

A Canton first... cagers win, 59-47

Coach Casey Cavell knew it was just a matter of time. His cagers knew it was just a matter of time. Farmington Harrison found out the hard way it was time.

In their first year of varsity competition, minus a senior class, Plymouth Canton won 13 games without tasting the fruits of victory on the basketball court.

Canton's 14th endeavor proved triumphant. The final winless basketball club in Overland is no longer, thanks to an improvised performance by a now 2-13 Farmington Harrison crew.

The historical score saw Canton a 12 point victor over Harrison, 59-47, but it was by no means a 12 point walk-away. In fact with 4:22 remaining, Canton was hanging on to a slim 45-43 lead. And with 3 1/2 minutes left, it was Canton 48-47.

That's when Cavell called a timeout to talk things over.

Sports

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"I just didn't want this one to get away from us like so many others," said the Canton coach, "Dave Edwards, our co-captain, came up to me during the break in the action and said not to worry, they would pull things out."

Cavell admitted he was still worried but Canton then reeled off two straight three-point plays and outscored Harrison, 11-0, in those final minutes to take it all.

Canton got off to a 15-10 first quarter lead, Brian Steinberger scoring six points for the Chiefs. Harrison woke up in the second

stanza and outscored Canton, 15-8 to grab a 25-23 margin at the half.

Harrison's Jeff Otto was seven of nine at the free throw line that period.

Ron Lack then took over the controls for Canton in the third and fourth quarters. The Canton sparkster pumped in 11 points in the third as the Chiefs jumped back into a 40-37 lead heading into the final eight minutes.

Canton went up by seven early in the quarter but Harrison fought back. Mike

Styles got Harrison to within one at 48-47.

That's when Lack and Tom Close chafed up back to back three point plays. Lack followed with a 14 footer and Close hit a couple from the charity line and the Chiefs were to be reckoned with, at least for this night.

Canton wound up 22 of 47 for 48 per cent from the floor with Lack getting game scoring honors with 24 points. Close and Edwards followed with 11 each, Close getting nine in the second half.

"You know it is going to seem a lot different around school this week," finished Cavell already eyeing win No. 2. Box score:

PLYMOUTH CANTON (59)
Steinberger, 3-2-4-8; Mando, 2-0-0-0; Edwards, 3-2-2-1; Close, 3-5-1-1; Lack, 8-6-7-14; Otto, 4-3-7-11; TOLAN, 2-1-2-2-5.

FARMINGTON (47)
Otto, 4-0-2-8; Otto, 6-7-4-7; Styles, 2-2-2-2; Edwards, 2-2-2-2; Lack, 1-1-2-2; Steinberger, 2-2-4-6; TOLAN, 10-15-12-21.

CANTON..... 18 8 17 10-49
HARRISON..... 10 10 15 12-37



BATTLING FOR A LOOSE PUCK are Stevenson High's Keith McDonald (4) and Churchill's Jim Gagnon (9) with Stevenson goalie Curt

Downs and Tom Shipp (9) watching. Stevenson topped its city rival, 3-2. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

No. 1 Churchill captures another effortless clash

By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor

Pressure is one part of basketball that most prep coaches must contend with from hour to hour, day to day and week to week throughout a season.

Usually it is heightened when you are on top of the ladder. Such is not the case around Churchill territory.

The area's No. 1 basketball club, which boasts an overall 14-1 mark has operated under this circumstance about as much as it has wound up in the loss column.

For the third time in a row, Churchill Coach Pat Montano emptied his bench early in the game with no doubt as to the outcome.

Churchill dumped Walled Lake Western, 73 to 52, to remain unbeaten in the Western Six and extend its string to eight consecutive wins since its solo loss to Franklin back on Jan. 4.

"We have had only three pressure games this season," said Montano whose Chargers are coming off a 19-6 season. "And these three have all been away from home, at Franklin, Waterford

Mott and Northville."

Churchill topped Northville by three, Mott by one and lost to Franklin by six.

Churchill is averaging 64 points per game while its defense, No. 1 in the area, has given up only an average of 47 points a game.

"The schedule is a strange thing," added the Churchill coach. "You schedule games a year two in advance when the schools are up and then when it comes time to play them, well..."

"Sure the league is down but I still defy any team to take on our kids especially in

rebounding. Nobody will out-rebound us. Even the game we lost to Franklin, we still won the boards."

