

Raiders, Hawks are winners

North Farmington avenged an earlier loss to Livonia Franklin by defeating the visiting Patriots 54-39 in a Western Lakes Activities Association basketball game Tuesday.

The Raiders were led by four seniors playing in their last home game. Scott Lord scored 14 points, Evan Ellis 12, Jon Pennala 11 and Doug Dolak four.

North led 28-22 at halftime, 42-32 after three quarters and outscored Franklin 12-7 in the fourth period.

Paul Maschke scored 14 points for the Patriots. Both teams are 10-9 overall.

"We just did not show up mentally," Franklin coach Larry Jackson said. "We set our sights on the Final Four, and when that didn't happen we went through the motions."

HARRISON 45, CHURCHILL 31: Senior forward Calvin Pruitt had 17 points and 12 rebounds Tuesday to lead the host Hawks past Livonia Churchill.

Falcons from page 1B

come out. They were able to get behind us for easy baskets.

"I think they knew they couldn't play with us if it was a full-court game. They couldn't match up in terms of speed and height. I've never seen them play like that, so I think it was a tactic they felt they needed to beat us."

Farmington led 15-5 after one quarter, but the Mustangs rallied to within 25-20 at halftime and 41-35 after three periods. The Falcons extended the lead to 49-43, but Northville got within 51-49 with two minutes left.

"Every time we got within one or two, we'd give them a couple easy baskets and they'd stretch it out to five or six," Taylor said.

Tokar was a big player at the end. His basket and two free

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Senior center Aaron Weiss added seven points (all in the second half) and seven rebounds, senior guard Ricky Smith six points and four assists.

Jedd Thorderson finished with 15 points to lead the Chargers (6-14).

Harrison (10-9) led 17-15 at halftime and 30-27 after three quarters, but the Hawks outscored Churchill 15-4 in the finale.

In a game played Saturday, the Hawks defeated Walled Lake Western 67-63 at Harrison.

Smith scored a career-high 22 points, and Weiss finished with 18 points, including three triples. Pruitt had seven points and 10 rebounds, and freshman Kevin Bambenek had eight points.

Freshmen Mike Massey and Aaron Oseff had 24 and 13 points, respectively, for the winless Warriors.

C'VILLE 72, BAPTIST PARK 67: It was the Kalaj & Kalaj show Tuesday for Livonia Clarenceville at Taylor Baptist Park.

Senior guard John Kalaj scored a team-high 22 points with seven rebounds and five assists, and senior forward Mark Kalaj had 21 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists.

Mark Kalaj was nine-of-15 from the field.

The Trojans outscored Baptist Park 17-8 in the third quarter to break away from a 40-40 halftime tie.

Clarenceville made seven of 12 free throws, and Baptist Park was 10-of-13 at the line.

Junior center Mark Berry contributed 10 points and 10 rebounds for the Trojans. Teammate Chris Smith, a senior forward, added nine points.

Mike Stimpson led Baptist Park with 25 points.

Chiefs upset Rocks in WLAA

By C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER

Talk about wins and losses if you must, but coaches use a different measuring stick when evaluating their team's growth.

If a team grows and improves as the season progresses, then the coach feels he's getting his message across.

Prime example: Plymouth Canton. The Chiefs met cross-parking-lot rival Plymouth in their first Western Lakes Activities Association game of the regular season in January and lost, 64-57.

Now, if they were going to reach their pre-season objective as stated by coach Dave VanWagoner, "We told them the first day of practice our goal was to get to the (WLAA) championship game" — something was going to have to change. Since there was little hope of their growing physically their tallest starter is only 6-foot-3, the Chiefs had to find another way.

They did — and for the past six weeks, their perfected formula has been working at full speed. Which is what destroyed Salem Tuesday. Canton's speed and defensive quickness wore out the Rocks 68-52 at Salem in a WLAA semifinal.

The Chiefs (13-6) go up against Farmington (13-6) in the championship game at approximately 7:30 p.m. Friday at Northville. Salem (16-3) plays Northville (12-7) in the consolation game at 6 p.m. at Northville.

"I think our defense took them out of anything they did,"

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said VanWagoner, calling it the "Arkansas defense," which he defines as "full-court man-to-man pressure," the same kind applied by the No. 1-ranked Razorbacks.

It was refined after the last meeting between Canton and Salem, something not lost on Salem coach Bob Brodie, whose 14-year-old son Joe was seriously hurt in a skiing accident last Thursday. Joe suffered a neck injury; he underwent six hours of surgery Tuesday during which part of his hip bone was fused into the vertebrae in his neck.

Latest word regarding Joe was optimistic: He had movement in his arms and legs, but had suffered nerve damage. Still, the prognosis was promising for a full recovery.

The Rocks had "JB" taped to their jerseys in a show of support for their coach's son. However, there was nothing they could do to help their star, 6-6 forward James Head, who was still suffering from a virus first contracted two weeks earlier.

Head was nearly a nonentity in the first half, scoring five points on 2-of-5 shooting. He came out far more determined in the second, scoring nine of Sa-

lem's 17 third-quarter points and helping the Rocks trim Canton's 11-point halftime bulge to five, 47-42, late in the third quarter.

But a pair of Tadarus Rachal (17 points) baskets in the last 1:16 of the third pushed the Chiefs' lead back to nine (51-42). The fourth quarter belonged to Matt Paupore, Canton's 6-2 guard. In the first meeting between the two teams, it was Head who dismantled the Chiefs with a strong final period.

This time it was Paupore (25 points). He scored 11 points, sinking all three of his floor shots and five of six free throws. His basket with 2:11 left capped a 15-2 Canton run that started with Rachal's scores ending the third quarter. The Chiefs were ahead by a comfortable 62-44 margin.

"There were a lot of loose balls tonight," said Bell, "and it seemed like (Canton) got every one."

That was nearly dead right in the first half. Canton forced the Rocks into 15 turnovers in the first 16 minutes; the Chiefs had three. For the game, Salem had 24 to Canton's 12.

Indeed, if the Chiefs had shot better at the start (2-of-17 in the first six minutes), Salem might not have been in the game at halftime. The Rocks' 14-11 lead after the first quarter disappeared quickly underneath a 12-4 Canton run that put the Chiefs up 23-18 midway through the second quarter.

six each and Afterbaugh five.

"We'd tip, tip, tip and it would end up in their hands," Taylor said. "I think we would have controlled a lot more boards if we hadn't fought ourselves for rebounds. It was like blocking out our own guys."

Northville made 23 of 54 field goals for 43 percent, Farmington 19 of 55 (35 percent).

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The property descriptions and total taxes to be offered at the tax sale will be published for three weeks in the Herald Advertiser
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