.

"In the second half, we made a "In the second half, we made a point of denying the second shots, and we also wanted to take the ball inside out against their zone. It didn't work very well, because they still stote the ball because of their quickness. Eventually, it kicked in and worked for us."

and worked for us."
Hoffmoyer backed up Baker's
scoring with 10 off the bench, and
Jeff Gold added eight. Baker also led
the Rocks with four assists. Hoffman
was the lone North player in doubles
with 16 points. Center Eric Carlson

with 16 points. Center Eric Carlson tossed in eight, too.

"I call John my garbage man,"
Brodle sald. "If the ball is loose and
John has It, It's in the hole. That's the
role he has, and he does a great job
of it."
While the Rocks head to the cham-

plonship game, North will play West-ern Division co-champ Farmington Hills Harrison in the consolation game at 6 p.m. Saturday, also at Sa-ten.

THE RAIDERS were at full strength again Tuesday, with Brian Temple starting at the off guard again and Jon Sturtz coming off the bench.
"We feel we've gotten some momentum by just playing better," Negoshian said. "We thi

illines.

Tompers flared three times in the second half. Negoshian thought the deficials were in danger of lessing control, but Brodie thought they took the steps necessary to maintain control to the second to the second to the first incident. North center Bill Chwalik was given an intentional foul when he ran into Kirkpatrick from behind while he attempted a

from behind white he attempted a layup.
Negoshian became upset when Johnson wasn't called for a fool when he later tumbled on top of Chwalik. Chwalik was cited again for elbowing Baker when play moved to the other end.
"The game for hich school basket-

moved to the other and "The game, for high school basket-ball, almost got out of hand, and that scares me," Negoshlan said. "I worry about young kids keeping control Basketball is supposed to be a non-contact sport. My kids are just as much at fault, but you can't left it get that way."

sports shorts

• GREENS FEES

It'll cost \$13.50 for residents and \$16 for non-residents to play 18 holes of golf on the weekend this year at the Farmington Hills-owned San Marino Colf Course, Halsted Road at 1-696.

The city council, acting on a rec-ommendation from the parks and recreation commission and the de-partment of special services, ap-proved a new daily greens fee struc-ture Monday night.

The weekday cost will be \$12.50 or residents and \$15 for non-resi-

The cost for 9 holes will be:

• Weekends — \$7.75 for residents

Weekends — \$7.75 for residents and \$10 for non-residents.
Weekdays — \$7.25 for residents and \$2.05 for non-residents.
Discounts are offered for senior and junior players:

\$8.25 for non-residents.
\$8.25 for non-residents and \$8.25 for non-residents.

\$8.25 for non-residents.

Sam Marino will still provide comparable and competitive rates to surrounding (governmentally owned) golf courses, "ely manager William Costick said.
Non-resident rates have increased

Costick said.

Non-resident rates have increased faster at San Marino than at other governmentally owned golf courses. But that has let more Farmington Hills residents play at San Marino over the past two years, he added.



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O SOFTBALL NEWS

The Knights of Columbus in Farmington Hills is organizing its spring summer and fall softball leagues. There are openings for men's, word-en's, coed and wer-35 teams. Open registration is Saturday, March 3. Call 476-988 for league descriptions and fee information.

COACHES NEEDED

Walted Lake Consolidated Schools needs assistant coaches for junior high school track, girls soccer assist-ant, boys soccer assistant and foot-ball assistant.

Candidates should send their resumes to Robert Atkins, Walled Lake Consolidated School District, 615 N. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake, 430 N. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake, 450 N. Pontiac Trail, Wa

Canton hopes to break even in regular season

One more win. That's all Plymouth Canton basketball coach Dave Va'i Wagoner wants — at least until the state district tournament starts. Van Wagoner's Chiefs — or as he referred to them, his "Diapre Dandlea" — moved closer to that goal by routing Farmington 67-49 in a Western Lakes Activities Association coanoclation game Tuesday at Cam-

Western Lakes Activities Association consolution game Tuesday at Carton.

The victory was the third straight for the Chiefs, new 9-10. Farming ton fell to 5-14.

"I want to get one more (win before districts)," said Van Wagoner. "I feel we're peaking at the right time, with a lot of young players.

"We played smart offensively, we hit our free throws and we knocked down somes shots. And we played good man-to-man defense."

According to Van Wagoner, it was the first time Canton hit better than 50 percent of its floor shots this season — which is why the Chiefs led virtually all the way They were up 20-14 after one quarter and 37-27 at the half.

the half.

Farmington tightened it a bit with a 13-10 third-quarter advantage, making it 47-40 entering the final period, But Canton took control after that, outscering the Falcons 20-9 in the last eight minutes.

Canton, which made 15-of-24 free throws (Farmington was nine-of-11), was led by Junior forward Brett Howell's 20 points. Ryan Halliday added 15 and Mike Stafford got nine and eight rebounds. Both Halliday and Stafford are freshmen.

Brian Browne collected 17 points for Farmington. P.J. Green chipped in with 11.

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