

Cagers adjust during break

By C.J. RISAK

There are three basic opinions among prep basketball coaches on how the Christmas holiday break should be used.

Many see the games played before the break as a kind of pre-season, a chance to get a team in shape for the upcoming league schedule. Therefore, the break is used to readjust the team and make any changes necessary to better the squad.

Other coaches feel playing is the only way to learn, so they get their teams into holiday tournaments and compete

right through the break. These coaches usually make sure their teams play the 20 regular season games allotted them under state rules.

The third opinion for coaches is rest. It's the last chance the team will get to have any kind of rest for the remainder of the season, with two games crowd-

Farmington Observer

SPORTS

Thursday, January 3, 1980

(F)1B

ing the schedule in every week until March.

Until this year, the three Farmington schools all participated in the Farmington Christmas Tournament. The tourney never was a big success — attracting small crowds — so this year it was cancelled.

Faced with a long vacation away from the courts, the three Farmington coaches — Rich Roy at Farmington, Mike Teachman at Farmington Harrison, and Ken Dean at North Farmington — all did something a little different with their teams.

FARMINGTON

"We've added a little bit, another offense," Roy said when asked how his team spent the vacation.

Farmington had a rough time in the first four games of the season, losing all four by a total of 11 points. It seemed as if it wasn't one part of Farmington's game that fell apart, it was another. But in each game something failed, and it cost the Falcons victories.

"We've played hard," Roy said about his team's performance. "Teams we've played have all been good."

Farmington, however, could have fared better. The team broke into the win column in its last game before the break, beating a previously undefeated Milford Lakeland team.

Free throws have been troublesome for the Falcons all year, but Roy thinks the team might have cured that ailment in the Lakeland contest.

"We always emphasized it (free throw shooting), they just haven't been falling for us. We shot 75 percent against Lakeland, though."

Roy says senior pivotman Ron Sarceovich has "done a tremendous job" for the Falcons, and despite the 1-4 record, he was not upset with his team's performance.

"I'm disappointed with the results, but all the kids have played hard. No one's quit or given up."

Roy picks Livonia Stevenson as the team to beat in the Inter Lakes League. The Falcons play at Plymouth Canton Friday at 8 p.m.

FARMINGTON HARRISON

Mike Teachman was pleased with his team's play in the first four games of the season. And he had good reason to be — they won three of the four.

"I felt we did extremely well," he said. "I feel we're right on base."

Teachman used the break to "get more defenses. I didn't want us to slip backwards and I wanted to develop the bench."

Harrison and North were two schools that participated in a 4½ hour scrimmage. When it was over, Teachman was happy with his team.

"I wouldn't be afraid to put anyone on the team in a game. We worked on solidifying our defense and making sure the ninth, 10th and 11th players know their roles as reserves."

Teachman has been especially pleased with the play of senior forward Brian Burgess thus far this season.

"You'd be hard pressed to find a better basketball player than Brian Burgess. He's willing to do anything for the team, including playing hurt — he's done that a lot this season."

"There may be better shooters or defensive players, but none are as complete as Brian."

"You may find a better player in the state, but you'd have to pay me \$10 to admit it."

Teachman was also happy with the floor play of Mike Cleary and the leadership of seniors D.J. Hochstein and Mike Tetreault.

As for the Western Six League, the race is "wide open," he said. Teachman, Harrison, 1-0 in the conference, could challenge for the title.

The Hawks are at Plymouth Salem Friday at 8 p.m.

NORTH FARMINGTON

North Farmington also had its problems in the first part of the season. The Raiders were beaten in three of four games, and the three losses came in games coach Ken Dean thought "we should have won."

"We were up in every game by eight or 10 points and we let them off the hook. We have to learn to keep our intensity."

The three losses were all by five points or less, including the final one against Garden City East, which went into overtime.

Despite the poor showing, Dean opted to let his team rest over the vacation. "I decided to let the team relax. We didn't have a practice until today," he said, referring to Monday's scrimmage with Harrison and Lakeland.

(Continued on page 3B)



"You'd be hard-pressed to find a better basketball player than Brian Burgess (No. 32)," says Harrison coach Mike Teachman.

YMCA tankers whip foe

Farmington's YMCA swim team, the Farmington Flyers, churned to their first dual meet win of the year by overpowering the Wayne-Westland YMCA Stingrays, 303-133.

Several swimmers in each age group turned in outstanding individual performances for the Flyers. For the 9- and 10-year-old boys, Fred Hoskins and Greg Pienia each won four events for the Farmington team.

The 13- and 14-year-old boys outscored the Stingrays by a 71-8 margin. Todd Stanton won the 100-yard butterfly. Nathan Hatton was first in the 100-yard breaststroke, while Scott Ferryby won every event he swam in.

Dawn Stanton qualified for state with a 1:15.23 clocking in the 15-18

girls' 100-yard butterfly. Stanton also teamed with Kim Courville, Sue Carney and Jenny Herzog to win the 15-18 girls' 200-yard medley relay (2:29.91).

