

Southfield hangs on to beat North



Joe Andronaco (44) helped North Farmington's comeback by scoring 10 points.

By TOM BAER

Southfield High's basketball team may be about ready to pull one of its second-half surges if the Jays' last two games are any indication.

For the past three seasons, Southfield has started slow and then come on to have a winning second half of the season. Southfield upset Royal Oak Kimball last Friday, and then beat North Farmington, 63-58, last Tuesday in a nonleague game.

Southfield, now 5-7 overall, had a few anxious moments at North Farmington. The Jays led by as many as 14 points (38-23) in the third quarter, but North chipped away at the lead and finally pulled to within two (57-55) on Mike Soldan's bucket with 1:30 left in the game.

The teams then traded baskets with Steve Trowbridge scoring for Southfield and Kevin Gassor scoring for North.

With 37 seconds left, Southfield's Mike Jusino was fouled and made both free throws, making it 61-57. North's Bob Patek hit a basket, but then Soldan fouled Steve Lowery, who missed the foul shot.

Seconds later, North lost the ball on a bad inbound pass. That gave the ball to Southfield with seven seconds left. Gassor fouled Elliot Rossen, who converted both ends of the one and one to make the final 63-59.

"WE JUST DIDN'T play as well as we've played in the past, that's all," said North Farmington coach Ken Dean. His squad is now 4-10 overall this season. "We came back, but it wasn't enough."

Bill Phillips, Southfield's 6-4 sophomore center, scored a game-high 18 points with 14 coming in the second half. Phillips also had a good night on the boards, grabbing 10 rebounds.

Trowbridge was another bright spot for Southfield. He entered the game in the third quarter, hit five buckets in that stanza, and finished with 13 for the night. He also got 10 rebounds.

Rick Wieland, a 5-10 guard, was Southfield's first-half hero, scoring 13 points, 11 coming in the first half. Southfield's other guards, Rossen and Lowery, chipped in with eight and seven points respectively.

"I think we've found some people starting to believe in themselves — believing that it doesn't always take a big man to play winning basketball," said Southfield coach Don Kaump.

North Farmington was led by Gassor, who scored 13 points on six field goals and one of four foul shots. Joe Andronaco, a sub who led North's comeback, and Tom Moore each added 10 points.

Both teams sank 26 field goals. Southfield made 11 of 18 free throws, while North Farmington made seven

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SPORTS

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of 19 The Raiders outbounded Southfield, 40-39.

Southfield plays next on Thursday (Jan. 26) at home against Birmingham Seaholm in a Southeastern Michigan Association game. North Farmington plays at home on Friday against Westland John Glenn in a Northwest Suburban League contest. Both games start at 8 p.m.

SOUTHFIELD (43): Phillips 7, 2-4; 16, Trowbridge 6, 1-2, 13, Wieland 6, 1-2, 13; Lowery 3, 1-4, 7; Rossen 3, 2-2; 8, Jusino 1, 4-4, 6, Miles 0, 0-0, 0.

McCall 0, 0-0, 0 Totals: 26, 11-18, 63

N. FARMINGTON (50): Morrow 1, 0-0, 2, Soldan 4, 0-2, 8, Werner 2, 0-1, 4, Gassor 4, 1-4, 13, Moore 4, 2-3, 10, John Patek 1, 1-2, 3, Bob Patek 2, 1-2, 5, Epstein 2, 0-0, 4, Andronaco 4, 2-3, 10, McCrum 0, 0-0, 0 Totals: 26, 7-19, 59

Total Fouls: Southfield, 17, North Farmington 15 Fouled out: none

SOUTHFIELD 11 19 17 16-63
N. FARMINGTON 11 10 18 20-59

Thurston trips Hawks, 69-58

The high point of Farmington Harrison's basketball season probably will be that thrilling win at Northville High last Friday.

Beating Northville was a hard act to follow, and the Hawks couldn't keep up the winning streak. Thurston High stopped Harrison, 69-58, last Tuesday in a nonleague game.

The loss ended Harrison's season record at 5-5. The victory lifted Thurston to 4-7 under first-year coach Bill Croteau.

"The kids just put it all together," Croteau said. "We've been playing good defense all season, but tonight we played good offense too."

Harrison led 25-23 at halftime, but Thurston came back thanks to the shooting of Cory Rodriguez, a 6-1 guard, who scored eight points in the third quarter when Thurston pulled away for good. The Eagles outscored the Hawks, 23-14, in that quarter.

Rodriguez finished with 18 points to lead the winners, and forwards Dave Polidor and Gary Bireta each added 10 points.

"Rodriguez is a good shooter, a good outside shooter," Croteau said. "But we got those points from our underneath men, and I was pleased with that."

Thurston used a full-court press which forced Harrison into eight turnovers in the second half. "We got tough on our press," Croteau said.

"We got the steal and we hustled a lot."

HARRISON COACH Bob Sutter could be pleased with the play of Mark Brozek, who came off the bench to score a game-high 20 points. Brozek hasn't played much recently because of an injured ankle.

Thurston shot 53 percent from the floor and 41 percent from the free-throw line. Harrison shot 43 percent from the field and 42 percent from the line. The Eagles held a 40-34 rebounding edge.

Harrison plays next at Walled Lake Western on Friday (Jan. 24). The Western Six League game begins at 8 p.m. Thurston resumes its Northwest Suburban League season on Friday at Garden City East.

