

Groves Ruins North's Holiday Spirit



By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor

"We tried everything to stop them but we just weren't successful," said Coach Ken Dean after his North Farmington cagers tumbled to Birmingham Groves in the Northwest Holiday Tourney finale, 59-45.

It was North's first loss of the campaign and leaves Livonia Churchill as the lone unbeaten team in the 19 school observance area.

Churchill won its holiday tourney over Plymouth Salem, Thurston and Stevenson and sports an overall 6-0 mark.

Dean's North crew went into the holiday spree with victories over Hazelton, Garden City East, Walled Lake Central and Thurston under its belt, its closest contest a 17-point victory over Thurston 69-52.

The Raiders danced by Walled Lake Western, 70-50, and upended Walled Lake Central for the second time, 60-53.

It was then into the eight-school-tourney's finale against 6-1 Birmingham Groves, the first school with a winning record that North would meet.

Box score:

BIRMINGHAM GROVES 69
N. FARMINGTON 45

BIRMINGHAM GROVES: Smith, 4-2; 2-10; Adams, 8-3-7-15; Harris, 3-4-4; Nance, 8-1-1-15; Owens, 1-1-3-3; Miller, 1-0-0-2. TOTALS, 18-33-18-45.

NORTH FARMINGTON: Bancroft, 4-2; 2-10; McCreary, 3-0-2-6; Daley, 3-4-7-10; Fredericks, 8-3-0-12; Gammon, 1-0-0-2; Moore, 1-0-0-2. TOTALS, 18-33-18-45.

GROVES: Smith, 12 10 15 18-33
N. FARMINGTON: 11 10 15 18-45

LOSING A REBOUND and the Northwest Holiday championship to Birmingham Groves was North Farmington with Raider Ed Garneau (33) missing on this board attempt. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

sports

year at Pentac Northern in a non-leaguer, on Jan. 4 and jump into the Northwest at Oak Park (Jan. 11) with rival Farmington on tap, (Jan. 15) before a showdown with Franklin on Jan. 18.

All four games are on the road with North closing out January at home against Westland John Glenn on Jan. 25.

Two free-throws and a bucket by Dennis McCrary got North to within one at the close of the first period against Groves, 12-11.

The two clubs exchanged baskets to start the second but with three minutes elapsed, Groves had built a 13-15 margin and pushed it to 10 at the half, 31-21. Robb Nance had seven points for Groves in that quarter, Jerry Atkinson six.

Groves won the third quarter tip and before North could tell what end they were shooting at, Groves was up, 36-23, and McCrary had picked

up his fourth foul for North.

But Dean got his Raiders untracked, Jim Fredericks popped in two buckets, Mike Daley hit two quick ones, and Ed Garneau popped in two from the floor to slice it to three points at 36-33.

Groves had gone 3½ minutes without a point before Stuart Elsie hit with 3:21 remaining in the third to tie it back to a five point spread.

North then cooled off, turned the ball over a couple of times and the margin swayed from five to seven points with Groves leading, after three quarters, 44-37. Groves then scored three and three turnovers in the closing minute killed off four North scoring chances.

Vance and Craig McManus hit for two pointers early in the fourth to push Groves, led to 11 and the closest North got after that was with 3:25 remaining when Daley hit one from the line to slice it to eight, 60-42.

North was outscored the rest of the way, 9-3.

Area Wrestlers Win Oakland County Titles

Farmington High finished tops among area schools in the 14th annual Oakland County wrestling invitational but only fifth in the 30-team tourney.

Catholic Central walked away with team honors with 116 points followed by Warren Lincoln at 66, Walled Lake Central with 64½ points, Rochester Adams at 52 and then Farmington with 49.

The Observance area sported two tourney champions in North Farmington's Steve Haller at 128 pounds and Catholic Central's Joe Ryan in 106.

Farmington's Dan Longtine placed third in the 105 pound slot and Farmington's Jack Gardner took a third in the 145 pound class.

Other area teams in competition were: North Farmington in 12th place with 31½



MARK CHURELLA
Farmington



STEVE HALLER
North Farmington

points; and Farmington Harrison with 7½ points for 24th place.

Results:

TEAM SCORES
1. Catholic Central, 116 points; 2. Warren Lincoln, 66; 3. Walled Lake Central, 64½; 4. Rochester Adams, 52; 5. Farmington, 49; 6. Walled Lake Western, 44½; 7. Waterloo Kalamazoo, 42; 8. Clawson, 40; 9. Farmington, 38; 10. Farmington, 37; 11. Farmington, 36; 12. Farmington, 35; 13. Farmington, 34; 14. Farmington, 33; 15. Farmington, 32; 16. Farmington, 31; 17. Farmington, 30; 18. Farmington, 29; 19. Farmington, 28; 20. Farmington, 27; 21. Farmington, 26; 22. Farmington, 25; 23. Farmington, 24; 24. Farmington, 23; 25. Farmington, 22; 26. Farmington, 21; 27. Farmington, 20; 28. Farmington, 19; 29. Farmington, 18; 30. Farmington, 17.

Individual Results
1. Catholic Central, 116 points; 2. Warren Lincoln, 66; 3. Walled Lake Central, 64½; 4. Rochester Adams, 52; 5. Farmington, 49; 6. Walled Lake Western, 44½; 7. Waterloo Kalamazoo, 42; 8. Clawson, 40; 9. Farmington, 38; 10. Farmington, 37; 11. Farmington, 36; 12. Farmington, 35; 13. Farmington, 34; 14. Farmington, 33; 15. Farmington, 32; 16. Farmington, 31; 17. Farmington, 30; 18. Farmington, 29; 19. Farmington, 28; 20. Farmington, 27; 21. Farmington, 26; 22. Farmington, 25; 23. Farmington, 24; 24. Farmington, 23; 25. Farmington, 22; 26. Farmington, 21; 27. Farmington, 20; 28. Farmington, 19; 29. Farmington, 18; 30. Farmington, 17.

Farmington Cagers Pull Off 4th Victory In Last 28 Games

The Farmington Falcons gave their coach a real present that had to bring a smile that should last through the holidays.

Farmington won itself a basketball game.

After taking six straight beatings to open the 1972-73 campaign, Bruce Brown's blue and white cagers dumped Walled Lake Western in the final round of the Northwest Holiday Tourney, 56-47.

This Walled Lake victory had to be an early Christmas present for the young Falcon mentor who has taken on a real rebuilding challenge. "It really felt good, winning this one," commented Brown whose Falcons opened the new year, Jan. 4 in the second game of a varsity twin-bill against Plymouth Canton. Harrison goes up against Plymouth Salem in the 7 p.m. contest with Farmington and Canton going at it at 8:45 p.m. The double header will be played at Plymouth.

showing we gave against Bentley," added Bentley, whose Falcons fell to the Livonia school in the second round of the tournament, 84-26. "I still believe we are a better club than we have shown."

Box score:
FARMINGTON 56
WALLED LAKE WESTERN 47
FARMINGTON: Ryan, 1-0-0-2; Tyler, 2-0-1-1; Smith, 4-4-7-12; Daley, 5-0-0-2; Adams, 4-4-7-12; Harris, 3-4-4; Nance, 8-1-1-15; Owens, 1-1-3-3; Miller, 1-0-0-2. TOTALS, 18-33-18-45.

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