

SPORTS

& RECREATION

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SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 1997

FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Shamrocks reach final

Redford Catholic Central earned a berth in the Class A state hockey championship game with an 8-1 victory over Hartland Friday night in a semifinal played at the Flint IMA Sports Arena.

Because of deadlines for the Sunday paper, details of championship game Saturday against rival Trenton, will appear in the Observer Thursday.

Trenton, the defending Class A state champion, earned a berth in the final with a 4-0 victory over Alpena.

Jason Tardif, Tim Gibor, Joe Beaudoin, Dan McLellan (two), Brad Karabolski, Mike Sharpe and Eric Bratcher scored goals for CC, which took a 2-1-1 record into the final.

Hartland's starting goalie was injured and left the game after the first goal by Daryl Marshko (11:19 into the first period).

One of McLellan's goals came short-handed. Karabolski's came on the power play.

CC led 2-0 after one period and 5-1 after two. The Shamrocks outshot Hartland 41-12, giving goalie Rickey Maroon a relatively easy night.

Hartland finished 16-9-2.

Hockey players needed

PeeWee A hockey players who are on a travel team or rank in the upper 20 percent on a Farmington Hills Hockey Association house team and would like to try out for a first-year PeeWee travel team, contact coach Glenn Gardner at (810) 474-1326.

Gardner is looking to increase the resident participation in the travel program by recruiting skaters from the house program.

The team will be allowed to carry four second-year PeeWee players and 10 first-year PeeWee players. Gardner hopes to increase the residency participation from 40 to 70 percent.

Swistak named all-star

Brother Rice standout senior forward Mike Swistak earned first team honors on the West All-Star team as selected by the coaches in the Michigan Metro High School Hockey League on March third.

Joining Swistak on the first team are Chad Clements, Jamie Tinsley and K.C. Beggs of Trenton, Rael Blaf of Cabrini and Scott Curtin of Catholic Central.

Two others represented Brother Rice as Honorable Mentions: Defenseman Dan Pazenycz and goalkeeper Aaron Jones.

Prep coaches honored

Ron Richards, swim coach at Birmingham Brother Rice, was recently named Michigan High School Coaches Association Boys Swimming Coach of the Year.

Since Mr. Richards took the helm of the swim team Brother Rice has won three consecutive state titles and is in the running for the 1997 title. The Warriors won the Oakland County meet in February.

Livonia Stevenson's Mike Harris, who led Livonia Stevenson to the Suburban High School Hockey League title for the second time in three years, was voted SHSLL Coach of the Year. The Spartans finished 12-0-2 in league play and 16-5-2 overall. Harris is 49-19-3 in three seasons at Stevenson.

K of C softball leagues

Registration deadline for a series of softball leagues at the Diamond at Knights of Columbus, 21900 Middlebelt Road (located between Eight and Nine Mile roads) in Farmington Hills, will be Friday, April 4.

The entry fee is \$550 (includes 14-game schedule plus playoffs) or \$700 (includes umpire fees). Sponsor and individual awards, along with softballs and ISA team registration fees, are included.

Leagues include Monday through Friday nights, Tuesday and Thursday mornings and Sundays.

To enter, call (810) 426-0558 or Superior Sports at (313) 255-7082. There are no residency requirements, player or parking fees!

Piston/Vipers tickets

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit is forming a partnership with the Detroit Pistons and Detroit Vipers.

There will be an inaugural "YMCA Night at the Palace", 7 p.m. Sunday, March 16 when the Pistons take on the Seattle.

