

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, fell short of winning the team championship, which went to Plymouth Salem with 20 points. Harrison won 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 No. 1 and 3 singles titles, and the team of Matt Pelletier 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 Badysne said. "People make the usual comment: 'Just give him the trophy.' Dan Price surprised me the most. He's a

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 Kupperer was third at No. 2 singles. The Hawks had a pair of sixth places from sophomore John Kluka at No. 4 singles and Brandon Lazkowski and Charlie Lublin at No. 3 doubles.

"We were in it to win, so I expected everyone to do well," Badysne 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 Wraithall, 6-1, 6-0; No. 2: Tim Kupperer (H) def. Nathan Lewash, 6-1, 6-2; No. 3: Dan Price (H) def. Tim McDorick, 7-5, 6-2; No. 4: John Kluka (H) def. Dan Dufkus, 6-3, 7-5, was down 1-5.

No. 1 doubles: Rahul Boinpally-Rob Platt (H) def. Eric Rowekamp-Dan Pagen-Nagler, 6-2, 6-4; No. 2: Scott Muller-Travis Stowe-Schnell (L) def. Brandon Lazkowski-Ralph Plumley, 4-6, 6-2, 5-7; No. 3: Joe Scandy-Cory Baker (L) def. Ray Welch-Rob Taylor, 4-6, 2-6; No. 4: Charles Lublin-Matt Pelletier (H) def. Tim Donofrio-Lessee Peterson, 7-5, 4-6, 7-6 (7-6).

RESPOND CATHOLIC CENTRAL 8

DEARBORN DYWIDE CHILD 0

April 2 at Sheldon Park

No. 1 singles: Mike Findling (CC) defeated Aron Patel, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Evan Currie (CC) def. Tim Sitkauskas, 6-3, 6-0; No. 3: David Alalain (CC) def. Steve Donohue, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: Billy Walsh (CC) def. Juan Howlett, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 1 doubles: Jeff Fleazar-Rob Spence (CC) def. Mike Gralik-Jack Marchewka, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Mark Fleazar-Eric Tombaric (CC) def. Gary Jilian-Mike Maltessa, 6-3, 6-4; No. 3: Lodewijk Van-Holtsbeck-Ian McHenry (CC) def. Brian Kosowski-Jon Parvity, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: Matt Rose-Nick Gonzales (CC) def. Dave Neitzer-Kris Kopinski, 6-1, 6-1.

LYONIA FRANKLIN 7

RESPOND LINCOLN 5

April 2 at Lincoln Franklin
No. 1 singles: Matt Clearman (LF) def. Russ Sieg, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Jeff Beydoun (LF) def. Matt Gabor, 6-1, 6-0; No. 3: Vinesh Shukla (LF) def. Jason Thomas, 6-0, 6-3; No. 4: Cory Clearman (LF) def. Marc Hanson, 6-3, 7-6.

No. 1 doubles: Scott Gomez-Slan Armony (LF) def. Adam Koppin-Nick Desrowicki, 6-2, 6-1; No. 2: Chris Don-Garrett Middleton (LF) def. Chris Harris-Matt Forbes, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Jason Hudon-Dmytro (RU) def. Matt Nelson-Danison Sower, 6-3, 6-6, 6-4; No. 4: Rob Shaffer-Jeff Luptowski (LF) def. Mike DuMouchelle-Wesley Burk, 6-1, 6-0.



Spartan supporters: Scott Brown and Sparty, the MSU mascot, pose for a photo at the Citrus Bowl game.

Brown from page C1

and coaches.

"It was a great, positive atmosphere," Brown said.

They arrived back in East Lansing Tuesday afternoon, long after the post-game hoopla had died out on campus.

"Everybody was just a little tired from all the festivities that had been going on," Brown said. "We heard Grand River was packed with people. I think everybody was recovering from a night of celebration."

But the celebration wasn't over. Brown rode in a parade Wednesday afternoon and attended events honoring the team at the state capitol and Spartan Stadium.

Brown said he thoroughly enjoyed his four years on the cheerleading team, which afforded him a lot of perks such as having "the best seat in the house" and the opportunity to travel.

"I've been to Hawaii, Mexico and Texas for the Sun Bowl," Brown said, adding he was invited to go to Brazil for a cheerleading conference but was unable to attend.

"I've had so many great experiences from this sport it's unbelievable. It's made me a real die-hard fan; I bleed green wherever I go."

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.

"(The lifts) are timing and technique," he said. "It's like holding a broomstick. The girls stay as tight as possible, and you correct it if it starts to go one way. It's the same principle."

The routine in which three men toss a female cheerleader high in the air and catch her looks like a dangerous maneuver to the casual observer.

"It can be the most dangerous or safe thing depending on how

■ '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 ... That last game just summed up the whole season.'

Scott Brown
—Michigan State cheerleader

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, 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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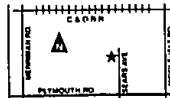
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