

Hawks finish 2nd in Monroe tourney

Farmington Harrison won three tennis flights and was the runner-up in two others Saturday in the Monroe Classic.

But the Hawks, despite their impressive performance, felt short of winning the team championship, which went to Plymouth Salem with 20 points. Harrison was second with 17.

Other teams participating in the boys tournament were Fenton, Harper Woods Notre Dame, Monroe, Plymouth Canton, Monroe St. Mary's-Catholic Central and Woodhaven.

Harrison seniors Ryan Shade and Dan Price won the Nos. 1 and 3 singles titles, and the team of Matt Peltier and Justin Jacobs won a three-setter against Salem in the No. 2 doubles final.

"The sad thing is everyone expects it from Shade," Harrison coach Carl Bodine said. "People make the usual comment: 'Just give him the trophy.' Dan Price surprised me the most. He's

TENNIS

competitor; I have new respect for him."

"It was luck that I paired (the No. 2 doubles team together). I didn't know how they were going to do, because I'd never seen them compete. I was pleasantly surprised with the end result."

The No. 1 doubles duo of Rahul Boinpally and Rob Platt and the No. 4 tandem of Ray Welch and Rob Taylor were flight runners-up.

Senior Tim Kupferer was third at No. 2 singles. The Hawks had a pair of third places from sophomore John Kluka at No. 4 singles and Brandon Laczko and Charlie Lublin at No. 3 doubles.

"We were in it to win, so I expected everyone to do well," Bodine said. "I really believe we have a strong team. Last year we missed third place by a point."

"I told the guys to expect to win. We can't be satisfied with second place, because we have a good team."

"I don't know how we're going to do in the (Western Lakes Activities Association), because it's a tough league. I certainly expect to be in the top half, however."

FARMINGTON HARRISON 6

LAKELAND 2

March 27 at Lakeland

No. 1 singles: Ryan Shade (H) defeated

Ryan Washell, 6-3, 6-0; No. 2: Tim Kupferer (H) def. Dan Price, 6-1, 6-1; No.

6-2; No. 4: John Kluka (H) def. Dan Butkus, 6-3, 7-5; was down 1-5.

No. 1 doubles: Rahul Boinpally-Rob

Platt (H) def. Eric Rowekamp-Dan Pagan

Nagler, 6-2, 6-4; No. 2: Scott Muller-Travis

Stone-Schnell (L) def. Brandon Laczko

and Charlie Lublin, 6-2, 6-4; No. 3

dubles: Scandy-Cory Baker (L) def. Ray Welch-Rob

Taylor, 4-6, 2-6; No. 4: Charles Lublin-Matt

Peltier (H) def. Tim Donofrio-Lasset

Peterson, 7-5, 7-6 (7-6).

REDFORD CATHOLIC CENTRAL 8

DEARBORN DIVINE CHILD 0

April 3 at Steele Park

No. 5 singles: Mike Findling (CC) defeated Asher Patel, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Evan Currie (CC) def. Tim Sitkaskas, 6-3, 6-0; No. 3: David Atalan (CC) def. Steve Donaberger, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: Billy Walsh (CC) def. Juan Howlett, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 3 doubles: Jeff Fleazer-Rob Sparks (CC) def. Mike Gratz-Jackie Kuehne (C) 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: Mark Fleazer-Eric Tomkiewicz (CC) def. Gary Julian-Mike Maltase, 6-3, 6-4; No. 5: Lodewijk Van-Holbeck-Ian McHenry (CC) def. Brian Kosinski-Am Parthy, 6-0, 6-0; No. 6: Matt Roe-Nick Conner (CC) def. Dave Neitzer-Kris Kopinski, 6-3, 6-0.

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 7

REDFORD UNION 1

April 3 at Livonia Franklin

No. 1 singles: Matt Cleman (LF) def. Russ Steg, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Jeff Seydoun (LF) def. Matt Gabbert, 6-1, 6-0; No. 3:

Victor Shula (L) def. Jason Thomas, 6-0, 6-3; No. 4: Matt Cleman (LF) def.

Mike Hanson, 6-3, 7-5.

No. 1 doubles: Scott Gomez-Stan Aranyi

(LF) def. Adam Kopkin-Nick Ostrowak, 6-

2, 6-1; No. 2: Chris Don-Garrett Middleton

(LF) def. Chris Harris-Matt Forbes, 6-0, 6-

0; No. 3: Mike Kuehne-John Dryfhout

def. Nelson-Derwin, 6-3, 6-4, 6-

4; No. 4: Rob Sharfer-Jeff Luptowski (LF) def. Mike DuMouchelle-Wesley Burk, 6-1,

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Michigan State cheerleader

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Brown, who will graduate in May with a degree in advertising, said his cheerleading experience has been a bonus in job interviews, too.

Potential employers see it as evidence an individual is outgoing, willing to be in front of large crowds and able to work with women on an even level, he said.

"Those are good attributes for a person in the business world to have," Brown added.

He also worked in the summer for the Universal Cheerleading Association, traveling to camps around the country and addressing large groups.

"I like being in front of people," he said. "I like them to be interested in what I have to say."

The highlight of Brown's cheerleading career will always be the last event — MSU's basketball championship victory Monday night.

"There was just so much drama," he said. "Plus, we were playing Florida, who we played at the Citrus Bowl (Jan. 1), and that was such a dramatic win for us."

"Everyone said the game would be close, and our team went out and showed what MSU sports are all about. It was just a very emotional game for myself."

The team went through tough times at the beginning of the year (missing Cleaves for the first 13 games with a broken ankle). That last game just summed up the whole season."

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you do it," he said. "As long as the girl rides it straight up and doesn't travel too far, all the guys have to do is catch her. You try to catch her high, absorbing as much as you can using your legs."

Brown, a former All-Observer swimmer, went to MSU to participate in that sport but gave it up due to the demands on his time, he said. Then, a friend told him about open tryouts for the cheerleading team.

"I started working out with the team and, by the time of the tryouts, I could do everything I needed to do to make the squad," Brown said.

Being able to lift the women into the air and perform other stunts, the 6-foot-1, 215-pound Brown frequents the weight room to maintain his strength.

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