

# Sports

Dan O'Meara editor/591-2312

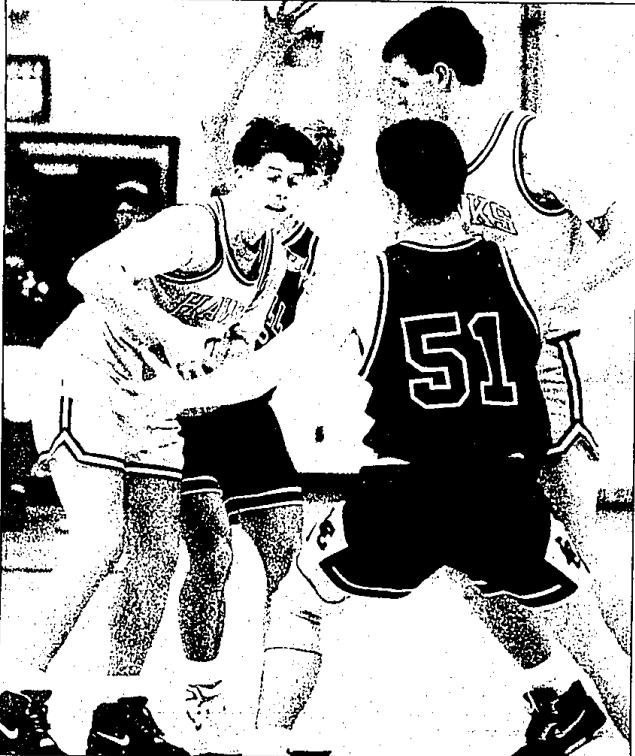
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(F11C)

## Chargers edge Harrison in double OT



Andy Fitzpatrick (left) covers a rebound while Harrison was upset by the Chargers in double overtime, 56-55.

SHARON LAMIE/Staff photographer

### 3-peat feat

## Harrison wrestlers win district title

Farmington Hills Harrison won its third consecutive Class B district wrestling championship Wednesday with little effort.

The reason the Hawks found it so easy to win the Allen Park tournament is there was little opposition in many cases.

First-round opponent Oak Park avoided the first five weights, sealing up Harrison for a 45-27 victory. The Hawks won three of the seven bouts that were contested.

In the final, Redford Thurston avoided all but one weight after 125, and Harrison racked up a 60-19 triumph.

The Eagles reached the final when their expected first-round opponent Dearborn Heights Crestwood with only one wrestler, didn't bother to show.

"IT TAKES a little bit away," Harrison coach Darrell Tharnish said. "But we're still happy.

## Spartans sink North swimmers

By Neal Zipser  
staff writer

Livonia Stevenson dommed shirts that read, "Don't mess with Buckle," for Thursday's boys swim class against visiting North Farmington.

The reason not to mess with the Spartans might have been because they were grouchy. Stevenson was swimming in its fourth meet in eight days. They had reason to be tired.

However, Spartan coach Doug Buckler's boys showed no signs of fatigue in routing their Western Lakes Area rival, 111-41.

Stevenson, which finished 11 of the 12 events, improved to 8-2 in dual meets. With a victory Thursday, Jan. 21 over Farmington, the Spartans will capture the Lakes Division title.

On paper, the match-up seemed to have the makings of a tight meet. Stevenson was ranked No. 6 in a statewide coaches poll and North the observer. However, while the Raiders (5-3) were No. 5 in the Observer rankings and taking on the tired Spartans,

### Granfeldt top gymnast

Livonia Clarenceville's Lisa Granfeldt won all-around gymnastics champion Wednesday, but visiting Fisher came away with the team victory.

Granfeldt won the vault (8.85) and finished second in floor exercise (8.4) and balance beam (8.1). She also took third on the uneven bars (8.35) to wind up 33.70 overall.

Alyssa Berant won both the uneven bars (8.8) and balance beam (8.7) to pace the Victorian Ramblers.

The Trojans' Sherry Hochstadt added a fifth on uneven bars (7.95) and a sixth on floor (7.5). She finished fourth overall with a 29.19 total.

Teammate Joey DeWater collected a third on beam (7.65) and a fourth on vault (8.1), while finishing fifth overall (29.05).

Clarenceville is 3-3 in league meets and 6-3 overall.

being tired as for swimming, but I was concerned about them, maybe being burned out," Buckler said.

STEVENSON ERASED any doubts of being tired by winning the first five events.

