

Bulldogs, Spartans Stage Comebacks To Win

By GEORGE MASKIN
Observer Sports Editor

There was no chance for Livonia to lose in Friday night's Class A district basketball finale at Farmington High.

The battle matched Bentley and Stevenson after each knocked out a Farmington rival in Wednesday's semifinals.

Stevenson came back to down North Farmington, 58-54, with a second half burst, while Bentley followed the same course in downing defending district champ Farmington, 62-57.

So it will be either Bentley or Stevenson in the regionals which begin this week at Franklin.

IT WAS TOO much Ted Exarhos and Pete Gresock as far as North Farmington was concerned. The pair brought Stevenson back after

trailing by seven points in the second quarter to within four points at the end of the half.

Then Stevenson cut loose for a 7-0 spree in the third period to take the lead at 39-36, but by the period end North Farmington had cut it to 41-40.

A basket by Tim Driggs gave North Farmington a momentary lead before Exarhos, Gresock and Kelly Smith made it 45-42 for Stevenson.

Craig Dhue then hit for two hoops while Exarhos managed a free throw and the score was tied at 46-46 with 4:50 left.

Gresock, who was striking inside and out, went all the way for a layup and Exarhos slipped in with a steal a few seconds later to put Stevenson on top, 50-46.

But North Farmington wasn't tossing in the towel, not even when Stevenson lifted its lead to 56-50 with a minute left.

DRIGGS SANK A FREE THROW and then with 27 seconds to go, he clicked on a three point play to pull the Raiders to within 56-54 of the tie.

The Raiders had no other recourse but to foul and Hoekstra rapped it up for Stevenson with two conversions with three seconds to go.

Exarhos wound up with 24 points and Gresock 16 for the evening's play.

FARMINGTON TURNED LOOSE quickly on Bentley, seizing a 14-9 lead in the first quarter and then maintaining the advantage through the second period to reach the intermission with a 27-22 lead.

Whatever Coach George Gefles of Bentley had to say to his players during the intermission worked.

Bentley came out storming in the third pe-

riod. The Suburban Six League champs rifled in 24 points to only eight for Farmington as Tim Bollin and Lou Lovett each hit eight points in the period.

"It was one of the greatest periods I've ever seen a Bentley team stage," said Gefles, who came back to coaching this season after retiring and insists he'll not be around for another season as the Bentley coach.

It was a good thing for Bentley that it had the big third period. Farmington again dominated in the final frame, but couldn't come closer than four points, although outscoring Bentley, 22-16, in the quarter.

Bob Chapman ended the season on a high note for Farmington with 18 points while Dan Lakovich had 10.

Bollin and Lovett each had 16 points and Dave Veach 12 for Bentley, which has a long history of winning in district tournaments.



GARDEN CITY EAST'S Mike Roller (in white) tries to drive in for a short shot but Plymouth's Howie Schryer (33) reached over his shoulder to block the effort in this style. Roller was fouled but at least he didn't get two points on the shot. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

Bitter Garden City Rivals Clash For Cage Meet Crown

By FRED DeLANO

An all-Garden City final Saturday night for the championship of the Class A Franklin district basketball tourney was assured Thursday when East's Panthers held Plymouth to a six-point fourth quarter and coasted to a 62-47 victory.

Only 24 hours earlier, West had skinned through, 42-41, in its semifinal against Livonia Churchill, hitting on only 17 of 55 shots from the floor in one of the coldest shooting performances by the Tigers all season.

G.C. West is the tournament's defending champion and the Tigers have won the Tri-River League title three years in a row. East tied Inkster for the Mid-Wayne crown this winter, and in their one earlier battle West finished on top, 55-54.

EAST LED ALL the way in overpowering Plymouth, using superior height and

reach effectively to maintain ball control as Dave Jackson and Greg Puishes led Panther scoring with 17 and 16 points respectively.

Charley Wolfe, of the Rocks, took game honors with 25 points, but the run-and-shoot style which carried the Rocks to a 14-6 season was throttled by East's domination of the boards.

