



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HOPKINS

End of the season: Disappointment follows defeat for Harrison seniors Aaron Iaconelli (left), Justin Snow (center) and John Sennett (right) as they watch West Bloomfield players accept the district championship trophy Friday.

Hawks from page D1

tonight all four did score," Brown said.

Junior Jared Hopkins scored 14 points to pace Harrison (17-5), which had hoped to win its first district title.

Junior Matt Derocher and senior Aaron Iaconelli had eight points each, juniors Kareem Smartt and Brian Lewis seven each, senior Kevin Bambenek six.

The Hawks outscored West Bloomfield 11-2 to end the first quarter and take a nine-point lead.

Hopkins extended it to 21-11 with five straight points in the second, but the game started to unravel for Harrison after that.

The Hawks scored only three points on free throws in the final 5 1/2 minutes of the half and made nine of 24 turnovers in the second period.

Brown was 5-of-6 from the floor and 2-of-2 at the line in that quarter as the Lakers rallied within a point at halftime, 24-23.

"In the second quarter, we played with no courage," Harrison coach Mike Teachman said. "We dazzled them in the first quarter by running the offense. In the second quarter, we just stopped."

"We had some defensive break-

downs. Brown was the one getting open on the back door away from the trap. We told and told them they wouldn't see it. They played the mid-court line instead of the basket (on the half-court trap)."

Oseff hit a three to begin the second half and put West Bloomfield ahead. The Lakers kept rolling with a 22-14 advantage in the third quarter.

The Lakers upped their lead to 45-33 behind Oseff's nine points and Brown's seven in the quarter.

Four threes by Iaconelli (two), Derocher and Jeremiah Johnson allowed the Hawks to stay within seven at the end of the period, 45-38.

Harrison rallied to hold a two-point lead midway in the fourth, 53-51. Armstrong and Randy Westelman gave the Lakers a 55-53 lead, but Hopkins tied it with two free throws with 1:03 remaining.

West Bloomfield spread its offense, and Harrison chose to put Oseff on the line with 46 seconds left.

He made the first, but Brown grabbed the rebound after the missed second, which led to Levin being fouled.

Levin exchanged free throws with Hopkins, then made two

more for a 60-57 lead. Hopkins scored on a rebound with 2.6 seconds.

Brown made the second of two free throws with .07 on the clock, and Harrison didn't have time to set up another shot.

"We play in a strong league and that prepares us for strong competition," Brown said. "Coach told us if we play defense, we'll win, and we came to play good defense. I think we wanted it more."

"It's a spurt game," Domko said. "I think we had one more spurt than them, and it was a two-point difference. If we don't (make free throws down the stretch), we don't keep the lead and it's a whole different game."

"This is real special because this particular group of kids hadn't won anything — freshman, JV or varsity — until now. I ask them to play as hard as they can for as long as they can."

The Lakers, who were 7-of-14 and 8-of-13 from the floor in the middle quarters for 56 percent, made 22 of 47 shots overall (47 percent) and 19 of 28 free throws.

The Hawks were 19-of-50 (38 percent) from the floor and 15-of-22 at the line. Harrison made six threes, West Bloomfield two.

Seaholm defeats Brother Rice

BY JOE KYRIAKOZ
STAFF WRITER

BASKETBALL

Not a player on Birmingham Seaholm's basketball team remembers the last time the Maples won a district title.

That's because none of them had been born yet.

Whether anyone remembers the last time or not, Seaholm made history in de ja vu fashion Friday by pounding city rival Birmingham Brother Rice 75-54 at Southfield-Lathrup to claim the title and end a 26-year drought.

Seaholm's last district championship came in 1971. Ironically, it was over Brother Rice, 64-45.

"It's a dream come true; I can't explain it," Seaholm senior guard Jon Borovich said after delivering an MVP-like performance. "I couldn't ask for anything more. Our goal our entire season was to do well in the playoffs."

The triumph pits Seaholm against West Bloomfield at 7 p.m. Tuesday, once again at Lathrup, in a Clatsop Regional.

Rice as the victim adds a little more incentive for Borovich since Friday marked the first time in his four years at Seaholm that the Maples have faced Rice.

"It's been a dream of mine to play against Rice," Borovich

said. "Rice and Seaholm is always a big rivalry."

Rice, despite owning a size advantage, was outmatched by the near-flawless guard play of Borovich and senior Mark Hayes. The duo seized control of the tempo and ensured involvement of all Seaholm participants with precision passing and a keen court sense.

"Senior leadership (was the key)," an elated Seaholm coach Dave Watkins said. "When you've got players like Borovich and Hayes, they're seniors, they don't want to lose. We knew we had to shut down the inside game, and we had to make them guard all five spots."

Rice coach Bill Norton praised Borovich for playing a complete game against his squad.

They controlled the game; they controlled the ball, and they controlled their offense," Norton said. "We were not able to disrupt them. With Jon (Borovich) you have all those things. All the other players on the team follow his leadership."

In the first quarter, Rice went on an 8-0 run in a span of 2:12, but that was all of its scoring for the period. Seaholm led 14-8

after one quarter.

