

Rocks, Bentley Win; RU Loses In Thriller

Plymouth Threat For Loop Cage Honors

Up goes the curtain Friday night in the chase for the suburban Six League basketball title...and, as in the past, one honey of a race is expected. While defending champion Bentley and runnerup Redford Union both have indicated they'll be mighty powers again, the word has gone out: "This could be the year for either Plymouth or Allen Park."

Plymouth, boasting one of the tallest rock contingents in several years has turned in two impressive victories. First it

was over Stevenson and then by a 72-52 count over Walled Lake, generally a strong basketball contender.

Allen Park has turned aside Southgate and Lincoln Park in convincing style.

WHILE PLYMOUTH had a fairly easy time with Walled Lake Friday, both Bentley and Redford Union were involved in thrillers.

Bentley trailed most of the way before outscoring Farmington, 24-10, in the last period to leave the floor with a 66-

61 victory.

Redford Union dropped a heartbreaker to Southfield, 62-61, when a shot by Mark Robinson with four seconds left in the game skidded around on the rim and then dropped the wrong way for the Townsippers.

Here's the way play went for the three Observerland teams:

PLYMOUTH - 72, WALLED LAKE - 52

The Rocks took a 19-15 lead in the first period, then exploded in the second to count 25 points and reach the intermission with a 44-27 advantage. The Plymouth lead went up to 59-39 after three quarters and the 20-point bulge remained the same throughout the closing period.

"We had some great hustle," declared Plymouth Coach Dick Bearup.

Don Gullekson popped in 10

of his 12 points in the second period while Pat Cunningham fashioned seven of his 13 in the same stanza to help turn the game into a rout.

Greg Corrigan was the top scorer for the winners with 18 points. Bob Kellman also finished in double figures, getting 10.

BENTLEY - 66, FARMINGTON - 61

Farmington jumped on top, 24-19, after the first period and expanded its lead to 51-42 going into the final period.

The Falcons were enjoying control of the boards and shooting well.

Then Bentley turned loose with a devastating final-period assault that enabled the Lions to cash 24 points to 10 for their Farmington rivals.

Two steals by Mark Hurlbert turned the tide in favor of Bentley. Lou Lovett also got in on one of the steals and finally it was Lovett who put his team in front for keeps with a layup with 2:30 left. Bentley produced four scorers in double figures, paced by

Dave Sterling with 19, Lovett 18, Hurlbert 14 and Mark Chalsen with 13.

Individual honors in the game went to Mark Lynott of Farmington who caged 27 points. Paul White followed with 13 and Randy Cleveland had 11.

SOUTHFIELD - 62, REDFORD UNION - 61

How close can you come to winning, and yet not win? It was proved in the Redford Union setback at the hands of Southfield.

"We played very well," said Coach Dave Mattingly of RU. "Just one break and the game would have been ours."

Mattingly, however, was happy the way his charges fought back. After Southfield took an early lead, Redford Union rallied for a 32-30 half-time edge.

Then Southfield managed a four-point bulge to begin the final quarter before Redford came back to make the final 39 seconds some of the most exciting a high school game has produced in a long time.

A BASKET by Robinson made it 58-57 for RU. A three-point play followed to make it 60-58 for Southfield.

RU tied it at 60-60 before Southfield went back in front, 62-60. All this in the last few seconds.

With 14 seconds to go, RU's Rich Craggs made a free throw to cut the RU deficit to a point. His next attempt missed, but RU got the ball back, worked for a shot that Robinson finally took.

It looked perfect. But the ball refused to pop the right way...and Southfield got it to run out the clock.

Dale Ejerke had 15 points and Robinson 14 for the losers. Chris Baron chipped in with 10. Roger Orvik was high for the winners with 16.

Final-Period Rally Helps Glenn Sweep Week's Play

It was a happy week for John Glenn in basketball. Two victories -- the first

a 69-66 comeback over Robichaud, then an easier 65-54 decision against Warren Mott.



The Glenn victory over Robichaud is one they won't soon forget around the Westland school.

