

Hawks lose to DI's best in OAA playoffs

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Harrison coach Pete Mantyla summarized what every girls basketball coach has to deal with when playing the Clarkston Wolves.

"Clarkston is hard to match up against," Mantyla said. "Their three guards are so good. And you don't go 15-0 in the league without some good post players."

Mantyla had just watched the host Wolves defeat Harrison, 49-24, Tuesday night in the opening round of the Oakland Athletic Association tournament.

Senior guard Kim Karlstrom led the Wolves with 12 points. Sophomore forward Stephanie

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Parkin added 10, while junior guard Megan Kleindler had eight points for the Wolves (16-2), who won the OAA Division I regular-season title.

Maggie Conden scored eight points, and Jessica Conden added five for the Hawks (6-10).

Clarkston led, 9-4, after the first quarter, then opened up a 26-14 lead at the half. By the end of the third quarter, the Wolves led 41-22.

Clarkston coach Ann Lowmyer said playing Harrison allows her team to see a different style of play.

"They're always running and trapping, and they use a half-

court defense," Lowmyer said. "It was nice to see (Clarkston) play out of it. (Harrison) runs and traps on almost every pass. We had to make some quick decisions."

Lowmyer said Clarkston's experience in senior guards Karlstrom, Anna Trini and Jenna Carlson helps them match up well to that style of basketball.

"The really good basketball players rise up to the occasion," Lowmyer said. "After all those years of playing basketball, you have to be able to execute those kinds of plays."

Mantyla said Clarkston is a "well-coached" team that makes few mistakes.

"When you have a hard time scoring, it's hard to make a run

against them," Mantyla said.

"We missed a few free throws, made some mistakes defensively and allowed a couple of easy putbacks. You can't allow plays like that if you're going to beat Clarkston."

Clarkston plays West

Bloomfield tonight, and Harrison's opponent will be Pontine Northern.

FARMINGTON 41, KIMBALL 32: Farmington earned its third victory at home Tuesday, defeating Royal Oak Kimball in an OAA crossover game.

Rachel Heinrich scored 13 points and Angie Palalan nine to lead the Falcons (3-14). Seven others contributed points, too.

Jessica Leach and Heinrich had six rebounds apiece. Palalan also had four steals and three assists. Farmington was 12-of-21 shooting free throws.

The Falcons opened a seven-point lead in the first quarter and were ahead at halftime, 20-10, and the end of three periods, 35-25.

Kimball's leading scorer was Tina Demoski, also with 13 points. The Knights (4-13) made five of 12 free throws.

Farmington will be on the road tonight, playing at the site of the Berkeley-Hazel Park winner.

LAKE ORION 53, N. FARMINGTON 35: Christy Stockton scored a game-high 16 points for the Raiders in a losing cause Tuesday.

Lindsay Randazzo and Andrea Savage scored 10 points each to lead the Dragons to the OAA crossover victory Tuesday.

Katie Campbell added nine points for Lake Orion (5-13). Brittany Palenowski tossed in 10 points and Erin Doig had five rebounds for North (4-14).

The Dragons were ahead after one quarter, 15-7, and at halftime, 30-24. North was within five points in the fourth quarter, but Lake Orion finished with a second-half advantage of 23-11.

"We were right there in the fourth quarter," North coach Tim Carveth said. "We got down early and fought our way back. The kids played hard. Hopefully, this will get us ready for the district. It's probably the most physical game we've played all year."

In the end, the Dragons were just a bet-

ter team tonight, but I'm proud of the effort that we gave."

Lake Orion was 14-of-27 at the line and North 14-of-25.

The Raiders play host to Orionville-Brandon tonight at 7.

KINGSWOOD 68, CLARENCEVILLE 44: In a first-round Metro Conference game Tuesday, visiting Livonia Clarenceville (3-14) made a respectable showing before falling to top seed Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook (25-2).

Brittany Washington led the victorious Cranes with 17 points, including five three-pointers. Angelique Robinson and Christy Cluse added 16 and 11, respectively.

Eighth-seeded Clarenceville trailed, 31-18, at halftime but got as close as eight in the third quarter before Kingswood outscored the Trojans, 27-20.

"They (Cranes) have so many weapons," said Clarenceville coach Maurice Brantley, whose team fell to the Cranes 12-33 on Oct. 3.

Sophomore forward Marissa Martin led Clarenceville with 15 points and eight rebounds. Sophomore guard Katie Tuomi added 11, while junior point-guard Emily Collins contributed 10 points.

Hawks run best times at state meet

BY DAN O'NEARA
STAFF WRITER

Five of seven Farmington Harrison runners ran personal bests Saturday in the Division II boys state cross country meet.