The second quarter was the Borovich-Hayes show as they combined for nine points and extended the Maples' lead to 31-19 at halftime.

A 7-0 run by Seaholm to start the second half all but buried Rice, as the Warriors were held without a field goal until the 4:26 mark of the third quarter.

More of the dynamic duo increased the lead to 54-30 by the end of the third quarter.

Hayes led all scorers with 23 points and added five assists. Borovich excelled at all facets, collecting 20 points, eight rebounds, seven assists and three blocks.

Junior Tom Marx paced Brother Rice with 21 points and 11 rebounds. Senior Jason Hesano added nine points.

Since losing to Lathrup in the last game of the regular season, the Maples (18-5) have roared to a three-game winning streak, and, according to Watkins, are not finished just yet.

"We went through some tough times," Watkins said. "We lost three of our last four games (of the regular season)."

"Our goal is to not accomplish that. We have goals. We have a reason to play hard and win on Tuesday."

Rice ends the season 9-13.

Warriors from page D1

juniper with 5:54 left in the third to give Lakeland a 23-21 edge. Kaznecki promptly answered with the first of his two triples to quickly put Western back on top.

When Lakeland again surged ahead late in the third, 33-29, Massey got hot from outside and drained back-to-back treys in the closing minute to give Western a 35-33 lead entering the fourth quarter.

Massey's fifth three-pointer of the game gave the Warriors a comfortable nine-point cushion,

44-35, with just 6:22 remaining in the game. But Lakeland, responded by scoring 10 unanswered points to take a 46-44 lead with 3:44 remaining.

Senior Mike Whitting's tip-in gave the Warriors the lead for good, 46-45, with just under three minutes left to play. Massey followed with a layup and Kaznecki countered a pair of Lakeland free throws with a layup off an inbound pass as the Warriors pulled ahead 50-47. Kennedy split a pair of free

throws for Lakeland with 32 seconds remaining to pull the Eagles within two. Massey took the ensuing inbound pass and dribbled through Lakeland's defense for an uncontested layup to give Western an four-point lead, 52-46, with 18 seconds left in the game.

Kennedy split another pair of free throws with time running out and a last-second, full-court shot by Lakeland fell short as the Warriors emerged with the win.

Shamrocks from page D1

"We didn't want Young to catch the ball down low. And if he did, we wanted it to be away from the basket. In the second half he started getting the ball a little more and had a couple of nice spin moves."

Nice spin moves with Michigan coach Steve Fisher watching. Fisher stood next to the wall near the end of the Catholic Central bench all game long.

"We started out slow," Shamrocks' coach Rick Coratti said. "And they're a good team. That was probably the best defense we played against all year."

"We couldn't get over the hump. That three they hit just before the half hurt."

CC trailed at the half, 23-11 after scoring just two points in the second quarter. CC cut the gap to 30-26 with 4:02 left in the third quarter but Redford closed the period 10-5.

The Shamrocks trimmed an 11-point deficit to 46-42 with 2:03 left and 47-45 with 1:29 to play but the Huskies made 6-of-6 free throws and picked up their defense to lead 52-47 with 36 seconds to play.

"We played better defense the second half," Coratti said. "But we couldn't capitalize on certain situations. We couldn't get over

the hump."

McDonald didn't hit a three the whole game, ending with 12 points. Sophomore Nick Moore led CC with 16 points, Young scored 10, Matthew Martinez seven, Dave Lusky two and Josh DelCorvo one.

Omar Zeigler led Redford with 16 points, Jason Washington 12, Jason Prater 10, Tinsley seven, Gino Jones four and Aaron Watts and Sydes had two apiece.

"I don't think Omar Zeigler gets enough credit for what he does," McDowell said of his left-hander, who can play all five positions and play them well. "He plays defense, rebounds, passes and scores inside."

He also dribbled the ball near center court for some 60 seconds with some three minutes remaining in the first half.

CC missed a triple after Washington made one to make it 20-11. McDowell hollared to his team to pull the ball back while the Shamrocks were in their zone.

They did. Zeigler stood near mid-court dribbling, until McDowell told him to quit tiring himself out and let one of his teammates take a turn.

CC finally ditched its zone but

Redford played keep-away, missing a three but getting the ball back and having Tinsley and a trey from the top of the key to make it 23-11 at the half.

"That was big in two ways," McDowell said. "First in killing that much time and we didn't have to sub. We had a chance to catch our breath."

"Then when that shot went in, it gave us a big lift."

Still, Catholic Central wasn't finished. But making only four three-point shots in the game, really hurt, considering that is a big part of its offensive arsenal.

"We missed a free throw (trailing 46-42), got the ball back then lost the ball out of bounds," Coratti said. "That hurt."

The Shamrocks saw a good chance go down the drain with a minute to play. Trailing 49-45, they missed a shot, two free throws and another shot on one possession.

CC shot just 36 percent in the game (18-of-50) and made eight of 19 free throws.

Redford made 39 percent of its shots (16-of-41) and sank 18 of 35 free throws, including 11 of 22 in the fourth quarter.

Now it's on to the regionals for Redford. And on to spring sports for CC.

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