

RU bests Falcons in district

By Steve Kowalski
staff writer

Cosch-Gary-Fulks remembers the team years, so to say he's thrilled by Redford Union's first girls basketball district title in 10 years is an understatement.

"All day long I was really choked up about the fact that I wanted it for the kids and their parents, and I didn't want anything less," said Fulks after RU rallied Friday to beat visiting Farmington, 54-44, in a Class A district final. "RU girls basketball has never had this kind of support. It's been 10 long years."

These kids turned the program around and these kids deserve the first district championship.

Junior guard Shannon Morris scored 18 of her game-high 23 points in the second half to lead the Panthers. Freshman Rachel Cior contributed 14 points and RU benefited from Farmington's foul trouble, outscoring the Falcons 14-1 during one stretch of the second half.

The win improved RU to 16-7 overall and earned it a berth in the regional, tonight at 7:30 p.m. against Dearborn Fordson at Southfield High School. Farmington finished its season at 5-17.

THE FALCONS and Panthers were tied at 37 with 2:28 left in the third quarter when Farmington's star Kim Owczarzak went to the bench with her fourth foul. The Panthers outscored the Falcons, 8-1, the rest of the quarter and scored the first six points of the fourth quarter to open up a 51-38 lead with 5:30 left in the game.

Morris was the catalyst during the surge, scoring 10 points and passing off for a couple of assists.

Owczarzak re-entered the game to start the fourth quarter, but it was a struggle for the senior guard, who was held to five second-half points and 17 for the game. Owczarzak made only two of 13 shots from the field in the second half, and the Falcons hit only six of 25 shots as a team after halftime.

Sophomore forward Tammy Allen also spent time on the bench in foul trouble and finished with only six points. Junior Becky Washneck was the only other Falcon in double figures with 10 points.

"KIM IS OUR captain, our offen-



JOHN DISCHER/staff photographer

Kerri Owczarzak of Farmington has the inside track against RU's Jamie Zalek, but the Panthers won the district championship 54-44.

sive leader and a great defensive player," Farmington coach Diana Fair said. "She does it for us day in, day out, and when she's not in there, it hurts. Tammy is only a sophomore and nervousness, I think, got her into foul trouble more than anything. They put pressure on our guards and without Kim in there we weren't getting the ball inside to our big people."

RU trailed, 29-27 at halftime but a free throw by Morris late in the third quarter gave RU the lead for good. Following a pair of baskets by Wendy Malecki, Morris nailed a three-point shot from the top of the key to give the Panthers a 45-38 lead after three quarters.

Morris scored the first six points of the fourth quarter and it finally looked like RU could begin to celebrate. A cake, made by parents of the RU players, was waiting in the lockerroom. It said: "Congratulations, Lady Panthers, district champions."

THEY HAD A fine premonition. "This feels great, wonderful," Morris said. "At halftime, we gained a lot of character. We came out too easy, because we watched them play the other night and before the game

Thurston sends Hawks to sideline in 'B' tourney

By Steve Kowalski
staff writer

Coach Mike Schuette tried to avoid a reporter Thursday night after Redford Thurston's 59-41 Class B district semifinal win over Farmington Hills Harrison.

It's not that Schuette was upset with the press. On the contrary, he just wanted some notoriety for his players.

Like Carolyn Nagel, a junior forward who scored 16 points — without wearing her contact lenses.

And junior forward Kinshasa Hughes, who scored 11 points and more importantly helped limit Harrison's star Heather Hopkins to four points by halftime and 16 for the game.

OK, so what did they have to say?

"It didn't really matter (not wearing contacts)," said Nagel, who scored nine points after halftime. "I remember shooting one that I didn't think would go in — and then it did. I was just feeling it. I was more relaxed. This sure feels better than last year (when Thurston lost in the district in a rout to Dearborn)."

AND WHAT ABOUT Hughes?

"Coach just said, 'Put your arms up and guard her (Hopkins),' " she said. "Hopkins was in the middle of the paint and if she came over to the ball side, Carolyn was going to guard her and it worked."

It was a team effort by the Eagles, who advanced to Saturday's district final against Redford Bishop Borgess. Sophomore forward Daune Koester led Thurston with 18 points and junior forward Patty Haney finished with eight. Junior point guard Michelle Birchmeier played another sound floor game and finished with six points.