"The Hawks didn't fare as well as a team as they had hoped, finishing in 20th place out of 27 teams."

"We were at the bottom of the best; that's the way we look at it," Harrison coach John Reed said.

"It was a fantastic experience. Their goal was to get there. Once we got there, our goal was to run our best times."

"Six of the seven are seniors and they have lifetime memories. We got there; we participated and we ran well. It was a good experience."

"The Hawks were led by Brian Coats, who finished in 47th place (16:33) and was 13 seconds from being in the top 30 and earning all-state honors."

"He ran a great time," Reed said. "He wasn't as high up as he would've liked, but he did a commendable job. He was happy with his time, but he wanted to do better in his placing."

"He had a great season. I know he gave it his best and ran all out. The D2 competition was really fierce."

Coats finished ahead of the one runner who beat him at the regional, and

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he was one of the top five Oakland Activities Association runners in the meet.

Eric Lachowski finished in 203rd place (18:09), Wayne Wright 220th (18:32), Matt Drew 229th (18:34), Nick Israel 229th (18:40), Andrew Singer 233rd (18:58) and Evan Plumley 241st (20:05).

Lachowski dropped 13 seconds from his previous best time, Drew 15, Israel nine and Singer six.

BARROWS TOP FEMALE

North Farmington senior Susan Barrows, still fighting to overcome a back injury that bothered her last month, was 98th in the Division I girls race with a time of 20:02.1.

"Her back was better, but she's only run five times since Oct. 5, so we were pretty pleased with her performance there," North coach Bill Pinnell said. Barrows ran 19:45 early in the season at the Shamrock Invitational.

"This was definitely a faster course.

Hopefully, she would have been closer to 19:15-20, which would have put her in the top 50 at the state meet."

"In cross country, she's had some bad luck with injuries the last couple years,

but she has always turned it around for track and had a real good track season. We're looking forward to another good track season this spring."

Pinnell added Barrows finishing in the top half of the state-meet field and having a good grade point average means she will likely be named an academic all-star.

Also in the DI girls meet, Farmington Hills Mercy's Shannon LaFave was 109th (20:05.45) and Elizabeth Williams 133rd (20:15.40). Farmington's Rachael Button placed 166th (20:41.05) and Claire Czaplicki 167th (20:42.05). North's Jeff Mataya was 117th (16:51) in the DI boys race.

In the Division II girls event, Harrison's Shannon Bailey placed 151st (20:57) and Irina Maslennikova 188th (21:21). There were 262 runners in the field.

"I think Shannon would tell you herself she's a little disappointed (in her time)," coach Mark Babcock said, adding Bailey was about 40 seconds off her best time.

"But she had a terrific season. She was runner-up in the league and the regional."

"Irina about equaled her best time. She ran pretty consistent all year long, especially for a first-year cross country runner. She really matured and did a great job for us."

CC finishes 4th in state

BY PAUL BEAUDRY
STAFF WRITER

At first, a fourth-place finish at the state Division I cross country meet was a little disappointing for defending champion Catholic Central — both runners and coach.

"But after looking at the results closely, we ran as well as we could," CC coach Tony Magni said. "We had seven guys who ran between 16:09 and 16:41 and all but one kid ran their best time of the year at the meet. You can't ask for more than that. Our opponents had a better day."

The Shamrocks were fourth with 188 points, behind winner Rockford (133), Milford (135) and Novi (161). And what might be most gratifying was that CC was fourth without a runner in the top 30.

"The biggest thing with us was Dave Lucas ran hurt again with a bad hip," Magni said. "He had problems in the Catholic League meet and in the regional. He collapsed at the end of those races."

"If he was healthy, it would have cut several points off our score. He finished 32nd (in scoring), but it wasn't indicative of how he ran early in the season."

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Brian Doot led the Shamrocks with a 35th-place time of 16:09, while Lucas was 38th (16:12), Dan Morgan was 42nd (16:14), Kevin Mason was 57th (16:22), Trevor Step was 62nd (16:25), Max Working was 70th (16:30) and Adam Darany was 90th (16:41).

Redford Union's Kevin Patra fought the flu and wound up 141st, in 17:01. At the Division 2 meet, Thurston's Derek Parsons came in 218th, in 18:30.

"We were fourth, with no one making all-state," Magni said.

"Doot ran second or third for us all year and he was first for us in this meet. If he was third for us in this meet, it might have been different. But the kids were happy after they sat down and looked at the results."

Birmingham Brother Rice was 12th in the 25-team meet with 312 points. John Black was 16th (15:52.7), Marc Roualet 78th (16:35.4), Mike Blair 101st (16:46.7), Jason Hannawa 108th (16:48.8), Ryan Gregory 123rd (16:53.9) and Sam Klemet 155th (17:07.6).

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