East raced in front, 8-1, and the game was almost four minutes old before Gary Close notched Plymouth's first field goal.

Even at that, Plymouth trailed only 14-11 after the first quarter, but the Panthers found a hot hand in the second period and built their

lead to 11 before Wolfe and Casey Jones paced a Plymouth halftime surge that made the count 32-26 at the intermission.

Wolfe hit three more buckets and Jones canned a long jumper early in the third period as the Rocks pulled within three at 37-34. However, Plymouth could never quite get over the hump.

East led, 47-41, after three quarters and went into a long stall after building it to 52-44 with five minutes still to play.

Frequent fouls as the frenzied Rocks fought for ball possession led to a field day at the foul line for the Panthers, while Plymouth went

stark cold with only one field goal—that by Jones—in the last stanza.

IN THE WEDNESDAY semi-final, West and Churchill battled to a 25-25 first half. The Tigers went ahead to stay in the fourth period and seemingly had the game under control with a 42-35 lead with less than three minutes left.

Upset-minded Churchill fought back with six quick points and West went to a stall in the final stages to keep its one-point margin safe.

Mike Kilbourn of the Tigers led all scorers with 18 points.

G.C. EAST (42)	FG	FM	FT	TP
Roller	2	5	10	9
Haves	3	2	8	8
Jackson	8	0	8	17
Puishes	5	6	8	16
Delfante	6	0	1	12
Palmir	0	0	1	0
Quinn	0	0	1	0
Anisimer	0	0	1	0
Tonits	22	18	35	62

PLYMOUTH (47)	FG	FM	FT	TP
Taylor	0	0	1	0
Close	2	1	2	8
Wolfe	8	8	10	24
Van Wagoner	0	0	0	0
Jones	4	2	2	10
Shroyer	0	1	1	1
Schryer	2	1	2	8
Williams	0	1	2	1
Ash	0	1	4	1
Totals	16	15	24	47

Score by quarters:	11	15	16	6-47
Plymouth	11	15	16	47
G.C. East	14	19	14	47

G.C. WEST (42)	FG	FM	FT	TP
Nustard	3	1	4	7
Kilbourn	7	4	12	18
Lewis	2	0	0	4
Leszczinski	5	2	8	12
Pawinski	0	1	1	1
Totals	17	8	27	42

PLYMOUTH (47)	FG	FM	FT	TP
Armstrong	0	0	1	0
Filippis	1	0	0	2
Larson	3	0	0	6
Van Wagoner	4	1	3	9
Watson	1	0	0	2
Young	0	0	0	0
Totals	18	6	14	42

RU Takes On Fordson After Pounding Eagles

"Call it an excellent team effort."

Dave Mattingly, of Redford Union High, was singing the praises of his basketball team after a 73-59 romp against Thurston put the North Redford Townshipers into Saturday's Class A district final against Dearborn Fordson at Southfield High.

"We got some great efforts out of some boys who haven't been seeing much or any action on the varsity," said Mattingly whose RU team now has downed the Townshipers from the South Side twice in the same season.

He cited John Varvari, a

sub who got his first chance

with an excellent effort.

Then there was soph Gary Fulk, who was brought up from the JV's. Gary responded with 11 points.

THE PLAY of Gary Robinson as a floorman, the rebounding of Bob Schaner, Mark Kenney and Tom Burke all drew praises.

And so did the defensive job that shut off Thurston star Pat Woelke, holding him to 10 points, only two in the second half, after he had hit for 32 two nights earlier when Thurston topped Crestwood,

81-74, in its first game of the tourney.

Coach Mike Pasternak, of Thurston, felt it was turnovers which ruined his team.

"We made 24," he moaned. "That's much too much."

Redford Union went ahead, 20-15, in the first period when Kenney hit four baskets and Schaner six points while Burke added seven of his points.

Fulks flipped in seven points in the second period to extend the RU lead to 36-29 at the half.

