

Sports

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Drelles, Knoche pace Raiders

The North Farmington boys swimming team finished off 1991 with a 2-0 dual meet record, whipping the University of Detroit-Jesuit and host Warren Woods Tower in a double dual meet on Dec. 10.

The Raiders, who also tied for fifth place in the Western Lakes Activities Association Relays earlier this month, downed U-D, 82-37, and Tower, 82-31.

North senior Mike Drelles sparked

swimming

the performance, swimming on two winning relays and winning a pair of individual events. Jon Kershaw, Drelles, Adam Kammer and Keith Lee won the 200-yard medley relay

in 1:59.88, and Drelles, Kershaw, Lee and Chris Knoche were victorious in the 400 freestyle relay (3:26.4). Drelles' wins came in the 200 individual Medley (2:02.98) and the 100

butterfly (54.35).

Knoche also won two events — the 200 freestyle (1:48.84) and 100 freestyle (48.38). Other winners for the Raiders included: Peter Gutenberg, 500 freestyle (5:29.19), Kershaw, 100 backstroke (54.37) and Drew Sopha, 100 breaststroke (1:08.82).

The Raiders are idle until Jan. 8 when they host West Bloomfield and Farmington Hills Harrison in a double dual meet.



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Kiss '91 goodbye

Jay Jensen and the rest of Farmington High's boys basketball players are idle until Tuesday, Jan. 7. North Farmington is the only city school playing over the holiday. The Raiders play Troy at 8 p.m. Thursday in Troy's Christmas Tournament.

Kummer injured; Shamrocks lose

By Steve Kowalski
staff writer

After looking lost most of the second quarter Friday night against Clarkston, the Redford Catholic Central basketball team lost senior point guard Bob Kummer with an ankle injury.

It was just the start of many losses.

Before the final buzzer sounded, leading scorer Chad Varga and three other players fouled out. As if that didn't hurt enough, two other CC players left with injuries, leaving the Shamrocks with four healthy players on the floor for the final minutes.

It all resulted in the Shamrocks first loss (in the standings) of the season, 68-40, in the first round of Clarkston's Christmas Tournament played at Oakland University's Lepley Arena. CC coach Bernie Holowicki had to think back to his days 30 years ago at Detroit St. Gregory's when he coached a game with only four of his players left on the court at the end.

Reserves Will Marcoux (ankle) and Dave Freitas (who suffered a cut on his left side) were injured during garbage time in the second half.

"I think Clarkston came to go to war, had fire in its eyes and was two steps quicker than us," Holowicki said. "They outplayed us, outcoached us, they're very good."

While Holowicki was concerned about the defeat, he was more worried about Kummer, who left with a badly sprained ankle with 1:03 remaining in the first half. Kummer twisted his left ankle when Clarkston's all-state guard Dugan Fife accidentally stepped on it, trying to drive past Kummer.

It is uncertain when Kummer will return, although Holowicki knew he wouldn't play in Saturday's consolation game against the loser of Friday's game between Troy and Rochester Adams.

Even with Kummer, Clarkston was able to erase an early CC lead and begin to pull away from the Shamrocks. Fife, who has signed with the University of Michigan, scored 18 first-half points and finished with a game-high 31.

basketball

At the time of Kummer's injury, Clarkston led 28-19.

"We're hurting with him (having to play) at point guard, but you've got to have Bobby, because he's our leader and sets the mode and tone for the whole game," Holowicki said. "Without him, Chad is different too."

Kummer, who finished with only one point and three rebounds, tried to return early in the third quarter but lasted less than 20 seconds before heading back to the bench.

Varga, who scored 41 points against Wayne Memorial, scored eight in the first quarter when CC enjoyed an early 12-6 lead. But Varga picked up his third foul before halftime and fouled out midway through the third quarter with 14 points and four rebounds.

Marc Gondok scored eight points off the bench for the Shamrocks in the second half when they were badly outmatched. For the game, CC made 15-45 shots (33 percent), compared to 17-43 (40 percent) by Clarkston.

CC outrebounded Clarkston, 39-27, but had 25 turnovers and was called for 33 fouls compared to only 19 by Clarkston.

The Wolves made 29-of-39 free throws, compared to only 8-13 by the Shamrocks.

"I think it was fair (the officiating)," Holowicki said. "The fouls were called because we were reaching in and not moving our feet. They say basketball is a game of inches, but it's not. It's a game of feet."

Fife is a four-year starter and the Wolves have managed to beat four straight times. The Shamrocks had similar success in the early-to-mid-80s when they had a superstar guard, John McIntyre.