The team of senior Taki Caranicas, junior Aaron Rieder, and sophomore

Alex Goecke and Mike Gravely captured the 200-yard medley relay in 1:42.42. Junior Bryan Morrison took the 200 freestyle (1:47.24) and Rieder followed by winning the 200 individual medley (2:01.85). Morrison and Rieder tied in four first-place finishes each.

Caranicas grabbed first in the 50 freestyle (23.43), and a trio of Spartans

ties swept the diving. Senior Jason Norrid led the three with 232 points, while teammates Ben Boedigheimer and Jeff Berens followed.

Other Spartan individual winners included Rieder in the 100 freestyle (50.14), Morrison in the 500 freestyle (4:47.77), sophomore Bryan Freeborn in the 100 backstroke and Goecke in the 100 breaststroke (1:02.19).

In the 200 freestyle relay, Morrison, Goecke, Berens and junior Greg Priole took first in 1:34.61. Morrison, Rieder, Gravina and Freeborn teamed up to capture the 400 free relay in 3:30.46.

"TONIGHT THE breaks went our way," Buckler said. "North Farmington is a fine swimming team and we're a force that will have to be reckoned with in the league meet, along with Northville and Plymouth.

Buckler praised the efforts of sophomore Eric Peterman who had a second and third place finish.

The top 100-yard swimmer was Mike Dellela in the 100 butterfly (54.63).

The Spartans return to action at 7 p.m. Thursday at Westland John Glenn.

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"You can see, we had to do a fair amount of digging on defense," DeBelis said. "So you can tell we're a lot of rallies."

The Marlins also put 94 percent of their serves into play, missing only three of 55. Susie Atchinson and Paulin were 9-0-9 and Nora Hand 8-0-8. Murie had both of the team's aces. Atchinson also had 13

Laywood's top hitters on the night included senior Kel Hager, 11 kills; Lori Gunn, five, and Rebecca Willey, four. Mary Jo Kelly and Hager also recorded 14 and 10 assists, respectively.

Hager also ran off a string of 14 service points between the first and second games. Teammate Valerie Adriana contributed two aces.

## Churchill snaps win streak

By Neal Zipser  
staff writer

Thursday night's Duke-Virginia basketball game proved to be more than just watching a good matchup on television for Livonia Churchill coach Fred Price.

Price analyzed the contest and learned he thought would work against Farmington Hills Harrison Friday. His strategy worked, as the visiting Chargers upset the Hawks 56-55 in a thrilling double-overtime Western Lakes Activities Association game.

Senior center Randy Calcaterra's free throw with six seconds remaining in the second overtime proved to be the difference. Harrison junior guard Roy Granger launched a three-pointer at the buzzer, but the ball rimmed off the rim. Churchill dominated the boards and rallied from four-point deficits in each overtime to end the Hawks' nine-game winning streak.

With the win, Churchill tied Harrison at 3-1 in the Western Division. The Chargers (8-6 overall and 4-4 in the WLAA) face Plymouth Canton and the Hawks (11-3 and 6-2) play Northville in each team's division finale.

Price saw a defense Virginia used on Duke and drew it up on the chalkboard prior to the game. The coach thought it might slow Hawk leading scorer Andrew Smith down. The senior forward was held to 13 points, 10 under his average, and was blanketed in all game by junior guard Brian Johnson.

"IT WAS A gimmick defense," Price said. "We never worked on it one second in practice. I drew it up before the game. It shows the team's intelligence by executing a black-and-white plan," he said.

Granger led all scorers with 16 points. Johnson and Mike Thomas tallied 15 and 13 points for Churchill, respectively.

For Harrison, the innovative defense wasn't as big a factor as

Churchill's dominance on the boards. The Chargers held a 49-30 rebounding advantage, led by Calcaterra's 18 boards, including nine offensive caroms.

Harrison coach Mike Teachman realized the rebounding, as well as other factors, doomed his squad.

"Their work on the boards did it," Teachman said. "We didn't get any second shot for most of the game. What really showed the game was that we missed five layups in the first quarter. If we make those, it's a different game."

"They dictated the tempo and you have to give them credit for getting all five of their players back on defense."

The game seesawed for the entire game with neither squad taking control. The Chargers jumped to a 12-4 first-quarter lead, but a 7-0 Hawk run closed the margin to one entering the second quarter.

HARRISON TOOK its first lead of the game at 13-12 on an Andy Fitzpatrick layup. Calcaterra poured in five straight points and asserted himself as a force underneath the basket, collecting half of his four blocked shots midway through the quarter. Smith was held to just two free throws in the first half, but the Hawks only trailed 24-22 going into the third quarter.

