

# Defense could save North Farmington

By TOM BAER  
Winning basketball begins with good defense — that's the philosophy of North Farmington coach Ken Dean.

Dean's attitude should come in handy this season since North Farmington graduated most of last season's first-line players, and the returnees aren't real big.

"Our style of ball is to play good defense," Dean said. "We really place a lot of emphasis on that. We start playing defense first. If we can get the kids to play as a cohe-

sive unit here, then we think we can do a few other things."

Dean lost the first six players from last year's team, which finished 12-10 overall. The Raiders were tied with Oak Park for third place in the Northwest Suburban League. Livonia Franklin finished first, and Westland John Glenn took second.

This season the tallest Raider is 6-4 junior Mike Morrow. Seniors Tom Moore (6-2) and Bob Patek (6-2) add a little more height, and Kevin Gasior (5-11) had some experience last season.

"We start playing defense first. If we can get the kids to play as a cohesive unit there, then we think we can do a few other things."

Ken Dean  
N. Farmington coach

Dean is counting on a pair of transfer students to provide some extra scoring punch. They are Dan Werner (6-0), who played at Southfield High last season, and Paul King (5-11), a standout on Bloomfield Hills Andover's reserve team. King could be the key to North Farmington's success this season, according to Dean.

"He's going to be a great asset to us because he just never quits out there on the floor," Dean said. "He really hustles and he's aggressive."

North Farmington will be involved in a Christmas Tournament Dec. 23-27. Other tournament teams include Farmington, Farmington Harrison, Birmingham Groves, Birmingham Seaholm, Walled Lake Central, Walled Lake Western, Livonia Bentley and Redford Union. Tournament games will be played concurrently at Walled Lake Western and Livonia Bentley high schools.

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Northwest Suburban League season begins Dec. 6 at Westland John Glenn. Livonia Franklin dominated the league last season, but it'll be more balanced this year, Dean believes.

"I think Garden City East, Franklin and John Glenn will be the three tough teams," he said. "Garden City East will have to be reckoned with. They played a lot of sophomores last year and they all did a pretty good job. They're also awfully big."

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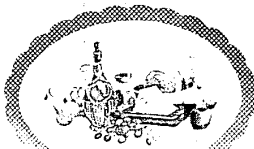
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North Farmington Schedule				
Nov. 26—Kettering, H	8 p.m.	Jan. 14—Farmington, H	8 p.m.	
Dec. 3—W. L. Central, T	8 p.m.	Jan. 17—Franklin, H	8 p.m.	
Dec. 6—John Glenn, T	8 p.m.	Jan. 21—Southfield, H	8 p.m.	
Dec. 10—Harrison, T	8 p.m.	Jan. 24—John Glenn, H	8 p.m.	
Dec. 13—G. C. East, H	8 p.m.	Jan. 31—G. C. East, T	8 p.m.	
Dec. 16—Thurston, T	8 p.m.	Feb. 4—Ferndale, T	8 p.m.	
Dec. 20—Thurston, T	8 p.m.	Feb. 7—Thurston, H	8 p.m.	
Dec. 23-27 Christmas Tourney		Feb. 11—Berkley, H	8 p.m.	
W. L. Western		Feb. 14—Oak Park, T	8 p.m.	
Livonia Bentley		Feb. 21—Franklin, T	8 p.m.	
Jan. 10—Oak Park, H	8 p.m.	Feb. 24—District Tournament		

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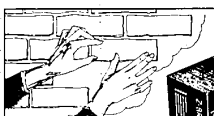
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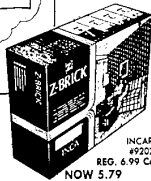
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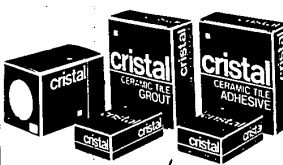


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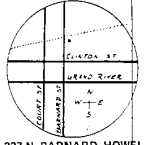
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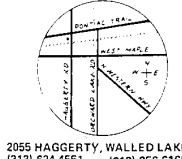
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