Then Kenney, Schaner and Burke tossed in four each in the third period when RU

wrapped up the proceedings.

THURSTON NEVER could get closer than five points after the early going.

Kenney and Schaner topped the scoring for RU with 22 and 16 points, respectively, with Fulks third in line with his 11 points.

Hoeben with 11 and Woelke with 10 only scored in double figures for the losers.

Thurston grabbed a 42-29 edge by the half and coasted past Crestwood in their first tourney game.

Woelke fired in 15 baskets and two free throws for his 32 points. Jeff Gillen had 13 and Chuck Mallon 12.

Rice Shades Groves To Gain Finals Berth Against Seaholm

By GEORGE MASKIN
Observer Sports Editor

Who says they don't play defense in modern basketball?

Brother Rice High's cagers specialize in working when the other fellows have the ball and the dividends were high Thursday.

RICE KNOCKED OUT Birmingham Groves, 50-47, to gain Saturday's Class A district final against Birmingham Seaholm in the Seaholm gym.

A staunch defense was necessary if Rice was to win. Groves had been one of the top scoring teams in the area in sweeping unbeaten to the Northwest Suburban League title.

Groves also had crushed Lake Orion, 86-52, in its first tourney game as all-star Scott Love led the way with 41 points.

But the Rice defense did a brilliant job of putting the clamps on Love, playing his final basketball game for Groves.

He was held to 20 points,

only eight in the second half as two men constantly

hounded him.

"They really bug on to Scott all the time," said Groves Coach Al Vordermark who felt that perhaps the officials permitted the Rice defenders to get away with a little too much.

"We always play good defense," said Rice Coach Bill Norton who in the final moments summoned in subs as the situation dimmed all but most like one sees in crucial situations in football.

"Only one team has scored more baskets than us all season," he said.

NORTON DIDN'T feel that his Rice cagers handled Love "any differently than we normally play good centers."

He noted that in the Catholic League, Rice had run up against several top pivots, topped by Catholic Central's Frank Tanana.

onds to put the game away.

Until the last two minutes, it was anybody's game, just as Coach Tom Villeneuve of the Seaholm team, which will play Rice Saturday night, had predicted.

With neither side shooting well from the field, Groves and Rice traded baskets. Love had seven points and Rice's Joe Springer collected five.

BUT PROBLEMS mounted for Rice when top scorer Mark Olesnavage ran into foul troubles. He had three personals in the first period when he went without a point, although he has been averaging 20 points per game.

Despite his foul problem, Olesnavage managed five points in the second period, matching Love's output for the period, as Groves added to its lead, 23-20.

It was still Groves on top, 33-34, going into the final period after Tom Rex flipped in five points and Olesnavage seven for Rice.

In the final frame Dallas Ham hit two free throws and

Love a bomb to make it 39-36 for Groves.

But Paul McGill's free shot and Olesnavage's basket tied it for Rice at 39-39, then Dan Damiani and Springer clicked to make it 43-41 for Rice with 4:15 to go.

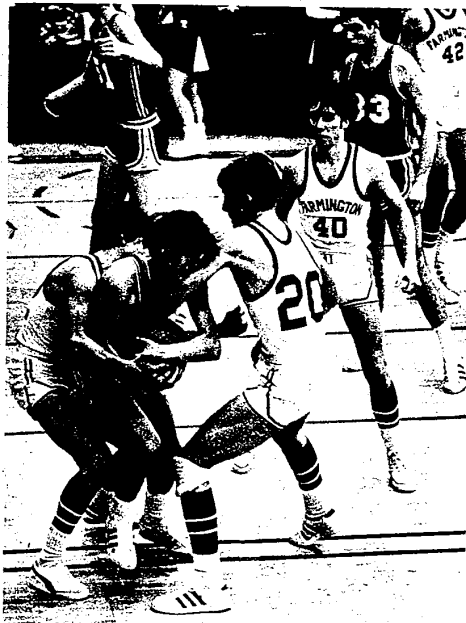
After Bill Heyne brought Groves back to within two points of a tie with a 20-foot, Olesnavage made two free throws with 2:07 to go to put his team up, 45-41, before he fouled out with 18 points.

