

Pressure free throw saves Raiders—again

By TOM BAER

North Farmington's Ron Nutter seems to do his best work after the basketball game has ended.

Nutter, a 6-foot junior on North's once-beaten cage team, has provided the clutch free throws to save the Raiders twice this season — and both times he made the tosses with no time showing on the clock.

Nutter dropped in a pair after the buzzer on Jan. 17 to lift North past previously-unbeaten Southfield High. And then last Tuesday, he made the first of a one-and-one with no time left in overtime as the Raiders slipped by non-league Ferndale High, 44-43, at Ferndale.

The victory put coach Ken Dean's North Farmington club at 11-1 overall this season.

Nutter, who led the Raiders with 13 points, was fouled by James Harris at the end of the OT. The teams had finished regulation play tied at 23 all.

North's Harold Beardsley contributed 10 points, three coming in the overtime. Mike Hawley and Jeff Thomas each added six points. Darryl Robinson and Harris each scored 10

Farmington Observer

SPORTS

Thursday, February 2, 1978

points for Ferndale, which held a 23-22 halftime lead.

North Farmington plays next on Friday (Feb. 3) at home against Livonia Franklin. The Northwest Suburban League game begins at 8 p.m.

N. FARMINGTON H — FERDALE H

NORTH FARMINGTON HHS — Ron Nutter 3, 3-6, 13; Mark Thompson 2, 0-1; Harold Beardsley 2, 4-5, 10; Mark Biedl 0, 0-0 TOTALS: 18, 6-13, 44

FERDALE HIGH HHS — John Cobb 3, 3-4, 9; David Silberman 2, 0-0, 8; Kyle Kester 1, 3-4, 4; Darryl Robinson 2, 0-0, 10; Tyrone Hunter 1, 0-1, 2; Jerome Farris 1, 0-0, 2; James Harris 2, 4-4, 10 TOTALS: 17, 9-11, 43

TOTAL FOULS — Ferndale 15, North Farmington 17. FOULED OUT: Kester 1, N. FARMINGTON 4, H 3, 10, 5, 4-4; FERDALE HIGH 10, 13, 10, 5, 4-4

(F-11)

Seaholm clips HHS, 63-55

Despite a game high 21 points from Scott Hendries, Farmington Harrison dropped a 63-55 decision to Birmingham Seaholm in a non-league basketball game last Tuesday night in Birmingham.

The victory pushed Coach Bob Sherwood's Maples to 2-12 overall. Harrison owns a 5-4 overall mark.

Hendries scored his 21 points on 10 field goals and one of three free throws. Teammates Brian Burgess and Pat Driscoll each scored eight points.

Seaholm never trailed in the game, establishing a 22-12 lead after the first quarter and boosting the margin to eight points (34-26) at halftime. "We lost it in the first quarter," said Harrison Coach Mike Teachman. "We didn't come out ready to play."

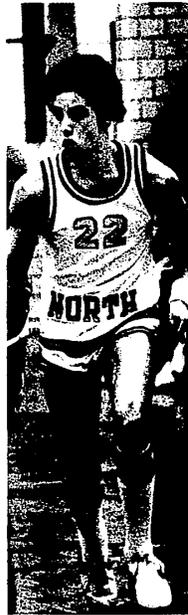
Harrison, which has a 2-3 record in the Western Six League, returns to

conference play on Friday (Feb. 3) at Northville High. Game time is 8 p.m.

Harrison WSL game against Waterford Mont., scheduled for last Friday, was a victim of the blizzard. The game will be played on Feb. 28 at Harrison. Waterford Township was to have played Farmington High last Friday. That game has been rescheduled for Feb. 15 at Farmington.

Winter trails are waiting for hikers

The nature trails at Kensington Metropark near Milford are open daily for self-guided hikes. Winter bird feeding stations, animal tracks and the Canada geese are popular attractions in winter. For details phone 688-1561 (Milford).



North Farmington's Mark Thompson provided four points to help the Raiders notch their 11th cage victory this season. North nipped Ferndale, 44-43, last Tuesday.



Harrison's Paul Butkunas (40) ties up an opponent during a recent game. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Tennis pro honored

By MARTY BUDNER

Joe Felice is a tennis professional who enjoys what he's doing.

Although he admits fame as an international touring player would be nice, Felice is content with his job as an instructor. The 32-year-old pro's teaching talents have been so widely recognized that he was recently honored as the Midwest's top teaching professional from Michigan.

The award is given annually by the United States Professional Tennis Association (USPTA)—the largest professional tennis association in the world. At its winter convention in Chicago last December, the USPTA cited Felice as an outstanding performer in his field.

"I've been involved with tennis for a long time, so it was quite an honor to receive the award," said Felice, who teaches adult and junior tennis classes in Troy and Birmingham during the winter months.

"I like teaching tennis, and I feel very fortunate to have a job that I enjoy so much. A lot of professional instructors come and go, but I feel that to be successful at tennis you have to enjoy what you're doing, and relay that pleasure to the people you're teaching.

"I give private lessons, and I also have a summer camp which is getting bigger each year," he said. "People hear about it mostly by word of mouth, and I think that is one of the best criteria for success."

LIKE MOST ATHLETES, Felice spent time participating in most all sports during his school days. At the age of seven, the Pennsylvania native was already hitting balls against the brick-walled school house near his home in the Penn State University town of State College.

By the time he entered high school, Felice was busy teaching his peers. Even at Penn State, where he captained the Nittany Lion tennis team for three seasons, Felice was more relaxed as a teacher than player.

"I started playing tennis in the local recreational programs," said Felice, who majored in health and physical education at Penn State. "I really had no formal instruction until I got into college."

Because he lived in such a rural area, Felice never had the opportunity to travel to major cities like Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and compete with the touring players.

"I really feel that I had the ability if I had more of a chance to play against

the top players when I was younger. There weren't any type of competitive programs in central Pennsylvania, so I spent more time teaching during the summer."

FELICE MIGRATED to Michigan in 1969 where he wandered into his first professional teaching job at the Franklin Racquet Club in Southfield. From there he went on to other jobs at the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club, Beverly Hills Racquet Club and the Birmingham and Troy tennis bubbles.

For the past five years, Felice's energy has been concentrated on a summer camp he operates at Hillsdale College. He helped build six tennis courts on the Hillsdale campus, and adults from as far away as Washington and Florida have drilled at his camp.

"It's (the camp) been very successful up to this point as we average about 30 to 40 people per week," said Felice. "The camp atmosphere is nice, and it's a nice change of pace from the hectic schedule during the winter months."

With all his efforts at teaching tennis in Michigan, Felice had done his share of promoting the sport to the level of popularity it enjoys today.



Joe Felice enjoys the busy life of a professional tennis instructor. (Staff photo by Charlie Kidd)

Mercedes-Benz

BUILT TODAY WITH TOMORROW IN MIND!

240 D
4 CYLINDER DIESEL

450 SL
CONVERTIBLE 4 HARTOP
8 CYLINDER GASOLINE

280 SE
6 CYLINDER GASOLINE

MICHIGAN'S LARGEST
FINEST EXCLUSIVE
MERCEDES-BENZ
DEALER

300 D
5 CYLINDER DIESEL

450 SEL
8 CYLINDER GASOLINE

AUTHORIZED
SALES • SERVICE • PARTS

280 E
6 CYLINDER GASOLINE

450 SLC
8 CYLINDER GASOLINE

ESTATE MOTORS, LTD.

464 SOUTH WOODWARD AVENUE
DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM

Mercedes-Benz **644-8400**

OPEN MONDAY AND THURSDAY EVENINGS UNTIL 9 P.M.