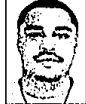


BURCH

FROM PAGE C1

earlier this year to teach special education classes and coach the boys varsity team at Farmington Harrison.



Burch

"It was something I apparently had all my life," Burch said, regarding the heart condition. "I was lucky they caught it when they did. It happened in the middle of my junior year at Toledo. At that point, we were 11-0 and had beaten Ohio State and Xavier back-to-back. It was a huge adjustment, to be perfectly healthy one day

and not knowing what was wrong with you the next. "Knowing I wouldn't be able to play basketball again and that I had a heart problem was hard to fathom. Why did this have to happen to me?"

"But everything happens for a reason, and I believe my reason is to teach the game now. That's why I got into coaching."

Burch was a student assistant coach at Toledo for two years and assisted the varsity program at Cloy (Ohio) High School while he was student teaching. He will coach his first Harrison game Tuesday, Dec. 10, when the Hawks entertain Troy in the season opener.

"It was an opportunity I had to jump at," Burch said. "To be so young and to be able to coach at the varsity level and

have my own program is not only an honor but a privilege. "To be a teacher and a head coach was a goal of mine after I stopped playing. Just teaching the game is what I enjoy, getting the kids ready for life and maybe the next level."

"I'm really appreciative to have this opportunity. Hopefully, I can make the best of it."

Practices started on time this year at Harrison - a rare occurrence since the football team was eliminated from the playoffs earlier than usual. Burch is impressed by the potential and talent of his basketball players.

"I think Harrison is a diamond in the rough," he said. "It just needs to be polished up. Hopefully, we can do something together to make

Harrison a really good team that people think about when they have to play us."

The Hawks will compete in Division III of the Oakland Activities Association with Lahser, Oak Park, Kimball, Berkley, Kettering, North Farmington and Seaboard.

Burch said he prefers an up-tempo style of play, but he'll adjust his coaching to the players he has on his team.

"I definitely like to push the ball up the court and play really solid defense," he said.

"That's the kind of basketball I always played and enjoyed watching."

"We'd like to be known as a tough defensive team, a team that hustles and doesn't back down."

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LAKERS

FROM PAGE C1

They also talked about coming through down the stretch to keep their season alive.

"I had to keep telling myself that you can't think negative at this point," was Samantha Mahoney's description of her thought process when the Lakers were struggling to come back against the Chiefs. "We faced reality, we didn't want this to be the last game of the season and we gave everything we had."

Some of the most important plays were turned in by unsung sophomore guard Maria Martin. In the fourth quarter, she got the basketball and dribbled past a defender to score a layup with 2:15 remaining, giving the Lakers a 46-45 lead.

Then, with about one minute left in overtime, Martin reached in and stole the ball and passed it to senior guard Veronica White (14 points), who hit another layup to increase West Bloomfield's lead to a relatively comfortable 69-63.

"I wanted this game bad and defense is my strongest point," Martin said. "I just gave it my all. We just played our role, we knew what we had to do and did it. But it was a little nerve-wracking."

According to Pam Mahoney, the plays by Martin were indicative of how the Lakers as a team did the "little things" to climb back and win.

But she credited Blohm and the Chiefs for nearly spoiling the Lakers' Thanksgiving weekend.

"That's where I give credit to Canton," Mahoney said. "To make us do what we had to do to pull this game out, it takes a good team to do that."

Blohm's team could have built an insurmountable early lead, getting numerous cracks at the basket but missing more often than not. Instead, the Chiefs managed just a 24-20 halftime lead.

"We had a lot of great shots inside that we didn't convert," Blohm said. "Basketball's about

Some of the most important plays were turned in by unsung sophomore guard Maria Martin. In the fourth quarter, she got the basketball and dribbled past a defender to score a layup with 2:15 remaining, giving the Lakers a 46-45 lead.

making and missing. They made them when they mattered and they move on."

BACK AND FORTH

The Chiefs built a 32-22 lead midway through the third quarter before the Lakers started bouncing back. A basket by Mahoney, followed by a pair of buckets by junior guard Jessica Howard (eight points) cut that lead to 32-28.

Canton hung on to a 37-32 lead after three, but then the Lakers' desperate defense began paying off with turnovers and buckets. With action both up-tempo and emotion-filled, the lead saw-sawed down the stretch and early in overtime.

"I thought we were in a great position, even in overtime, when we got the tip and scored," Blohm said. "But we let them come right back down the floor to score an easy basket. Then they went ahead and we had to play catch-up the rest of the way."

For West Bloomfield, Samantha Mahoney kept the Lakers within range before intermission, scoring 10 of the team's first 16 points. She also drew several fouls, which became crucial later on as Canton players Rachel Guastella, Jessica Johnson and Redd eventually fouled out.

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HOCKEY

FROM PAGE C1

constant pressure throughout the first two periods and the score reflected the four-goal advantage.