"You know something funny," said Montano. "It's not the pressure of the game that is getting to the coaches - it's the kids and their actions."

Montano through scrimmages with winning ball clubs has attempted to keep his kids tuned for what lies ahead. Northville this Friday, Ann Arbor Huron on Saturday, Plymouth Canton and Waterford Mott in the regular season finale and then comes the state tourney.

Against Walled Lake, Churchill scored eight points the first five times it went down court and led after one quarter, 16-10.

The Chargers hit 10 of 37 from the floor in the second quarter to jump to a 37-21 margin at the half and connected on eight of 18 in the third to take a commanding 59-33 advantage before the Churchill coach cleared the bench.

Churchill scored eight points the first five times it went down court and led after one quarter, 16-10.

Churchill won 31 of 69 overall for 45 per cent and captured a 48 to 27 rebound edge. Don Braun at 6-7 handled 11. Rick Van Wagner paced the Churchill attack with 18 points.

One blow to the Charger hopes in the final weeks has to be the loss of senior Brian Kelly who missed the first 10 games with pneumonia. He returned for five games, popped in 25 points but his illness has now forced him to hang up his shoes for the season.

Now comes Northville and Ann Arbor Huron and Montano knows that pressure is right around the corner. Box score:

CHURCHILL (73)
Wagner, 3-2-7-11; Van Wagner, 3-2-1-1; Braun, 3-0-1-1; Foster, 4-0-0-0; Foster, 2-0-0-0; Johnson, 2-2-2-1; Lander, 2-1-2-1; Buehler, 0-0-2-0; Mando, 1-0-0-0; TOLAN, 2-3-3-7; TOLAN, 21-11-10-7.

WALLED LAKE (52)
Henderson, 0-0-2-2; Henderson, 0-0-1-1; Gabriel, 2-5-7-11; Gentry, 0-2-4-2; Long, 2-1-1-1; TOLAN, 1-0-0-0; Bradley, 1-0-0-0; Mackowiak, 3-0-0-0; Perkowski, 2-0-0-0; TOLAN, 10-11-10-21.

CHURCHILL..... 18 17 10 16-48
WALLED LAKE..... 10 10 15 12-37

Front-running Spartans nip hungry Churchill

In what might have been a George Gee hockey journey finale prelude, Stevenson fought off an aggressive Churchill attack, to remain unbeaten in Suburban Hockey loop action.

Stevenson hung on in the closing seconds, playing only four men to Churchill's six to

take its sixth league triumph, 5-2.

It was Churchill's third setback against two wins and a tie. The Chargers are sure to feel the pangs of a forfeit to Southfield after winning the game, 6-1, only to lose on an ineligible player ruling.

Stevenson's Brian Van Norman made the Spartans off to a 1-0 first period lead. Paul Vermeesch made it 2-0 at the 7:41 mark of the second period.

A tally at 11:41 of the second by Churchill's Dave Byrd sided it to 2-1 heading into the final 15 minutes.

Jeff McDonald padded Stevenson's lead early in the third as he bested Churchill netminder Rick Parks at the 1:58 mark. Then came a barrage of penalties to change the tempo of the clash which

up to this time had seen only three penalties. At the 5:17 mark, Churchill's Jim Gagnon and Stevenson's Jeff McDonald went off for roughing. Seventeen seconds later, Stevenson's Paul Vermeesch was called for slashing but Churchill threw away its power play opportunity 32 seconds later.

At 6:26, Churchill's Dave Leist was detected holding and both sides were playing three out front.

On the following face-off, Brian Veasy picked up a loose puck and out-manuevered the make-shift Stevenson defense and beat goalie Curt Downs at 6:36 to cut it down to a one goal deficit at 3-2.

Both sides came back with shots rising off goal posts and at 13:17, Stevenson's Jeff McDonald was called for slashing. Churchill wound up pulling its goalie and with a six against four attack did everything but score as the Spartan defense held its ground to push Stevenson's record to 6-0. Results:

STEVENSON..... 3 1 1-3
CHURCHILL..... 0 1 1-2

FIRST PERIOD
SCORING: Stevenson - Van Norman (Hilmar), 5:22. GOALKEEPER: Stevenson - Vermeesch (Gandem), 7:41. Churchill - Rick Parks (Leist), 13:17. PENALTIES: Stevenson (G), 5:22; Buehler (C), 8:52.