THURSTON (40): Rodriguez 8, 2-2, 18, Polidor 4, 2-3, 10, Bireta 4, 2-3, 10, Fazzini 2, 5-6, 9, Durvey 0, 0-1, 0, Kryzwada 4, 1-3, 9, Prikop 0, 2-5, 2, Abundia 2, 0-0, 4, McCreight 2, 1-1, 5, Dewee 1, 0-0, 2 Totals: 27, 15-21, 69

HARRISON (58): Otto 3, 0-0, 6, Loper 0, 0-0, 0, Mason 3, 1-4, 7, Stader 1, 0-5, 2, Styles 3, 2-4, 8, Wick 2, 0-0, 4, Valay 1, 3-3, 5, Spoutz 2, 0-0, 4, Slotnick 1, 0-0, 2, Adams 0, 0-1, 0, Brozek 9, 2-3, 20 Totals: 25, 8-19, 58

Total Fouls: Harrison 20, Thurston 15

THURSTON 9 14 23 23-69
HARRISON 9 16 14 19-58

Christian wins in 2 overtimes

Southfield Christian and Ann Arbor Greenhills High basket teams battled it out in regulation time and two overtimes before Christian eked out a 46-45 victory.

Both teams played to a 39-39 deadlock in standard time, but Steve Knowles sank two free throws with five seconds left in the second overtime period.

Greenhills led with five minutes left on the clock and went into a stall, but Christian thwarted the effort and tied the contest.

"I think they started to stall too early," said assistant Christian coach Dave Seils. "It was a good defensive game, but both teams did not shoot well and there was a lot of slow-down ball."

Christian's win boosted its record to 4-8 and the Southfield cagers will take on Capital City Christian this Friday night at Capital.

SOUTHFIELD CHRISTIAN (48): Spruill 2, 0-1, 4, Larson 4, 1-2, 8; Quiggle 1, 5-6, 7; Marks 4, 2-3, 10; Nash 2, 2-2, 6; Hendon 0, 0-2, 0; Rumley 2, 2-3, 6; Knowles 0, 3-4, 3; Johnston 0, 1-2, 1 Totals: 15-16-27-46

ANN ARBOR GREENHILLS (43): Crim 3, 3-8, 9; Saxe 2, 3-7, 7; Giorid 2, 0-0, 4; Thorne 3, 3-6, 9; Middleton 2, 2-4, 6; Grason 1, 0-1, 2; Haney 1, 0-2, 2; Parricha 1, 0-1, 2; Toner 2, 0-0, 4 Totals: 17-11-35-45

SOUTHFIELD CHRISTIAN 8 11 10 10 3 5-46
GREENHILLS 7 11 15 6 2 4-45



North's Bob Patek (56) has the ball, but Southfield's Steve Trowbridge manages to get a hand in.

Sports coming up

- Basketball**
- Thursday (Jan. 25) Birmingham Seaholm at Southfield High, Ten Mile and Lahser roads, 8 p.m.
- Friday (Jan. 26) Ulica Eisenhower at Southfield-Lathrup, 15301 Twelve Mile Road, 8 p.m.
- Friday (Jan. 26) Westland John Glenn at North Farmington, 32900 Thirteen Mile Road, 8 p.m.
- Friday (Jan. 26) Farmington High at Walled Lake Central, 2978 Commerce Road, 8 p.m.
- Friday (Jan. 26) Farmington Harrison at Walled Lake Western, 800 Beck Road, 8 p.m.
- Friday (Jan. 26) Southfield Christian at Lansing Capital City Christian, 15300 Dewitt Road, 8 p.m.
- Hockey**
- Thursday (Jan. 25) Wyandotte at Southfield High, Beechwood Arena, Beech Road south of Nine Mile, 8 p.m.
- Friday (Jan. 26) Southfield-Lathrup at Livonia Blender, Ford Ice Arena, 32041 Lyndon, 8 p.m.
- Saturday (Jan. 26) Chicago Hawks at Southfield Chiefs, Civic Center Arena, 3880 Evergreen Road, 8 p.m.
- Swimming**
- Thursday (Jan. 25) Walled Lake Western at Farmington Harrison, 3880 Twelve Mile Road, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday (Jan. 25) Thurston High at North Farmington, 32900 Thirteen Mile Road, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday (Jan. 25) Southfield High at Birmingham Seaholm, 3438 W. Lincoln, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday (Jan. 25) Farmington High at Walled Lake Central, 2978 Commerce Road, 4 p.m.
- Thursday (Jan. 25) Southfield-Lathrup at Ulica Eisenhower, 6800 Twenty-Five Mile Road, 7:30 p.m.
- Wrestling**
- Thursday (Jan. 25) Pontiac Northern at Farmington High, 32900 Shalwassee, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday (Jan. 25) Southfield-Lathrup at Birmingham Groves, Thirteen Mile near Evergreen, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday (Jan. 25) Farmington Harrison at Plymouth Canton, 9415 Canton Center Road, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday (Jan. 25) Livonia Franklin at North Farmington, 32900 Thirteen Mile Road, 6:30 p.m.
- Friday (Jan. 26) Southfield High at Birmingham Seaholm, 3438 W. Lincoln, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday (Jan. 26) Farmington High, North Farmington, and Southfield-Lathrup in North Farmington Invitational Tournament, 32900 Thirteen Mile Road, events begin at noon.