

Basketball from page D1

"But we did lock up the No. 1 seed for the conference tournament. We're two games up with one to play."

Harrison has something to play for despite the loss. The Hawks visit Livonia Churchill tonight and a victory would guarantee them a tie for the Western Division title. Coach Pote Mantyla's team is 3-1 in the division, the same as Walled Lake Western and Northville, which play each other.

"I'm proud of our team," Mantyla said. "We went down to the last week of the season playing with a chance to win our league and division championships."

"Salem is 16-0 for a reason. They're very good. (Kelly) Jaskot passes the ball really well, and they have a post player (MaryLou Liebau) who can hit threes and handle the ball."

Harrison jumped out to a 7-2 lead in the first quarter. But Amy Szwara hit a pair of shots, Liebau made a free throw and Szwara drilled a three as Salem closed the period with eight unanswered points for a 10-7 lead.

The Rocks opened the second quarter with the first four points and eight of the first nine for an 18-8 lead. The Hawks were held to just three

points in the period.

"Our defense is outstanding," Thomann said. "We were good in the second quarter and then again from the middle of the third to the middle of the fourth."

"In the first half, we were struggling to feed the ball in to the post," Mantyla said. "My team trailed at the half, 24-10."

A little chat from coach at halftime, plus some effective full-court pressure, helped the Hawks score the first 10 points of the second half.

"We got that spurt when Stephanie Zak hit those outside shots," Mantyla said. "They paid so much attention to Aynna (Richmond) that it left somebody open outside."

Jaskot, who scored 11 points, got a layup when Salem broke the press and hit two free throws as the Rocks scored eight of the last nine points in the quarter to regain control, 32-21.

It wasn't coincidence the Hawks hit their hot streak when Liebau, who had 14 points, left the floor with her fourth foul at 7:22 of the quarter. She came back two minutes later and played the remainder of the game.

Szwara scored nine points for Salem; Richmond led Harrison with 19 and Zak had 10. "They've got three players

who can handle the ball, shoot from the perimeter and take it to the basket," Mantyla said. "When you've got three players like that ..."

CANTON 49, FARMINGTON 38: A big first half was more than enough to carry the host Chiefs past the Falcons Tuesday.

In this four-filled contest - there were 46 calls made and 61 free throws attempted - Canton broke on top with a 13-9 first quarter. The Chiefs (6-4, 10-6) increased their lead to 32-21 by halftime.

The Falcons made a run early in the fourth quarter but couldn't catch Canton.

Kristen Lake led the Chiefs with 17 points and nine rebounds. Katie Cerat added 11 points. Julie Kimmel's 10 points paced Farmington (4-8, 8-7). Rendin Brown had 13.

Canton converted just 13 of 30 free throws; Farmington wasn't much better at 15-of-31.

FRANKLIN 48, N. FARMINGTON 43: The host Patriots roared from behind by doubling up the Raiders in the final quarter, 20-10.

Livonia Franklin held a 21-20 half-time lead, but North had a 13-5 edge in the third period.

Jenise D'Annunzio and Ashley McCall scored 18 points apiece for the Patriots (7-9, 4-6). D'Annunzio clinched the win with two free throws with 20 seconds left; McCall hauled down 14 rebounds.

Jenny Jary and Meghan Callahan scored eight points apiece for the Raiders (8-11, 2-8). Christy Stockton and Jehan Hinds added six each.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

MARLINS IN STATE SEMIS

Farmington Hills Mercy advanced to the semifinals of the state tournament in girls field hockey for the first time Tuesday by defeating Ann Arbor Huron, 1-0. Molly O'Malley scored the lone goal with an assist by Rachel Holland in the first half of the quarterfinal contest.

"We had a lot of team work and good passing," Mercy coach Kim Norton said. "The goal was beautiful. Rachel passed it to Molly at the corner, and Molly flicked it into the goal."

The Marlins, who entered the tournament as the fifth seed, will play No. 1 Ann Arbor Pius

neer in a semifinal game today.

The state final will be Saturday. In a first-round game Saturday, Mercy defeated Dearborn Edsel Ford, 2-0. Erin Gruley and Holland scored the goals, and Angie Trudeau had an assist.

STATE-FINAL GOLF RESULTS

Farmington Harrison senior Matt Lee finished in a four-way tie for ninth place Saturday in the Division 2 state golf tournament. Lee shot 75 on Friday to qualify for individual play on the second day at Forest Akers West Golf Course in East Lansing.

He shot 76 on Saturday and tied with Caledonia's Nick

Fuller, Flint Powers Catholic's Nick Pennington and Pontiac Notre Dame Prep's David Praet - all at 151. The individual winner was Ryan Brehm of Mount Pleasant, who shot 67-75-142.

Flint Powers was the team champion with a two-day total of 610 - eight strokes better than Mount Pleasant and East Lansing. Playing in its first state tournament in 23 years, Harrison shot 335 on Friday and failed to qualify for the second day of competition. The cutoff was 325. Jushi Mingo shot 78; Dave Koch 89, Chris Fitzgerald and Joey Graves 90 apiece for the Hawks.

OAA from page D1

will be a lot more interesting and competitive for our teams.

"The WLAA is a very tough conference. This year I have one of the best teams I've had in 10 years and I'm sitting here with a 1-1 record in our division and 3-5 overall."

"This is with an outstanding team that has the opportunity to go to state, but we finish eighth in the conference. The competition is very tough and we don't have the depth to compete with some of the teams in the WLAA."

When the Farmington board of education voted recently to pre-approve the move to the OAA, the lone dissenting vote was cast by Jack Inch, who has officiated track and cross country meets for 33 years.

His first concern was the distance between Farmington and

other OAA schools and the narrow traffic patterns crossing Woodward Avenue during busy hours in the late afternoon and evening.

"You're crossing an extremely tight corridor and it's time consuming," he said.

His second reason was the bus service in certain districts, which use the same buses to transport students after school and then athletic teams to game sites. The result could be that sports events are delayed an hour or more, which in turn causes student-athletes to be later arriving home that night.

Inch's third reason for offering a dissenting opinion was based on tradition.

"(Livonia) Stevenson is three miles from Farmington High School," he said. "Those (WLAA)

schools are close, and there's a long tradition with many of them. I'm not sure I want to see it come to an end."

Inch added his reasons and comments weren't meant to portend failure for the new arrangement, and he hopes the OAA move works for the betterment of Farmington schools.

There will be 31 teams in the OAA next fall. Orionville-Brandon is leaving to join the Flint Metro League, but a third Rochester school will become a member along with the Farmingtons.

The OAA re-alignment will be based largely on enrollment and winning percentage, but nothing will be determined until early next year as to what divisions the Farmington teams will be in, Swinehart said.

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