



Churchill tops Mott, 48-47

Churchill saw, charged and conquered.

Observerland's No. 1 basketball squad with a 10 win and one loss record put its mark on the line against another 10-1 club with the outcome victory.

It was the Western Six showdown between the unbeaten and Churchill hung on in the closing seconds to the tune of a 48-47 triumph over Waterford Mott.

"I really didn't expect it to be this type of game," commented Churchill Coach Pat Montano. "Things were really physical out on the court. The officials let the game go but at the same time didn't let things get out of hand."

"Heck, of our 59 shots, we were fouled on 10 of those alone," he added.

Churchill came up with its poorest shooting of the season from the floor on 21 of 59 attempts for 36 per cent while Mott hit 17 of 47 for 36 per cent also. The battle of the boards saw Don Braun haul in 21 rebounds as the Chargers led in that facet, 47-30.

Churchill's Don Forest had to have some anxious moments in the closing seconds as he missed four free-throws in the final minute in the Chargers attempt to tuck victory away.

"This one really had me worried," explained the Churchill coach. "The complexion was constantly changing, you just didn't know what to expect next."



PAT MONTANO
His Chargers are hot

Mott's Mike Grace popped in the first bucket of the contest and was followed by Churchill's Chuck Wayner. Mott broke a six all tie with five straight points to lead after one quarter, 11-8.

Both clubs shook off signs of nervousness early in the second quarter with Churchill outscoring Mott, 16-13, and tying its foe, 24-24, at the half on a free-throw point play by Rich VanWagoner.

After an exchange of buckets to start the third period, Forest, VanWagoner and Ken

Landini hit from the floor to push the Chargers to a 32-26 advantage.

The margin was upped to eight but closed to five at the end of three quarters at 40-35.

With 2:23 remaining, Mott had closed the gap to 44-43 and quickly took the lead, 45-44, on two charity tosses by Dan Bauer.

Churchill then missed on its scoring chance. Mott got the rebound but was called for traveling and Braun responded with a two-pointer to give Churchill a 46-45 lead with 51 seconds left.

Mott moved right back down court and Blais Saf-ron popped in a 10 footer to give Mott the lead at 47-46. But Churchill's offense proved true to form in the clutch and VanWagoner hit again to make it 48-47 with 26 seconds showing.

The Waterford club then turned the ball over on a traveling call but Forest was fouled and missed two from the line. Mott getting the rebound.

Bedlam then broke out on

the Mott court and the officials had to call time as paper was strewn about the playing surface.

With order restored, Mott had the ball at midcourt and missed on a 20 footer from the corner.

A jump ball was called on the rebound. Braun got the tip for Churchill and with six seconds remaining, Forest was again fouled and missed on a one-and-one situation to ice the victory.

Mott got the rebound but time had run out and the Chargers were unbeaten in round one of the Western Six at 5-0.

The Chargers play host to Farmington Harrison Friday and travel to Garden City East next Tuesday before hosting Walled Lake Western on Feb. 8. Box score:

CHURCHILL (48)
Wayner, 1-6-2-5; VanWagoner, 6-2-2-12; Braun, 5-3-5-13; Landini, 4-2-3-10; Forest, 4-1-0-0; Kelly, 1-0-0-2. TOTALS: 21-42-24-48.

WATERFORD MOTT (47)
Bauer, 2-2-3-8; Swindell, 2-0-0-4; Grace, 3-4-4-8; Grace, 7-3-4-17; Saf-ron, 3-1-2-7; Grove, 1-0-0-2; Fisher, 1-0-0-2; Miller, 0-1-2-1. TOTALS: 18-31-16-47.

CHURCHILL..... 8 16 16 8-48
WATERFORD..... 11 13 11 12-47

ALL ARMS AND LEGS crashing into his defender is Garden City West's Scott Chidester (12) with Riverside's Ken Szerba taking the brunt of Chidester's drive which wound up being a three-point play. West took the final brunt with Riverside winning, 73-64. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

Oak Park cagers scarp Franklin in overtime

By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor

Roar... purr... sputter. The Franklin High basketball machine must have been touched by the energy crisis. Just when the Patriots appeared to be building victory momentum, with the Northwest loop title just one item to be captured... it failed to produce.