Heyne converted two free throws at this point and with 1:27 remaining, Rice led by only 45-43.

Steve Foster sank a free throw and Mark Haffel found a way to tie the proceedings despite two late baskets by Love.

Groves shot 17 for 43 from the floor while Rice hit on a poor 18 out of 61.

Springer had 31 rebounds and Love led Groves with 10. Norton halled the play two subs Mike Buscher and Dan Damiani as major reasons for the victory. Buscher did an excellent job in guarding Love after Olesnavage ran into his foul difficulties.



PINNED IN with no place to go is Bentley's Brian Dinsmore during a tense moment in the tournament game against Farmington. Dan Steinke (20) and an unidentified teammate have Brian in a bind while battling for the ball. That's Jeff Baker (40) ready to move in if needed. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

Agatha in Title Contest

It'll be St. Agatha vs. St. Francis grabbed an 18-6 lead in the first period and never was threatened in its game with St. Andrew.

St. Francis grabbed an 18-6 lead in the first period and never was threatened in its game with St. Andrew.

St. Agatha took a squeaker from St. Rita, 57-53, in one of Thursday's semifinals while St. Francis rolled past St. Andrew, 75-51.

Free throws decided the game for Agatha which clicked 15 times from the line while its victims made only five.

It wasn't until Joe Thiesen sank two charities with four seconds left to go that St. Agatha had the victory sealed away.

George Barbour had 18 points and Tom Churches 14 for the victors. Buscher did a fine job in guarding Love after Olesnavage ran into his foul difficulties.

The stakes will be big for Country Day School's basketball team Saturday night.

It will be playing for the district Class C title at Rochester High and also its 18th consecutive victory of the season without a defeat.

With Mike Page leading the way, this time with 38 points, Country Day rolled over Ortonville Brandon, 76-68, in Wednesday's semifinals.

Page, an all-star in football and a clutch in basketball, too, clicked on 15 baskets and eight free throws.

Country Day took a 49-29 halftime lead, but had to hold off Brandon which cut the lead to four points in the third period.

Borgess Fades Out In Hurry

There wasn't much to the 1971 state high school basketball tournament for Bishop Borgess. One game and out.

Borgess fell victim to a second half spurge by Detroit Ford which posted a 78-56 win in a Class A district game at Detroit Cady.

The teams reached the end of the first half tied at 28-28, but the Ford broke loose with a 27-14 third period to turn matters into a runaway.

The game was plagued by personal fouls - 24 against Borgess and 23 against Ford.

Bob Chapman led the winners with 31 points, 22 in the second half. He sank 11 baskets and missed only two of 11 free throws. Bob Davis with 13 headed Borgess.

Women's State Pin Standings

Here are the official standings of the Women's State Bowling Championships after four weeks of competition:

FIVE-WOMAN TEAM EVENT	
Kendrick Division:	
Motown Records, Detroit	3018
Pioneer Lancers, Detroit	3000
Service Unlimited, Detroit	2888
Father's Women's Apparel, Detroit	2885
Artech Mfg. Co., Gt. Rapids	2823
Team Actual	
Motown Records, Detroit	2848
DOUBLETS EVENT	
Kendrick Division:	
Dorothy Nelson-Jud Lister	1270
Farmington J. Detroit	1260
Merle Huntington-Evan	1253
Greenleaf, Detroit	1253
Betty Shelton-Doris Foglia	1253
Livonia	1253
Lois LaCelle-Bonnie Ngila,	1253
Farmington & Pontiac	1253
Theresa Hickman-Barbara	1247
Stone, Mt. Clemens	1247
Doublets Actual	
Sandra Givens-Jean	1134
Hopkins, Gt. Rapids	1134