Defense was the key, however, for the Eagles, who led 15-8 after one quarter and 32-17 at halftime. Schuette didn't say much afterward, but he got to the point.

"This was the real Carolyn Nagel. You can see she knows how to play," said Schuette. "It doesn't matter who scores. I don't know from one game to the next who's going to lead us in scoring, but I do know I have five who play defense."

"We denied Hopkins the ball all game. That was our game plan — just to front her."

BOTHERED BY the flu, Hopkins struggled to get open in the first half against Thurston's matchup zone and player-to-player defense. The Hawks trailed 38-21 midway through the third quarter when they scored eight straight points to pull within nine, 38-19.

girls basketball

April Jones, Harrison's only senior, scored four of the points during the run. The Eagles answered by scoring the last three points of the quarter and outscoring Hawks 7-2 at the start of the fourth quarter for a 48-31 lead.

Hopkins scored eight of her 16 points in the fourth quarter after the outcome had been decided. Junior guard Andrea Najarian added nine points for Harrison, which ended its season at 3-18 overall.

Harrison coach Jim Neve loses only Jones to graduation, so he's excited already about next year.

"We played three or four sophomores and I've got a girl, Lisa Durocher, who's going to be a hell of a player," Neve said. "And Hopkins, if she learns to bring the ball up over her head and pivot to the bucket, look out. I have a lot to look forward to. Put it this way, four years ago, I had six girls in the whole program."

"We're going to miss April because she was our leader. When the girls were down and needed someone to talk to, she was always there for them."

BISHOP BORGESS 38, CRESTWOOD 33: There's never a dull moment with Redford Bishop Borgess, which had to go to overtime to beat stubborn Dearborn Heights Crestwood Thursday in a district semifinal game.

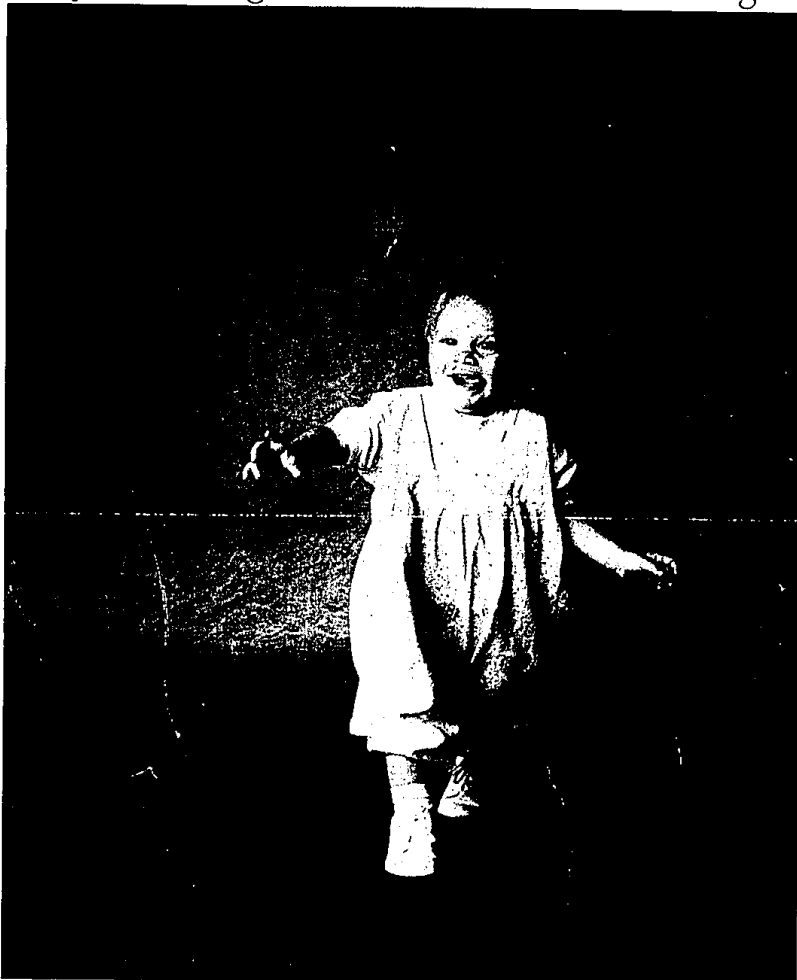
The Spartans blew a 27-19 after three quarters, and had to rally to send the game into overtime tied at 32. Crestwood, playing without four of its top players because of discipline reasons, was led by sophomore guard sensation Kim Jess with 18 points.

