



North Farmington's John Patek (with ball) comes down with a rebound while teammate Mike Morrow watches.

## Schultz and RU crew nip North

# Raiders come of age in loss

By TOM BAER

The scene in North Farmington's locker room wasn't a gloomy one. Even though North had just finished dropping a 46-57 decision to Redford Union in the finals of the Northwest Suburban Christmas Tournament at Farmington High School on Dec. 23.

"I think we came of age tonight and finally realized some potential," said North Farmington coach Ken Dean, whose team fought back from an eight-point deficit at halftime to out-score the winners, 34-29, in the second half.

North outpointed RU, 19-6, in the third quarter and had a 62-39 lead going into the final stanza. That final quarter led up to a thrilling finish with the lead changing hands several times. North's Dan Werner sank a pair of free throws to put the Raiders to within two points, 49-47. Then teammate Mike Garcia hit a bucket to tie it at 49 all with 4:45 left.

But Redford Union's Jim Lalonde scored a basket, his only point of the night, to put the Panthers up by two with 2:36 left. And then Steve Schultz, the tournament's real hero, took over and scored five more points in the quarter to put the game out of reach.

Schultz, a 6-1 senior forward with an accurate jump shot, finished the game with 31 points on 15 field goals and one of two free throws. Schultz

was especially effective in that hectic last quarter, providing 11 of his team's 21 points. He helped RU make the tournament finals by scoring 23 points to lead the Panthers past Farmington Harrison, 78-54.

"SCHULTZ IS A tremendous ball player," said Redford Union coach Carl Andrews. "He really saved us with those two baskets and a free throw late in the game."

Tom Sweeney, RU's 6-8 center, added 16 points and grabbed 18 rebounds.

North's Werner, a 6-1 senior, scored 22 points on nine buckets and four free throws. Werner led the Raiders' resurgence by scoring eight points in the third quarter. Garcia provided 18 points and Mike Morrow had none.

Thrilling finishes are nothing new to North Farmington. North made the tournament finals by shipping by Farmington High, 61-56, in triple overtime.

North's cagers had plenty to be proud of, according to Dean.

"A lot of these teams won't be using zone defenses against us anymore," he said. "Redford Union started with a zone, and we forced them out of it."

"And we used a press for most of the game. Our press did a lot for us, but it was also our downfall. RU had to run and shoot a lot to beat it, and they did those two things very well. Schultz was the lead man on their running game, and he just killed us with his shooting."

North Farmington, now 5-2 overall and 1-0 in the Northwest Suburban League, takes on Garden City East Jan. 9 at East. Coach Billy Joe Young's East squad is 4-2 overall and 0-1 in the NSL.

Redford Union-N. Farmington  
Redford Union (46): Tom Sweeney 23, 16 Jim Lalonde 10, 5 Steve Schultz 15, 12 31 Gary Stafford 2, 12 5 Doug Lowrey 1, 2 3 Mark Ryder 1, 0 4 Ted Akerman 0, 0 0 Totals: 27, 610 60  
N. Farmington (57): Mike Garcia 18, 23 18 Dan Werner 9, 4 22 Felding Epstein 2, 0 4 John Patek 1, 0 1 Mike Morrow 4, 12 9 Kevin McCreary 0, 2 2 Dan Lowrey 0, 0 0 Mark Thompson 0, 0 0 Totals: 24, 916 57  
Total Fouls: Redford Union 16, North Farmington 14 Fouled Out: None  
Redford Union 13 18 0 21 -46  
N. Farmington 11 9 19 15 -57



I think we came of age tonight, said Ken Dean.

## Farmington downs Harrison in consolation confidence game

After Farmington High's first outing in the Northwest Suburban Christmas Tournament—a 61-56 loss to city rival North Farmington in triple overtime—just about anything else the Falcons could do in the tourney would be anti-climatic.

Still, Coach Bruce Brown's Farmington team had a consolation game to play, and the Falcons made the best of it by beating Farmington Harrison, 64-60, on Dec. 23.

"It took some guts on our part to come back after losing such a close game the night before," Brown said. "We could have easily gone belly up. But I knew we could play ball. We're not as bad as we may have looked in earlier games. I hope this victory gives us some confidence."