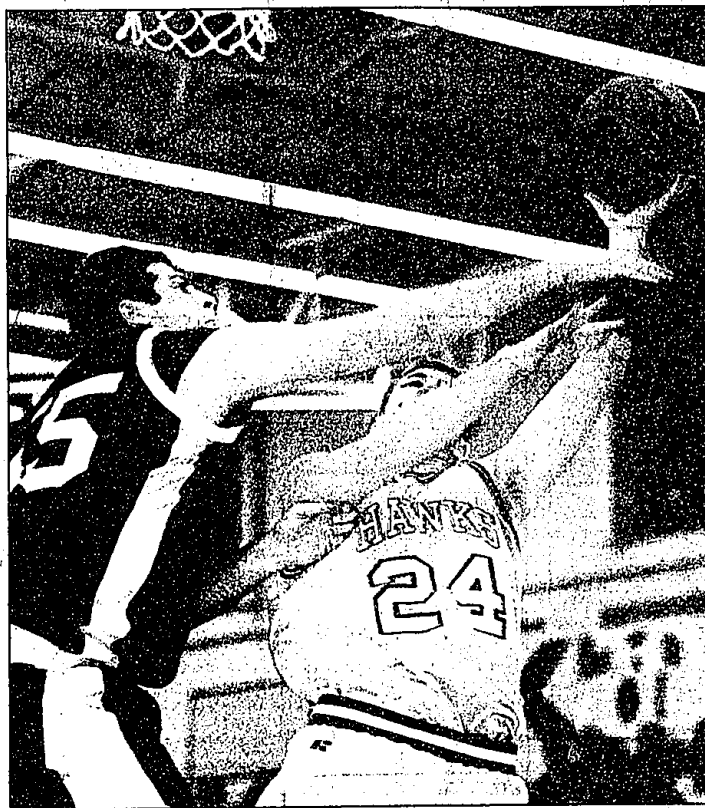
The Livonia and Wayne-Westland are among the local YMCAs which will profit on each sale of these specially discounted tickets, priced at \$23 and \$14.

The second "YMCA Night at the Palace" will be at noon Saturday, March 29 when the Detroit Vipers play the Grand Rapids Griffins. Tickets are \$12, \$7 and \$4.50.

For ticket orders, call Mary Rogers at (810) 377-8768; or go to your local YMCA.

To submit information for the Farmington Sports Scene, write to Sports Editor Dan O'Meara at 36261 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150; information also can be faxed to him at (313) 691-7279.

Lakers edge Hawks for title



Standing in the way: West Bloomfield's 6-foot-7 senior center Garon Oseff disrupts a shot attempt by Harrison junior Matt Derocher in the district championship game Friday at Bloomfield Hills Lahser High School. The Lakers won the game, 61-59.

■ Farmington Harrison fell short of winning its first district title in boys basketball Friday as West Bloomfield won, 61-59.



BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Pierre Brown let it be known he's back playing basketball for West Bloomfield, and the Lakers are back in a regional tournament as a result.

The 6-foot senior scored a game-high 26 while leading the Lakers to a 61-59 victory over Farmington Harrison and their first district championship in four years Friday.

It was only the third game Brown has played after missing five straight at the end of the regular season while he recovered from mononucleosis.

"I'm a streak player," Brown said. "When I start making them, I don't miss. I like penetrating better than taking the jumper, but if the jumper is there I'm going to take it."

West Bloomfield (9-11) will play Birmingham Seaholm in the Class A regional Tuesday at Southfield-Lathrup. Tipoff is 7 p.m.

Brown, who scored most of his points on back-door layups and quick drives to the basket, was 10-of-17 from the field and 6-of-9 at the free-throw line.

He was 0-for-3 and scoreless in the first quarter, but he started lighting it up with 12 points in the second quarter to help the Lakers rally from a 16-7 deficit after one quarter.

"I don't know if there's a quicker player in Oakland County," West Bloomfield coach Tim Donke said. "Speed kills and he's got it."

"I knew he was faster than anybody they had. The kids got the ball to him, too. Part of our game plan to get the ball to him deep."

The senior trio of Garon Oseff, Ronald Levin and Troy Armstrong added 11, 10 and six points for the Lakers, respectively.

"If all our seniors score, we're going to come out on top, and

See HAWKS, D3

Warriors capture district crown

BY BILL PARKER
STAFF WRITER

BASKETBALL

Friday's championship game of the Class A District 30 basketball tournament at Milford was made to order for Walled Lake Western senior guard Mike Massey: two evenly-matched teams, a tight score throughout, and lots of pressure since the season ended for the losers while the winners would advance to play on another night.

