

Raiders rip Cody

By TOM BAER

It's time for North Farmington's basketball team to "go fish or cut bait" in the words of Raider coach Ken Dean.

Dean made that comment last Friday after his team finished its regular-season with a 16-2 overall record — the most successful basketball showing in the school's 17-year history.

North, playing in the Class A district at Detroit Henry Ford, had an easy time beating Detroit Cody, 86-69.

Tuesday in its state tournament opener. The victory advanced North to the district championship game tomorrow (March 9), and the opposition is sure to be as stiff as any North has faced so far.

Farmington Observer

SPORTS

Thursday, March 2, 1978

(FHC)

Waiting to face North Farmington will be either Detroit Mackenzie (16-2 regular-season record) of the Public School League, or Bloomfield Hills Laker (17-3) of the Metro Suburban Association.

"We're going to have to play one

hell of a game no matter which team we face on Friday," said Dean after the Cody game. "I hope we play as well on Friday as we did today."

North needed a big second half to defeat Cody. Coach Rob Menefee's Comets trailed by three points (42-39) at halftime. But North outscored Cody by eight (20-12) in the third quarter, and by six (24-18) in the fourth.

FOUR RAIDERS starters scored in double figures. Jeff Thomas, a 6-foot-5 senior, led the balanced attack with 20 points. Mark Biehl and Harold Beardsley, who form North's 6-7 front line, added 18 and 12 points, respectively, and Mark Thompson contributed 10.

Ozell Washington, a 6-1 senior forward, led Cody with 16 points. Darryl Blount added 16 points, and Lawrence Hicks had 14.

North shot 57 percent from the floor, making 33 of 58 shots, while Cody shot 40 percent (29 of 71). North controlled the boards, 38-23, with Thomas hauling down 18 rebounds and Biehl gathering in eight.

"Cody had a tendency to throw it up from the outside, and we were real good about blocking out when they missed," Dean said.

The district championship game begins at 3:30 p.m. on Friday. Henry Ford High School is located at 20000 Evergreen Road south of Eight Mile. The district champion will advance to the Class A regional at Livonia Franklin High School.

HARRISON 82 — WESTERN 84

FARMINGTON HARRISON (82) — Ron Brown 1, 0-0; Brian Burgess 8, 5-4; Paul Butkunas 6, 0-0; Tim Cady 1, 0-0; Pat Driscoll 0, 0-0; Scott Hendrix 4, 0-1; 6; Pete Lambert 1, 1-1; 5; Brad Herremans 0, 0-2; 2; Ed MacDonald 2, 0-0; Al Shay 10, 0-0; Dave Thompson 1, 0-0; 3. TOTALS: 24, 12-25.

WALLED LAKE WESTERN (84) — Marty Karczewski 2, 0-2; 1; Mike Bryant 2, 1-4; 5; Greg Stenkowski 3, 0-2; 5; Jim Seefeld 10, 6-4; 20; John Hunter 2, 0-1; 1; Mike Swanson 3, 2-2; 5; Jerry Trembley 0, 0-0; 1; Keith Johnson 1, 0-0; 2; Bob Rowland 0, 0-2; 2; Scott Perovich 2, 1-3; 5; John Meyer 1, 0-1; 2. TOTALS: 25, 18-31.

TOTAL FOULS — Harrison 24, Western 21. FOULED OUT: Butkunas (6); HARRISON 28 17 15 35 — 82 WESTERN 14 12 14 35 — 84

NORTH FARMINGTON (86) — Mark Thompson 2, 0-1; 1; Tim Mather 3, 2-2; 5; Jeff Thomas 8, 4-4; 20; Harold Beardsley 1, 0-0; 2; Mark Biehl 7, 4-4; 18; Mike Biehl 1, 0-1; 2; Tim Nutter 0, 0-0; 0; Mike Zemba 1, 0-0; 2; Brian Kalpa 0, 0-1; 0; Dieter Acker 0, 0-1; 1; Jeff Cline 1, 0-1; 2. TOTALS: 25, 20-25.

DETROIT CODY (69) — Darryl Blount 16, 8-15; Ozell Washington 7, 2-8; 16; George Wain 3, 0-0; 6; Greg Williams 2, 1-4; 5; Eric Witzel 0, 0-2; 13; Lawrence Hicks 5, 4-4; 16; George Perkins 0, 0-0; 0; Greg Adams 0, 0-0; 0. TOTALS: 26, 11-43.

FOULED OUT: Cody 20; N. Farmington 15. DETROIT CODY 26 22 23 28 — 69

Hawks' plan clicks

By TOM BAER

Basketball coach Mike Teachman seems to have hit on a winning combination at Farmington Harrison High.

"We've gone to an all-senior starting five, and they seem to get us off to a good start every game," said Teachman, who's in his first year as the Hawks' varsity coach. "And then the juniors and sophomores come in off the bench and make some big contributions."

That strategy worked last Monday when it counted the most — in the state tournament. Harrison dominated Walled Lake Western, 83-68, in the opening game of the Class A state district at Harrison.