"The game was ours but wasn't," commented Franklin Coach Bob Visser after his cagers were thwarted by Oak Park in overtime, 66-64, thus halting an eight winning streak and sending the Northwest loop race into the three-way puzzle.

"I guess we tried to put the game away too early," he added.

Franklin, Oak Park and John Glenn all sport 4-1 league records at the completion of the first round with the second and final pairings set to kickoff this Friday.

The Patriots have none other than a surging John Glenn on tap at the John gym.

Visser knows better than anyone the importance of this Friday's game and the difficulty he will encounter. Glenn, 10-3 overall, with two of the losses coming at the hands of Cherry Hill by a total of four points.

"The other was Franklin's first triumph in the league this season as the Patriots all but blew Glenn off the court in a 69-52 fashion. Visser commented that "this loss to Oak Park might be a good thing, we will come out of it that much better."

One thing is for sure, Oak Park came out of it better. The Redskins hit 29 of 79 from the floor for 37 per cent and made good eight of 19 from the line. Franklin hit 26 of 38 for 45 per cent and 12 of 22 from the charity marker.

Willie Rankins and Frank Miles proved to be the thorns in Visser's side. Rankins popped in 29 points and Miles 22. The No. 1 scorer in Observerland, Kevin Kaseta managed to hold his slot as he



BOB VISSER
His Patriots fall

pumped in 30 points in the losing effort.

"I just couldn't figure this one out," added the Franklin coach after the stunning upset. "We had 20 fumbles and 35 turnovers. I'm the most any team I have ever coached has come up with in one ball game."

"Sure Oak Park was aggressive and on our bodies all night and the fumbles, well, the 20 came when our kids had the ball then they didn't," added Visser.

"It was just bad news."

Franklin spurred to an early, 11-6 advantage but settled for a 14-13 lead after the first eight minutes. The Patriots then went on to outscore the Redskins, 20-17, in the second period to lead at the half, 34-30.

"The first half was a decent game," commented the Franklin coach. "The second half turned into a free-for-all."

"Franklin opened up an 11 point, 43-32 lead early in the third. But the Redskins started streaking and proceeded to up Franklin, 13-6, to slice it to 49-45 heading into the final eight minutes.

Oak Park quickly tied it at 50-49. Franklin missed on three one- and -one situations and before Visser could blink it was 58-49.

Kaseta came through with a bucket with 11 seconds remaining to give Franklin a 60-58 lead and it appeared the Patriots had survived a Redskin scare.

But Oak Park danced down court and in the midst of a mad scramble, Miles tossed up a short hook jump that found the mark and the buzzer sounded with the score deadlocked at 60-60.

Franklin won the overtime tip but missed on three straight scoring chances and Miles got Oak Park on the board, 62-60. After another Patriot missed, Dave Levanon popped in his only bucket of the contest to tie the Redskin margin to four. Then came a Kaseta basket.

Rankins put the finishing touches on an Oak Park upset with a two-pointer with 13 seconds remaining in overtime. Kaseta got the Patriots to within two but the buzzer sounded and Franklin had run out of time.

"We are just going to have to do the job at Glenn," finished Visser. "Defense will be the name of the game and our boys will be ready."

Box score:

SOUTHFIELD (57)
Trotter, 10-2-6-15; Lemeny, 6-2-6-15; Miller, 4-2-2-11; Fastow, 4-2-4-10; Richards, 3-0-0-0; Mann, 2-2-2-4; Rowan, 1-1-4-4; James, 7-1-1-10; Johnson, 1-0-0-1; Lewis, 4-0-1-3. TOTALS: 22-32-32-57.