"Of all the teams we've played, they've beaten us the worst," Clarkston coach Dan Fife said. "When they had 'Mac' (McIntyre) I think the closest we got was about 20 points. I worried about CC's size and strength and they've got great tradition."

Canton loses to Pioneer

Plymouth Canton missed a shot in the waning seconds Thursday night that would have forced overtime, but the game was ultimately lost at the free-throw line.

The Chiefs made only eight of 17 free throws and lost a non-league boys basketball game, 59-57, to host Ann Arbor Pioneer.

The non-league loss left Canton at 2-2 overall. Pioneer, which trailed 20-9 after one quarter, is 4-0 overall. Pioneer pulled to within two, 26-24, at halftime and outscored Canton 18-14 in the third quarter to lead 42-40.

Canton had a chance to tie the game and send it into overtime, but a seven-foot jump shot in the final seconds by senior forward Hal Heard went in and out.

"It was a very good shot. He'd been making them all night, but it just rimmed out," Canton coach Dave VanWagoner said. "This was our best game of the year. Slowly, but surely, we're coming together as a team."

Senior guard Derrick McDonald led Canton with 20 points, while Heard added 18 and senior center Tony Coshatt had 13 points and 12 rebounds.

Quentin Evans led Pioneer with 14 points and teammate Brent Wall contributed 13. Pioneer didn't fair as well at the free-throw line either, making only 12 of 21.

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SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Rebekah King and her Farmington High teammates set their sights high for the 1991-92 volleyball season. King, senior

Sue Gibson and junior Debbie Schroeder will try to improve the Falcons mark of 9-19 from last year.

Bump, set, spike

Mercy has new coach; Hawks, Falcons have new outlooks

By Neal Zipser
staff writer

Rookie coaches usually have pressure to succeed, but what about a first-year coach inheriting a team that has reached the state semifinals and quarterfinals the past two seasons?

That pressure will be on the shoulders of Ann Kolnits. The former Wayne Memorial volleyball coach takes over for Tim DeBello as coach at Farmington Hills Mercy.

The pressure doesn't get easier for Kolnits, whose team competes against Birmingham Marian, Livonia Ladywood and Harper Woods Regina in the tough Catholic League.

Add to that the losses to graduation of All-Observer first teamers Maureen Paulin and Suzie Atchinson and role players Gail Murie and Nora Hand.

Kolnits doesn't mind the pressure and instead said she is happy with her new assignment. "I needed a change," Kolnits

volleyball

said. "It's been an adjustment for the players and me. As far as coaching goes (coaching Mercy instead of Wayne), it is a step in the right direction."

The Marlins were 48-6-2 last season before being eliminated from the state playoffs by Marian. Kolnits will depend on a mix of seniors and juniors to equal the past two years' accomplishments.

Leading returnees include seniors Karen Pinkerton, strong-side hitter; Shannon Goff, strong-side hitter; and Karen Kivela, weak-side hitter. Middle-hitter Wendy Wolaki, a transfer from Walled Lake Central, will also make an impact.

A group of five juniors will also see playing time. They include back row player Marcella DeAugustino, setter Jill Jarosz, strong-side hitter Kristina Kudelko, and

middle hitters Katie Heffernan and Angela Assad. Sophomore Kathy Mistravich will be the Marlins' defensive specialist.

"There will be a lot of competition in the middle," Kolnits said. "Our offense is our strength, but we've got to play good defense. I'm a defense-oriented coach."

FARMINGTON

Coming off a 9-19 season, Farmington volleyball coach Julie Ingalls believes her team already has what it takes to improve.

"We have the desire to do well and the rest will come easy," Ingalls said. "We finished fourth in the Farmington Hills Harrison tournament last year and we were second this year, so we already improved."

The Falcons, off to a 4-2 start, want to improve on last season's 2-8 Western Lakes Athletic Association mark.

Farmington will be without eight players from last year's team, including Patti Hansen, Kerri Finlayson and Kim Owczarsak, last season's most valuable player who

is now playing soccer at Schoolcraft. Ingalls expects seniors Sue Gibson, Rebekah King and junior Debbie Schroeder to step up and lead the team. The three players are versatile and can play effectively in the front and back rows.

The Falcons also have two setters returning: junior Michelle Lorenz and senior Amy Sosnowski. Juniors Randee Sandhu, Tarnigals and Kim Seed join sophomore Jenni Allen as newcomers projected to see playing time.

"I've noticed our service reception and serving percentage has been good this year," Ingalls said. "We would like to keep both those around 90 percent."

"We have to make sure we're aggressive at the net on defense and have a more complex offense."

One of the Falcons' goals this season is to win the Farmington city championship, which North Farmington has claimed the past several years.

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