The game was close throughout. Harrison took a 14-11 lead after one quarter, and Farmington grabbed an eight-point lead (33-25) at halftime. Harrison outscored Farmington, 35-31, in the second half.

The game was still close (61-58) with 1:50 left, when Farmington decided to go into a stall. Finally, Harrison's Mike Styles fouled Rick Milhizer with 41 seconds showing. Milhizer made one free throw.

With 20 seconds left, Farmington's Bob Finnell fouled Styles, who dropped in both free throws to pull his team to within two points, 62-60. Seconds later, Harrison's Paul Chartier fouled Handy Meier. Meier converted

both to put the final points on the board.

Styles, a 6-3 forward, led all scorers with 21 points on nine field goals and three of four free throws. Mike Redford and Scott Faeder chipped in with 10 and nine points, respectively.

Meier, a junior, led Farmington with 18 points. Dick Radatz and Milhizer

added 15 and 11 points, respectively. Finnell and Brian Steusloff each scored eight points.

Harrison made 29 field goals, but made just four of 11 from the line. Farmington made 24 baskets and converted 16 of 26 free throws. Farmington's statistics showed the

Falcons held a 49-36 rebounding advantage. Styles grabbed 16 rebounds for Harrison. Steusloff had 10 for the winners.

Farmington, now 3-5 overall, plays next at home against nonleague Northville High on Jan. 6. Harrison, now 4-3, entertains Highland Park on Jan. 6.



Rick Milhizer (20) scored a total of 30 points in the two tournament games.



Farmington's Brian Steusloff grabbed 10 rebounds against Harrison.

### Farmington-Harrison

Farmington (64): Bob Finnell 3, 24 8 Rick Milhizer 3, 54 11 Brian Steusloff 4, 0 1 8 Dick Radatz 5, 54 15 Handy Meier 7, 24 16 Mike Danna 1, 1 3 Tom Harrison 0, 1 2 1 Mark Springfield 1, 0 0 2 Totals: 21, 1628 64  
Harrison (60): Mark Brooks 2, 0 3 4 Mike Styles 9, 34 21 Jeff Otto 3, 0 0 6 Rob Slotnick 2, 0 1 4 Mike Redford 3, 0 2 10 Larry Pump 1, 0 0 2 Paul Chartier 0, 0 0 0 Scott Faeder 4, 11 8 Bryant Gilbert 2, 0 0 4 Paul Butkunas 0, 0 1 0 Paul Kolbe 0, 0 0 Totals: 28, 411 60  
TOTAL Fouls: Farmington 20, Harrison 13 Fouled Out: None  
Farmington 11 22 18 13 -64  
Harrison 16 11 9 18 -60



GARY MORRISON



BILL WHEELER

## 3 area pucksters to play in Great Lakes tournament

Three area men will participate in the 11th annual Great Lakes Invitational college hockey tournament on Monday and Tuesday (Dec. 29-30) at Olympia Stadium in Detroit.

The three players—Russ Blancy of Orchard Lake, Gary Morrison of Farmington and Bill Wheeler of Southfield—are members of the University of Michigan team. The highly rated Wolverines will meet the University of Pennsylvania at 6 p.m. Monday in the opening round, followed by defending GII champion Michigan Tech against Boston University. The consolation and championship

contests are slated to begin at 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Blancy, a junior center, formerly played for the Ecorse Big "D" national junior B championship team in 1972-73. He is 6-3 and 200 pounds for coach Dan Farrell's squad. Morrison, a 6-2, 200-pound right winger, also played for the Ecorse national titlist.

Wheeler, a freshman forward for U of M, is the first black hockey player in the school's history.

A recent poll of college hockey coaches ranked Michigan Tech as the top team in the nation. Boston University was ranked third, followed by the

Wolverines. The Tech squad is the defending National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) champion in addition to its 1974 GII crown. Coach John MacInnes' club eliminated Boston from the NCAA tournament in the semi-finals.

Six other Michigan players also are slated to play in the tourney, and four of the skaters are on the U of M team, while Tech boasts the other two farm players.

Tickets for the tournament are \$3-45 and are available at Olympia Stadium, Grinnell's and Olympia Travel, Maple and Lahser, Birmingham.



RUSS BLANCY