RED SKIN (50)
Dawson, 2-2-4-8; Fowl, 8-4-4-20; Fennell, 3-3-4-10; Peterson, 3-2-2-10; Dickerson, 3-3-4-9; Hagan, 2-0-1-4; Edwards, 2-1-1-5. TOTALS: 21-15-30-50.

SOUTHFIELD..... 18 26 26 20-57
RED SKIN..... 8 18 27-50

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Southfield Blue Jays blitz Seaholm, 87-60

Southfield Coach Don Kaup has to be hoping that maybe - just maybe, his Blue Jays have found the winning spark that quickly vanished early in the season.

For the first time, Southfield put together two consecutive wins, an 87-60 triumph following a four-point decision over Wyandotte.

That 87-60 win over Birmingham Seaholm was Southfield's first in the Southeastern Michigan Conference where the Blue Jays now stand 1-3 while Seaholm slipped to an 0-4 showing.

Southfield took off to a 15-8 first quarter push over Seaholm and then took advantage of a five minute scoring lapse by Seaholm in the sec-

ond stanza. While the Maples were caught looking for the bucket, Southfield proceeded to reel off 26 points. Greg Miller popped in 10 points and Greg James and the Blue Jays found themselves up, 41-17, at the half.

Nine of 10 players on the Southfield roster scored in the third period as the Blue Jays exploded to a 67-33 margin with eight minutes still to play.

Seaholm finally won the last quarter, 27-20. Southfield finished with a 43 shooting per cent, hitting 32 of 74 while Seaholm shot 34 per cent on 21 of 62. The battle under the boards saw Southfield score a 43 to 27 advantage.

SOUTHFIELD (157)
Trotter, 10-2-6-15; Lemeny, 6-2-6-15; Miller, 4-2-2-11; Fastow, 4-2-4-10; Richards, 3-0-0-0; Mann, 2-2-2-4; Rowan, 1-1-4-4; James, 7-1-1-10; Johnson, 1-0-0-1; Lewis, 4-0-1-3. TOTALS: 22-32-32-57.

SEAHOLM (60)
Dawson, 2-2-4-8; Fowl, 8-4-4-20; Fennell, 3-3-4-10; Peterson, 3-2-2-10; Dickerson, 3-3-4-9; Hagan, 2-0-1-4; Edwards, 2-1-1-5. TOTALS: 21-15-30-60.

SOUTHFIELD..... 18 26 26 20-57
SEAHOLM..... 8 18 27-60

Harrison matmen tie Salem, 29-29

A 1:27 pin by Wally Kurzeja at heavyweight gave Farmington Harrison a come from behind 29 all tie with Plymouth Salem in a non-league wrestling match.

After the Harrison Hawks, who are now, 4-1-1, won the first five of six matches, Salem captured the next five and the meet was down to the final heavyweight bout. Kurzeja pinned Salem's Bob Craig and the Hawks had salvaged a tie.

Results:

100 lbs Gary Harrison (FH) pinned Bob Zimmet (PS), 1:53.
107 lbs Ken Pasala (FH) pinned Carl McHenry (PS), 3:24.
114 lbs John Major (PS) pinned Tim Smith (FH), 2:23.
121 lbs Matt Guly (FH) pinned Carl Schulz (PS), 1:20.
128 lbs Al Cruden (FH) defeated Nick Schulz (PS), 6:43.
135 lbs Steve Hickory (FH) drew Jeff Kren (PS), 4-4.
140 lbs Russ Goodrich (PS) defeated Brian Rigby (FH), 5-1.
147 lbs Terry Brink (PS) defeated Tim Hersh (FH), 6-2.
154 lbs Scott Angerer (PS) defeated Bill Phillips (FH), 6-3.
160 lbs Russ Brink (PS) pinned Mike Cruden (FH), 5:48.
167 lbs Larry Fidge (PS) pinned Ron Zimm (PS), 5:52.
HWT Wally Kurzeja (FH) pinned Bob Craig (PS), 1:27.