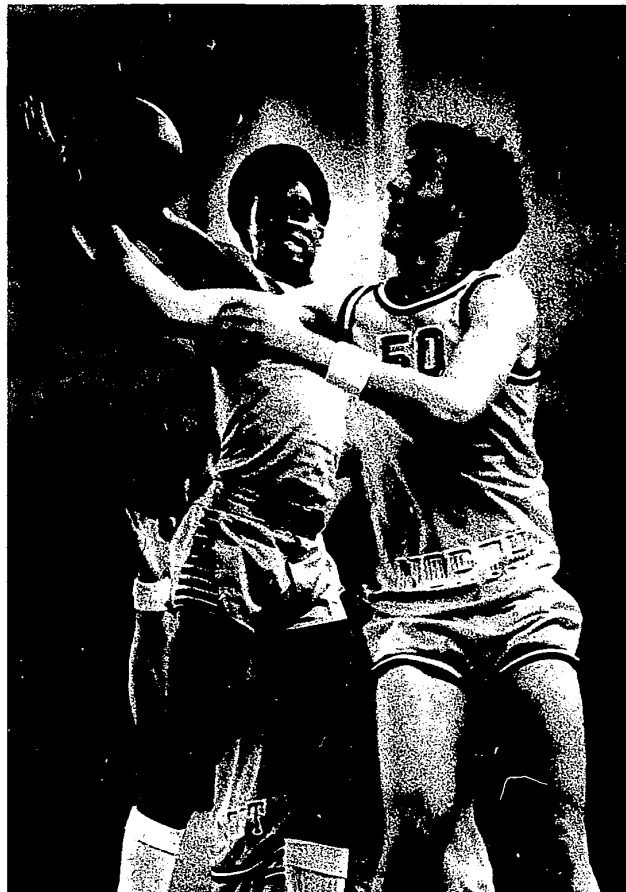
Early in the game, Al Shay, a 6-foot senior guard who has had some big scoring nights for Harrison, dropped in his first five shots from the field to put the Hawks up, 10-0. Shay, who was voted the squad's most valuable player by his teammates, finished with 20 points.

But it wasn't long before Teachman went to the bench and found sophomore Brian Burgess, who entered the game and made his "big contribution" — 21 points on eight field goals and five of six free throws.

Harrison center Paul Butkunas, who

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Detroit Southwest defeated Farmington Harrison, 83-79. Southwest will play West Bloomfield for the district championship at 7 p.m. Friday at Harrison.



North Farmington's Harold Beardsley (50) and Detroit Cody's Greg Williams eye the same rebound during Tuesday's district game. (Staff photo by Harry Maute)

FHS nipped in thriller

By TOM BAER

As long as Ali Ucar is hot, Birmingham Groves' basketball team will have to be reckoned with.

Ucar was blazing hot against Farmington High last Monday in the opening game of the Class A district at Berkley. The 6-foot-2 senior guard scored a game-high 31 points, pulled down 12 rebounds and passed off for eight assists as Groves rallied to down Farmington, 61-60.

Jay Schwalm, who has coached Groves to a 10-11 overall record this season, didn't spare the praise for his star player.

"We've played some excellent teams this season, and I've never seen a better guard than Ali," Schwalm said. "He's been scoring about 20 points per game. He leads the team in rebounds and assists. What more can I say?"

But Schwalm was quick to point out that Ucar wasn't the whole show against the stubborn Farmington club.

It took an 18-foot jump shot by substitute Mark Fletcher to put Groves ahead, 59-58, with 18 seconds left to play. Then Groves got the ball back on a costly Farmington turnover. Farmington had to foul, and it picked on Arnie Kander, a starting forward who hadn't scored in the game.

Kander dropped in both free throws to put Groves up by three (61-58) with 15 seconds left. Farmington's Rick McKibben hit a long jumper with six seconds left in the losing effort.

"FOR US, this was a real team effort," Schwalm said. "I know it looks kind of one-sided with Ali scoring 31, but our winning points came from people who hadn't scored in the game."

Schwalm might have mentioned substitutes Tom Fletcher (Mark's brother) and Jeff Forhan, who both played key roles in the victory. Tom Fletcher followed Ucar with 10 points, and Forhan added seven.

Farmington, which finished the season with an 8-13 record under first-year coach Rich Roy, got off to a slow start and trailed by nine points (36-27) at halftime. One problem was that McKibben, who was picked for the Inter Lakes League's all-conference team, was on the bench with three fouls.

McKibben re-entered the game in the second half, scoring 12 of his 17 points and giving Farmington some muscle on the boards. Farmington outscored Groves, 18-8, in the third quarter and continued to climb in the fourth, going up by seven (56-49) with 3:46 left to play.

Greg Kuhnlein displayed some hot outside shooting and kept Farmington from falling too far behind in the first half. He scored 10 of his team-high 22 points in the second quarter. Kevin Deip added six points for Farmington, and Jerry Krist had five.

"We lost it in the first half," Roy said. "I don't really know what happened to us. I'd like to know."

In the other district game at Berkley last Monday, Detroit Mumford defeated Berkley, 49-44.

Groves will play the winner of the Mumford-Berkley district game in the district championship contest on Friday beginning at 7:30 p.m.

GROVES 61 — FARMINGTON 60

BIRMINGHAM GROVES (61) — Arnie Kander 0, 0-0; Ali Ucar 31, 10-17; Harry Lieberman 8, 0-4; 4; Dan Berthel 1, 1-2; 3; Mark McManis 0, 0-0; 0; John Gabriel 0, 0-0; 0; Jeff Fortna 2, 0-2; 4; Tom Anderson 0, 0-0; 0; Ron Perovich 0, 0-0; 0; Mark Fletcher 1, 0-0; 2. TOTALS: 61, 19-30.

FARMINGTON (60) — Jim Rudy 1, 2-2; Mike Dink 1, 0-1; 2; Jerry Kader 1, 1-4; 5; Greg Kuhnlein 10, 2-12; 22; Rick McKibben 12, 3-17; 26; Kevin Deip 6, 2-4; 14; Tom Harrison 2, 0-0; 4; Mike Polyanov 0, 0-0; 0. TOTALS: 60, 15-32.

TOTAL FOULS — Farmington 28, Groves 18. FOULED OUT: None. GROVES 18 21 9 37 — 61 FARMINGTON 11 16 18 15 — 60



Farmington's Greg Kuhnlein (12) eyes the bucket against Birmingham Groves. (Staff photo by Harry Maute)



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