



Grip and grind: North's Dan Singer clutches the ball as he tries to go around Matt Derocher to the hoop.

Basketball from page C1

Delojevic matched his career-high of 32 points, but it wasn't enough as the Trojans received the Metro Conference loss.

Delojevic followed his 22-point performance in Friday's 55-44 victory over Macomb Lutheran North with one of his most productive performances of his career.

Justin Villanueva also had a strong game, netting 23 points and grabbing 12 rebounds.

The Trojans enjoyed their biggest lead of the game at 32-27 at halftime, but were trailing by one entering the fourth quarter.

Junior guard Dorian Crawford's 22 points led East (5-6 overall, 4-3 in the league).

The Trojans slipped to 3-4 overall and 1-4 in the Metro.

W.L. CENTRAL 73, HARTLAND 82: Walled Lake Central had little trouble rebounding from last week's loss to rival Walled Lake Western.

The Vikings traveled to Hartland on

Tuesday and on the strength of senior Todd Negoshian's season-high 25 points, Central (4-4) reached the .500 mark with an 11-point non-league triumph.

Negoshian, who also recorded 14 assists for a double-double and four steals, tossed in 13 points during the opening 16 minutes as the Vikings built a 43-32 halftime lead. Central enjoyed a 61-42 advantage after three quarters.

Junior Cory Hietach chipped in 13 points and seven rebounds, while Jeff Mathison (12 points) and Nick Hall combined for 23 points. The Vikings made eight 3-pointers in the game, four by Negoshian.

Tom See accounted for more than half of Hartland's offensive output with a game-high 38 points.

Central hosts North Farmington on Friday.

MILFORD 45, CHURCHILL 43: Livonia Churchill came within a whisker of posting an upset win Tuesday, but Milford's Justin Williams snared a pair of free

lead. North made six treys in the first half — three by Lousia — but Harrison managed to whittle the deficit to nine at halftime, 29-20.

"It started off exactly the way they had it scripted," Teachman said. "We played into their hands, shooting the ball to get fouled and hoping the officials called it instead of shooting to have the ball go in the hoop."

"Obviously, the game was set up to be an upset with us coming off a loss and our guys pointing too much to the Salem game, but we showed Hawk Pride."

"I wasn't too happy with the way we started, but I'm real happy with the way we came back."

The Raiders made only one more triple in the second half and finished 7-of-34 beyond the arc. North was 14-of-60 from the floor overall.

"We didn't shoot real well in the second half," North coach Brian Swinehart said, adding his team's game plan was actually to get the ball inside. "The way the officials allowed clutching and grabbing inside, there's no way we were going to get any post game."

"We know they were good enough to make a run. How we responded would determine the

outcome of the game. I don't think we backed down. We were just in a situation the shots wouldn't fall for us."

The Raiders were 4-of-28 shooting the ball in the second half, but the Hawks also played better on defense.

"Actually, we put less pressure on the guards," Teachman said. "We didn't run our half-court trap, because we were doing such a good job getting off picks inside. We stopped their second shots and got some of our own. Burt willed some rebounds tonight."

The second-half defense was big, according to Teachman, following Harrison's loss to Plymouth Salem on Friday.

"(The Hawks) thought they could beat Salem with offense," he said. "I still think, to be a great team, you have to play defense and, hopefully, they agree with me after this."

"I challenged them not to have two losses back-to-back and to keep North under 40. That was a big challenge when they get 19 right off the bat."

Johnson scored seven points, including a three, in the third quarter as Harrison narrowed the difference to 35-34 at the end.

Medunjanin gave the Raiders a 39-36 lead with a rebound bas-

ket, but Burt's three points tied the score.

Wilson sank the second of two free throws with 1:42 remaining for what proved to be the winning point.

North missed two threes after that and had a close shot by Medunjanin rim out in the final minute. The Raiders still had possession with five seconds left when they lost the ball out of bounds.

"We were an inch away from winning," Swinehart said. "I can't be that disappointed. Our guys battled and laid it on the line. We didn't hit shots in the second half; that's high school basketball."

"I felt like it was our game and we let it slip away. We played well; we played hard. Obviously, Harrison is a good team."

The Raiders have been a hard-

luck team, losing several close games.

"I know we're better than our record indicates," Swinehart said. "We're 5-0 and could easily be 7-1, but that's the breaks."

"We can't sit back and worry about it. We have to play Walled Lake Central Friday and be ready to go to war with them."

And reports of Harrison's demise were — exaggerated, according to Teachman.

"For this group, (the win) is big because (another newspaper) said the fork was in the Hawks, and they were rolling over on the spit," he said, "and it ain't so, Joe."

Harrison was 14-of-48 from the floor and 2-of-7 from three-point range. The Hawks made six of 14 free throws, the Raiders four of five.

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