SECOND PERIOD
SCORING: Stevenson - McDonald (Rundel), 1:58. Churchill - Veasy (Leist), 6:36. PENALTIES: McDonald (R), 2:57; Gagnon (C), 5:16; McDonald (R), 6:26; Leist (C), 13:17.

THIRD PERIOD
SCORING: Stevenson - McDonald (Rundel), 1:58. Churchill - Veasy (Leist), 6:36. PENALTIES: McDonald (R), 2:57; Gagnon (C), 5:16; McDonald (R), 6:26; Leist (C), 13:17.

RU wrestlers stun Trenton

Just when it appeared Trenton might walk away with Suburban Eight mat honors, along came Redford Union.

The RU matmen upset the Sub 8 applicant by handing Trenton its first loss in 25-18 style. It was RU's seventh win overall against two losses and three ties and its fifth victory in the loop against one defeat.

RU and Trenton now share first with identical 5-1 marks with the league, met slated for this Saturday, Feb. 16, at Allen Park.

Steve Betsley at 119 pounds recorded the solo pin for RU with Dan Lindberg, Bruce Lozon, Jerry Bow, Bob Praz-

nik, Kevin McKenny, and Dave Jann picking up decisions.

RU is at Dearborn tomorrow (Thursday) in the Sub 8 dual wrap-up. Results:

88 lbs. - Doug McDonald (T) defeated Scott Bruner (RU), 4-0.

100 lbs. - Dan Lindberg (RU) defeated Pete Corbett (T), 2-1.

112 lbs. - Steve Betsley (RU) defeated Jim Tietjen (T), 3-0.

119 lbs. - Steve Betsley (RU) pinned Jim Bruner (T), 1-0.

125 lbs. - Jerry Bow (RU) defeated George Compas (T), 10-0.

132 lbs. - Bob Praznik (RU) defeated Tom Churchill (T), 3-2.

138 lbs. - Dave Jann (RU) defeated Mike Bruner (T), 7-0.

145 lbs. - Kevin McKenny (RU) defeated Larry Shock (T), 2-0.

150 lbs. - Dan Lindberg (RU) defeated Richard Bruner (T), 7-0.

160 lbs. - Dave Jann (RU) defeated Joe Bruner (T), 4-0.

170 lbs. - Chris Armstrong (RU) pinned Mike Esslinger (RU), 5-0.

Schoolcraft loses but sets record

Schoolcraft College's men's gymnastics team suffered an 18-point loss to Ohio's Bowling Green University.

Bowling Green took an easy 103.75 to 85.63 victory. What was satisfying to Coach Cec Woodruff was the fact that his team's 85.63 total points comprised a school record.

Ken Avis, a Plymouth High

School product, paced the Ocelots. Avis tied for first on the parallel bars with 8.55 points, took first on the horizontal bar with 6.7 points, and then won the all-around with 33.70 points.

Bob Durham added 7.25 points to the Schoolcraft total with a second place finish on the side horse.

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Hawks tip Ypsilanti Farmington Harrison won five of six events in topping Ypsilanti in a prep gymnastics meet, 83.55 to 80.13. Results: FLOOR EXERCISE: 1-Worham (FH), 7.6; 2-Lafam (FH), 7.5; 3-Sewer (FH), 6.4; 4-Hewer (FH), 6.3. HIGH BAR: 1-Sewer (FH), 6.5; 2-Ash (FH), 6.5; 3-Worham (FH), 6.3; 4-Hewer (FH), 6.2. LOW BAR: 1-Sewer (FH), 6.5; 2-Red (FH), 6.3; 3-Red (FH), 6.3; 4-Ash (FH), 6.2. PARALLEL BARS: 1-Ash (FH), 6.5; 2-Sewer (FH), 6.3; 3-Kubert (T), 6.2; 4-Park (FH), 6.1. STILL RINGS: 1-Vee (FH), 6.8; 2-Rundel (FH), 6.5; 3-Ash (FH), 6.3; 4-Sewer (FH), 6.2. TRAMPOLINE: 1-Worham (FH), 2.4; 2-Park (FH), 2.3; 3-Ash (FH), 2.2; 4-Sewer (FH), 2.1.		General Electric Micro Wave Oven Thaws Frozen Foods Cooks in a Fraction of Time GE Micro Wave Oven Prices Start at \$249.99	

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