"The No. 1 thing we learned tonight is that we've got to play for 45 minutes, not 10 or 15," Stevenson first-year coach Mike Humitz said.

"We were not finishing our checks, and we weren't hungry for the puck. I didn't see enough guys winning the puck. CC is a very good team and they're not going to give it to you. You've got to earn it."

The Shamrocks' Patrick Coldren opened the scoring with 6:19 left in the first period, taking advantage of a three-on-one break with assists going to Eric Reinhardt and Bryan Genrich.

CC's Brandon Naumto made it 2-0 with 1:52 remaining in the same period, assisted by Mychal Evans and Andrew

The Shamrocks' Patrick Coldren opened the scoring with 6:19 left in the first period, taking advantage of a three-on-one break with assists going to Eric Reinhardt and Bryan Genrich.

Eggert.

With 6:20 to go in the second period, Jimmy Burns scored from Genrich and Travis Hamway to give the Shamrocks a 3-0 lead.

Less than two minutes later, Stevenson's Patrick Norton was sent off for charging, then was tagged for a 10-minute game misconduct followed by a game disqualification.

CC capitalized on the three-pronged penalty, scoring a power-play goal with 3:34 left.

William Burns, Jr., from Coldren and Reinhardt. "Every time we got some momentum going, we'd take a

stupid penalty and that certainly did not help," Humitz said. "It's disappointing because we're trying to get disciplined play, and then we get a selfish play. It's not what we're trying to build around here."

Netminder Rob Thomas, who kept CC off the board in the final period, was one of the few bright spots for the Spartans.

"Rob has played very well so far and we hope it continues," Humitz said. "Other than that, it was hard to find positives. They're just not working as hard today as they can."

CC goaltender Jimmy

Blanchard, backed by a veteran defense, was sharp when he had to be, stopping 15 shots to post his second straight shutout.

"We did a good job of regrouping the puck," St. John said. "Our defense did a good job of moving things forward."

"I would like to see a little more lateral movement out in front of the net. For the second game it was OK, but it will get better as the season goes along."

CC's veteran squad includes a trio of fourth-year players and six third-year performers.

"We played with intensity and did a good job in our defensive zone," St. John said. "We have a veteran group, starting in goal and moving out."

"We've got a lot of boys who have been here and know the system. That makes it easier early in the year, because you don't have to teach as much."

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STORAGE USA

Notice is hereby given that on (DECEMBER 17, 2002), JOE TATE & CO, Auctioneers, Executive Administrators for Storage USA, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Storage USA reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Storage USA, 38875 GRAND RIVER AVE., FARMINGTON HILLS, MI, AT 1:00 PM.

B253 Bettye J. Stines 8 small bags, misc papers
C204 W. Milan Associates Inc 6 vacuum cleaners, 1 floor buffer, 10 boxes, 4 professional mop buckets, misc cleaners

Publish: December 1 and 8, 2002 DE00004118

CITY OF FARMINGTON
2002 WINTER TAX STATEMENT
PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Farmington, Winter Tax Statements are due and payable on December 1, 2002 through February 14, 2003. A 3% penalty will be added to delinquent taxes. As of March 1, 2003, all 2002 taxes must be paid to C. Hugh Duhany, Oakland County Treasurer.

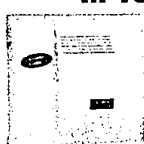
City Hall offices will be open for payment of taxes 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday except for the following:

Tuesday - December 24, 2002
Wednesday - December 25, 2002
Tuesday - December 31, 2002
Wednesday - January 1, 2003
Monday - January 20, 2003

For your convenience, a depository is located in the City Hall lobby.

PATSY K. CANTRELL
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: December 1 and 12, 2002 DE00000000

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ADVERTISEMENT

The City of Farmington Hills Purchasing Division will solicit sealed bids during the next thirty (30) days for the following products and/or services:

Senior Van Conversion

Specifications may be obtained by contacting the Central Services Department. All bids must be submitted in accordance with the bid specifications.

The City of Farmington Hills reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in part or in whole, to waive any formalities and to accept the bid which it believes to be in the best interest of the City.

KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk

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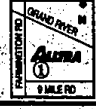
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FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INVITATION TO BID
Farmington Public Schools will accept sealed bids for STAGE RIGGING REPAIRS at Farmington High School and Harrison High School until 1:30 P.M., Wednesday, December 18, 2002 at the Lewis Schulman Administration Center, 32500 Showawasee, Farmington, MI 48336 at which time they will be publicly opened and read for presentation to the Board of Education at their next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified.
The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities therein; or for reasons of establishing uniformity to award the contract to other than the low bidder. Fax proposals will not be accepted.
Bid documents will be available at the Purchasing Office, (248) 489-3344.
Publish: December 1, 2002 DE00000007