The teams dueled to a 16-16 stand-off in the third quarter, which featured six ties. The fourth quarter began with Churchill ahead 40-38.

The Chargers drew the last six points on a jumper by junior Steve Townsend and tip-ins by Calcaterra and senior Thomas. However, Churchill couldn't score for the next 3:53 and the Hawks clawed back to cut the lead to 46-42.

Churchill missed three consecutive one-on-one opportunities at the charity stripe and converted only one of its 13 attempts for the game. With 1:02 remaining, Johnson split a pair to give the Chargers a five-point lead.

Fitzpatrick countered with two

foul shots and, with 37 seconds left, stole a Charger pass, and fed Smith who canned a triple to knot the score at 47-47. Neither team scored again and the game entered the first overtime.

Harrison jumped out to a 51-47 lead behind a Granger jumper and a Fitzpatrick layup. Churchill scored on its next two possessions and tied the score with 1:00 remaining. Teachman set up Smith for a final shot, but the forward missed an open 15-footer to send the game into its second extra period.

THE HAWKS again jumped out to a four-point lead behind a jumper and two free throws from Granger. Two jumpers by Johnson set up Calcaterra's heroes.

Calcaterra, who finished with 12 points, broke to the basket, where Thomas found him. Fitzpatrick fouled Calcaterra, who missed his first foul shot but nailed the second.

With Calcaterra in Granger's face, the guard took a desperation three-pointer that almost fell.

"I knew they were watching Andy so I had to take the shot like I did last week (in the Hawks' victory over Canton)," Granger said. "When I got it, I couldn't tell if it was going in because the big guy was in my face. But we'll do better from this day on."

The game ended with Churchill players and Price celebrating on the court.

"This was a team victory," Price said. "We had several players rotating in and everyone of them played a super game. Going two overtimes with seven players shows a lot of heart."

"They were down in both overtimes and didn't give up. We told them team stay with Harrison and then Harrison pull the games out at the end. That's their trademark. Nothing is set in stone in high school basketball, but what was for sure tonight was the kids played with a lot of heart."

## Marlins ready for tournament

### volleyball

Farmington Hills Mercy hopes to win its second straight Catholic League volleyball championship this week, and the Marlins begin that quest tonight when the eight team playoffs begin.

Merry will be one of two sites.

The Marlins will host for quarterfinal games at 5:30 and 6:30 and a semifinal contest at 7:30.

The Marlins, ranked No. 4 in Class A and 34-4 overall, will play the fourth-place team in the AA Bracket at 5:30. The semifinal winners meet to decide the A title at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Wayne State.

Merry, which clinched its second straight Central Division championship on Jan. 31, concluded division play Thursday with a 15-6, 15-4, 4-victory over host Harper Woods Regis. The Marlins finished 7-1 in the division.

"Regina played very, very well," Merry coach Tim DeBelis said. "We just ended up winning a lot of the rallies."

"IT WAS Senior Night there. They were playing their last home game and they had a lot of emotion going for them. But I thought we matched their intensity and executed our game plan," DeBelis said.

DeBelis, who substituted earlier with junior Laura DeMathis, 730 hitting, being the most impressive stat. She had six kills and no errors out of eight attacks.

Gail Murie had six kills, two errors and 12 attacks. Maureen Paulin had eight kills, five errors and 23 attacks, and Karen Pinkerton six kills, one error and 17 attacks.

"Our middle attack in terms of kills was very effective," DeBelis said.

Paulin led the team with eight kills. Marie had seven and Pinkerton six kills, one error and 17 attacks.

"One night we're playing like we're in the division late in the season," DeBelis said. "We've been playing like we're in the division early in the season. But we have to pick it up for the big match Monday (tonight) with Churchill."

Churchill, meanwhile, defeated Plymouth Canton in a match Wednesday at home, 15-8, 15-15, 15-9.

LIVONIA LADYWOOD clinched second place in the Catholic League's Central Division Thursday with a 15-10, 15-9 victory at Birmingham Marian.

The Bladers finished 4-2 in the Central, one win behind champ Farmington Hills Merry. Ladywood is 30-9-2 overall.

Ladywood's top hitters on the night included senior Kel Hager, 11 kills; Lori Gunn, five, and Rebecca Willey, four. Mary Jo Kelly and Hager also recorded 14 and 10 assists, respectively.

Hager also ran off a string of 14 service points between the first and second games. Teammate Valerie Adriana contributed two aces.