

Stingy defense lifts Hawks to hoop win

A good defensive effort in the third quarter Thursday enabled Farmington Harrison to defeat visiting Waterford Mott in girls basketball, 45-33.

The Hawks trailed by a point at halftime, 24-23, but outscored the Corsairs in the third quarter, 13-2. Each team had nine points in the finale.

Maggie Condeni scored 17 points and hauled down eight rebounds to lead the Hawks, 2-1 in Division II of the Oakland Activities Association and 3-2 overall.

Jessica Condeni, who had 13 rebounds, and Stephanie Zak added seven points apiece.

Maggie Condeni and Cattie Ross

had four steals each.

"We had some big contributions off the bench," Harrison coach Pete Mantyla said.

"Stephanie had two big threes in the second quarter, and Kristen Torres made a three and a two back-to-back in the third.

"It was nice to finally make some shots late in the (third) quarter. I thought our effort was great, defensively, in the second half.

"We were frustrated early, because we were getting good shots and couldn't finish. We did a nice job of hanging in and not getting too frustrated when we weren't playing well early."

Christine Carrico scored nine points and Katrina Arnold eight for the Corsairs, who are 0-3 in the division and 0-6 overall.

Harrison made 16 of 32 free throws and shot 13 of 24.

BEKLEY 54, FARMINGTON 44: Forward Laura Panozzo scored 26 points and grabbed 11 rebounds Thursday to lead host Bekley to the OAA Division II win.

"We had a hard time matching up with her," Farmington coach Greg Ambrose said. "She can play outside and take the ball to the basket too."

The Bears, who had an additional 10 points from Mary Abraham, had leads of 19-11 after one quarter, 34-22 at halftime and 48-27 through three periods.

Brittany Coleman sank 12 of 14 free throws and scored 18 points to lead the Falcons. Jessica Leach had seven points and six

rebounds, and Rachel Helrich added six points.

Farmington also had 35 turnovers. The Falcons were 17-of-25 at the line and the Bears 11-of-19.

Bekley is 3-0 overall and 3-0 in the division, Farmington is 0-5 and 0-3.

"The girls are working really hard," Ambrose said. "I can't fault the effort. Now we have to start taking care of the basketball."

"We're still young, we're still looking to come together team wise. I have a lot of confidence in the girls that we're going to get the job done. We're going to get better."

MERCY 47, GABRIEL RICHARD 26: It was close at halftime Thursday with visiting Farmington Hills Mercy holding just an 18-16 lead. The Marlins outscored the Pioneers in the second half, 29-10.

Barb Macchia scored 14 points and Whitney Johnson 11 for the Marlins, who are 2-1 overall. Anne Roosevelt added eight points and six rebounds.

Mercy was 14-of-17 shooting free throws and Riverview Richard 6-of-14.

AGAPE 48, CLARENCEVILLE 31: Canton Agape Christian trailed 17 after one quarter, but it raved back in the second period with a

17-9 run en route to a non-league victory Thursday over Elvona Clarenceville.

Asape (41) was led by senior guard Amy Henry, who finished with 15 points and 12 rebounds. Junior guard Emily Long added 11 points, while sophomore forward A.J. Keys contributed eight.

Clarenceville sophomore forward Marissa Martin, who picked up three first-half fouls along with freshman center Stacey Moore, finished with 11 points and seven rebounds.

Junior guard Whitney Kubera added nine points for the Trojans (0-4). Sophomore center Becky Gee grabbed eight rebounds.

Depleted Blue Jays overcome Raiders

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

With two regulars not available, Southfield girls basketball coach Ben Kelso told the rest of his team it had an opportunity Thursday night to step up.

They did just that as Blue Jays tripped up visiting North Farmington in an Oakland Activities Association Division II contest, 50-35.

"The other players stepped up when they had the chance and that's what it's all about in high school athletics," Kelso said.

Southfield led 15-5 after one quarter and 27-17 at halftime. But in the third quarter, the Blue Jays completely dominated, outscoring the Raiders 18-0. The spark during that run was provided by senior guards Kandace Evans and Kineta Taylor, who scrambled for loose balls and forced turnovers that led to baskets.

The victory came without both senior point guard Jazzmin Williamson and senior forward Jaria Atkins. A third regular, junior forward Melissa Stroud, went down with an ankle sprain in the second quarter.

That didn't deter Evans, Taylor and the other Blue Jay players from hustling all over the floor,

forcing a number of errant Raider shots and dominating in the rebounding department. Evans led the scoring for the night with 16 points, while Taylor scored 13 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

Southfield senior forward Kenya Sutton was outstanding with 17 rebounds and eight points.

But Kelso also praised sophomore forward/center Barb Willobee for playing well on defense against 6-0 North Farmington forward Kristin McElean. Willobee also came through with eight points, with all four of her baskets following offensive rebounds.

"I saw improvement in some people, like Barb Willobee," Kelso said. "I saw Barb practicing in the gym by herself the other day and she played much better tonight on defense. And she got some offensive rebounds and put them in."

Kelso couldn't help but mention the job turned in by Sutton. "Just think of how well Kenya Sutton played tonight."

North Farmington was led by Brittany Pajewski, with 12 points, while Christy Stockton added eight. The leading Raider rebounder was Alexis Clayton, with six.

According to Raider head

coach Tim Carruthers, it was difficult for his team to slow down the Southfield attack and keep his squad within reach. North Farmington was also without a key player in senior guard Jehan Hindu.

"I thought we started out well," Carruthers said. "But obviously they're an excellent team and we struggled to do that for 32 minutes."


Carruthers noted that his team (1-3, 1-2 in OAA II) needs to hold opponents to no more than 40 points in order to be successful this season. Both Kelso and Carruthers emptied their benches in the fourth quarter, which began with Southfield enjoying a hefty 45-17 lead following the Blue Jays' third-quarter scoring spree. The first North Farmington points of the second half came with 5:10 left in the game, when Clayton sank a field goal from the top of the key.

"The kids played hard, even that unit at the end," Carruthers said. "I'm proud of how they played."

Southfield (3-1, 2-1 in OAA II) will visit Waterford Mott at 7 p.m. Tuesday, while North Farmington travels to Oak Park, for a game 7 p.m. Tuesday.

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