Borgess senior guard Kyra Woodard again rose to the occasion, scoring a game-high 28 points, including three in overtime. Woodard also made a nifty bounce pass in the paint to teammate Angie Kendrick, who scored her only points of the night to give Borgess the lead for good, 35-33 in OT.

"I just have a team that I don't get surprised by one way or the other," Borgess coach Dave Mann said. "When Kyra is on, the others get pumped up and we play well. We just really play stupidly sometimes. That's partly because of the young kids we have."

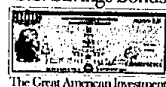
WOODARD MISSED part of the fourth quarter with a leg cramp and during her absence Crestwood made its run. Jess scored eight points in the fourth quarter, including six straight when Crestwood cut the deficit to two, 27-25.

Take The First Step Toward Higher Education. Buy U.S. Savings Bonds. Now Tax Free For College.



Some of the most important steps in any child's life are taken by the parents. Such as buying U.S. Savings Bonds. After all, it's never too early to start your tax free tuition fund, especially the way fees and tuitions are rising. For years, Bonds have been the smart, convenient way to save money for college. Now, Bonds can also be completely tax free. Take the first step. Buy Bonds at your local bank, or ask about the Payroll Savings Plan at work.

U.S. Savings Bonds



Harrison swimmers confident about finals

Farmington Hills Harrison was well represented Saturday at the Class B girls swimming and diving championships at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti.

Information regarding Harrison's pre-meet outlook and expectations was inadvertently omitted from the preview story that appeared in the Thursday edition of the Farmington Observer.

Harrison coach Terese Peterson said she expected the Hawks to do well, hoping the team would finish among the top 15. Harrison had several swimmers capable of earning all-state honors, and the relay teams were good enough to be among the top 12, she said.

Results of the Class A and B meets will be published in the next edition of the Observer.

Harrison's Jill Murany was eligible for two events (IM and 500 free) and two relays, and Stacey Krause was set to compete in the IM and backstroke and one relay.

Krause, Margaret O'Sullivan, Murany and Veronica Forberger comprised the medley relay team, and Forberger, Murany, Julie Farabee and Michelle Dopker swam the 400 freestyle relay for Harrison.

Farabee also entered the 500 freestyle, Rebekah Turner the backstroke and Forberger the 100 freestyle.

BERGSTROM'S
NOVEMBER WINTER WARM-UP SALE.
SALE ENDS 11-24-90

FURNACES INSTALLED FROM
\$895.00

CASH 'N' CARRY FURNACE SALE
30,000 BTU GAS/COAL \$299.00
75,000 BTU GAS/COAL \$429.00
100,000 BTU GAS/COAL \$499.00

HIGH EFFICIENCY BOILER
Cash-N-Carry Sale
\$1195.00 SAVE \$200
\$926.00

MEDIA FILTERS
For Honeywell, Carrier and Spaceguard
\$24.95

ELECTRONIC AIR CLEANER
\$329.00
40% OFF
All Warm Air Pipes & Fittings With Purchase of Any Furnace

MEDIA STYLE AIR CLEANER
\$115.00
\$114.00
3000 Sq. Ft. Installed For \$114.00

COMFORT SET
WHITE - MODERN
DIGITAL THERMOSTAT
\$91.95

WATER SAVER HUMIDIFIER
Treats Up To 3000 Sq. Ft.
Installed For \$114.00
\$114.00

Complete Line of Parts Available For All Popular Humidifiers

GAS WATER HEATER
Cash-N-Carry
\$179.00

WHITE-MODERN HEATING & COOLING THERMOSTAT
\$17.95

BERGSTROM'S
HEATING • COOLING • PLUMBING
522-1350

NEW ADDRESS:
30633 SCHOOLCRAFT
BETWEEN 10 MILE & 11 MILE
522-9100
SAT. 9-5