Robichaud led, 16-10, after one period, by 36-27 at half-time, and seemingly had everything wrapped up with a 55-46 edge after three quarters.

But Glenn came storming back with a fourth-period press that forced Robichaud into mistakes on which Glenn capitalized.

"It was a case of great determination coming out in these kids," said new coach Gordon Davis.

KERRY WEBB made eight of his 21 points in the last period while Dick Dittmar came off the bench to fire in five in the closing spurt.

The rebounding of Paul Chaveriat also played a major factor in the Glenn comeback. Paul nailed 21 off the boards to go along with 12 points. Bill Stollenberger had 15 points and Steve Brown 14 for the victors.

Against Mott, Glenn clung to a 15-14 lead after one period and was on top 31-30 after the half before Glenn went into the press again in the third period, and once more it paid off.

During the third period, Webb personally had more points than Mott. He collected 12 by himself as the Mott team was contained to a mere eight.

Good rebounding also featured the Glenn play in the third period.

Webb finished with 19 points while Stollenberger had 15 and Chaveriat 14.



DRIVING IN for two points is Plymouth's Greg Corrigan who shakes off the efforts of Walled Lake's Mike Ridley (45) to block the shot. The Rocks rolled to their second straight victory in impressive style. (Observer photo by Doug Johnson)

CRYING — Hardly. It's just nine-month-old Eric Coil's way of reminding boys and girls that each will receive a free Pistons basketball when they purchase a reserved seat to Saturday's game with Phoenix in Cobo Arena. Eric lives in Farmington Township. His dad is the 'Pistons' general manager.

Prep Schedule

BASKETBALL

FRIDAY

Garden City East at Robichaud
Thurston at Oak Park
Franklin at John Glenn
Farmington at Southfield Lathrup
Groves at North Farmington
Allen Park at Redford Union
Plymouth at Trenton
Belleville at Bentley
Sorrow at Royal Oak St. Mary's
St. Agatha at Ann Arbor St. Thomas
St. Hedwig at Bishop Borgess
Stevenson at Pontiac Northern
Garden City West at Southgate

TUESDAY

Walled Lake at Stevenson
Edsel Ford at Franklin
Plymouth at Wayne
Riverside at Garden City West

SWIMMING

WEDNESDAY

Pontiac Northern at Thurston

THURSDAY

Seaholm at Thurston
Bentley at Belleville
Trenton at Plymouth
Redford Union at Allen Park
Robichaud at Garden City East

SATURDAY

Redford Union Relays

TUESDAY

Pontiac Northern at Bentley
Franklin at Garden City West
Garden City East at Inkster

WRESTLING

THURSDAY

N. Farmington at Berkley
Glenn at Willow Run

FRIDAY

Redford Union at Jackson Parkside
FRIDAY-SATURDAY
Garden City East Invitational

TUESDAY

Garden City West at Romulus
Stevenson at Garden City East
North Farmington at Redford Union
Dearborn at Glenn
Northville at Farmington

Look Out For East On Court

This should be another big year in basketball for Garden City East. Last year's Mid-Wayne League and district champs are off and running again.

They carried a 2-0 record against Garden City West Tuesday night in the annual all-city clash.

In battling Ecorse, a perennial prep cage power by a 65-57 score Tuesday night, East "played as good basketball as we ever have for three and a half quarters," Coach Billy Joe Young said.

Then things became a little hectic as the Ecorse team rallied before East went back to work and won without much of a problem.

East had led, 32-18, after the half.

Paul Young, not related to the coach, had 19 points for the winners while Harold Slade scored 16 and Bob Swabon 13.

Mike Brememour and Jim Schultz, each hit for six and Kevin Wilkinson five to round out the scoring for the winners.

East Swimmers Bow To Wayne

Garden City East's swimming team dropped a 73-32 verdict to Wayne Memorial in a non-league meet.

Diver Kent MacDonald shared honors with Ted Wasilewski for the losers. MacDonald won the diving while Wasilewski won the 50-yard freestyle in 24 seconds and the 400-yard free in 4:49.1.

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