"In our pregame talk I told Mike this was his kind of game," explained Western coach Rex

Stanczak. "He loves pressure and he loves to have the pressure on him. He was cold in the first half, but I knew he wouldn't stay cold. He's too good of a player."

Stanczak was correct on both assessments.

Massey thrived when the pressure was on, and scored 20 of his game-high 25 points in the second half while leading Western to its second-straight district championship with a 62-49 victory over Lakeland West-

ern which has won nine of its last 10 games and stands 13-10 on the year, meets L'Anse Creuse North on Wednesday in the Class A Region 6 tournament at Macomb Dakota High School. L'Anse Creuse won the Chippewa Valley district tournament Friday with a 50-48 victory over Chippewa Valley.

"This is a good finish to districts," said Massey. "None of us wanted to end (the district tournament) with a loss, especially the seniors. (At half-time) I decided to do whatever it took to win: pass more, play defense, whatever it took. It was 19-19 as we

were starting over. It was a brand new game and we knew there was no reason we couldn't go out and win it."

This is exactly what Massey and company did.

Massey scored 10 points in the third and senior forward Dave Kasnecki added six of his 16 as the Warriors outscored Lakeland 16-14 in the quarter.

The Eagles took their first lead since 3:12 of the first when senior center Brin Kennedy hit a short

See WARRIORS, 3

Shamrocks tumble as Huskies prevail

BY RICHARD L. SHOOF
STAFF WRITER

A shakeup in Detroit Redford's starting lineup dropped Redford Detroit Catholic Central right out of the state high school basketball tournament.

Detroit Redford held off two second-half Catholic Central surges Friday night to post a 53-48 victory over the Shamrocks and win the CC Class A district.

BASKETBALL

The Huskies, 15-6, advance to a 5 p.m. Tuesday night date at Southfield against Detroit Murray-Wright in the start of the regional phase of the Michigan High School Athletic Association tournament.

Catholic Central ended with a 16-8 record. Redford played poised, polished basketball and used what the good teams use — defense — to avoid falling down when it stumbled.

"We were good at the beginning of the season," Redford coach Derrick

McDowell said. "After the Christmas tournament we were struggling, but we were winning."

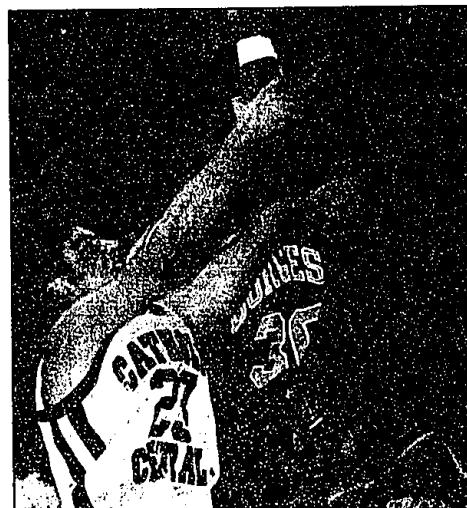
"We had momentum going into the (Detroit Public School League) playoffs. But in the semifinals against Denby, we were dead. We didn't come to play. Plus the consolation game."

"But after the Denby game, we started playing different people. (Junior guard Kenneth) Tinsley played more minutes in this game than he did in the entire rest of the year."

"And (sophomore) Arnett Sydes was playing with the junior varsity."

The Huskies had a good game plan. They wanted to pressure the Shamrock guards and deny center Chris Young the ball. They front Young, double-teamed him and got good weak-side help down low.

"If we were going to lose," McDowell said, "we were going to lose to one of their other guys. Marc McDonald and Young weren't going to beat us."



Battle on the boards: CC junior Joe Jonna (Farmington) fights for a rebound in an earlier game with Bishop Borgess.

See SHAMROCKS, D3