The 8-and-under boys' 100-yard freestyle team of Mark Frazer, Furio Rossi, Luke Martindale and Brian Richardson were winners for the Flyers (1:38.67). Debbi Abad, Barb Zeno, Cindy Millstead and Jenny Smith combined to win the 9 and 10 girls' 100-yard freestyle (1:33.65).

The Flyers' 13 and 14 girls' 200-yard medley relay team of Lisa Stevens, Sue Herzog, Sabine Castlett and Jenny Hill were first (2:39.74).

The Flyers, now 1-0 on the season, have five more dual meets before the district and state championship meets.

Ice dancing team prepares for national meet

By C.J. RISAK

For Nancy Berghoff, every day is the same. An hour's drive to the ice skating rink, then a seven-hour workout. After that, another hour driving home for dinner, then off to classes at Oakland University at night.

It's a busy, disciplined schedule, but she doesn't mind. The rewards may be worth it.

Berghoff and her partner, Jim Bowser, are an ice-dancing team, one of 13 from across the nation that will compete in the National Championships in January. The top two teams in the nationals will represent the U.S. in the 1980 Winter Olympic games at Lake Placid, N.Y.

Berghoff doesn't think she will be one of the two teams to qualify for the Olympics.

"We think the very best we can do is place seventh," she said.

The reason for her outlook is simple: The judging in ice dancing, as in the other figure skating events (men's and women's singles and pairs), is often biased, she says. Once a team makes a name for itself, chances are they will score better.

Pairs and ice dancing are similar in Olympic competition, but there are differences. Pairs competition, according to Berghoff, is "more athletic. There are more jumps, and lifts can be over the head."

"In ice dancing, lifts are limited to

waist high. Ice dancing is more expressive, there's more technique involved. The judging is based on whose style is better."

BERGHOFF, a 1978 graduate of West Bloomfield High School, has been taking skating lessons since she was 12. She passed her Gold Dance test four years later, which allowed her to compete in the National Ice Skating championships in 1977. She and her partner finished 10th nationally.

In September 1978, Bowser and Berghoff met through their coaches, Sandra Hess and Peter Dalby, and decided to team up. Bowser, a native of Westland, got his start in roller skating but switched to ice skates after graduating

from high school.

Despite competing together in ice dancing for only a year, the pair managed to place third in the regionals (comprised of skaters from seven states) and fourth in the sectionals (skaters from 16 states).

The everyday routine is tedious, but it doesn't bother Berghoff. She has to pass only the last of nine tests to earn her gold singles rating. She doesn't plan on competing in singles in the future, but the rating may help her in the future when looking for a coaching job, she says.

Berghoff doesn't know how far she and Bowser can go in ice dancing, but their goals are clear.

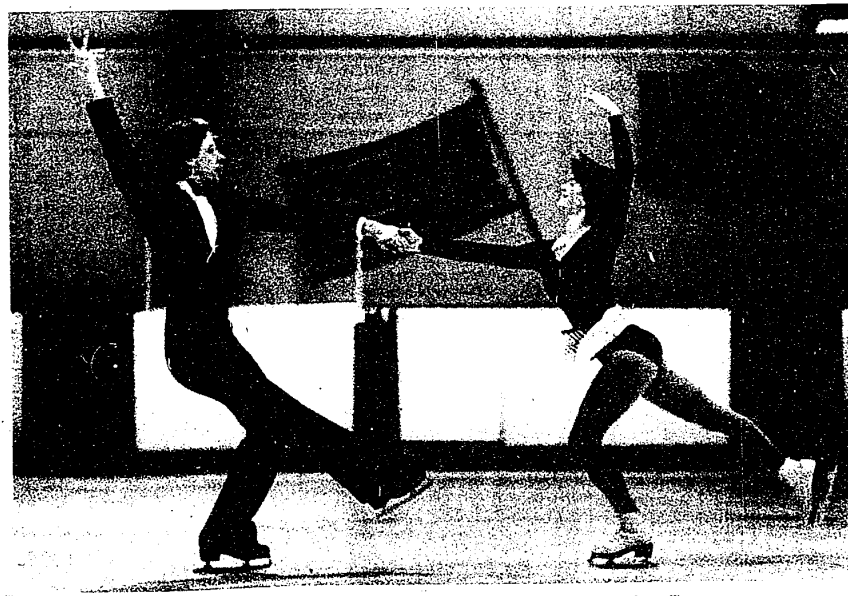
"Our aim is to eventually win the na-

tionals and get into world competition. We plan on staying together for at least a couple more years, to see how things go."

Berghoff and Bowser work out at the National Academy of Skating, located in Brownstown. They work closely with another ice-dancing team, Carol Fox

and Richard Dalley, who placed second in last year's nationals and are strong favorites for an Olympic berth.

It is unlikely Berghoff and Bowser will be among the top five finishers in the nationals. Judges are not known for rating unknown skaters very high. But the future may be different.



Nancy Berghoff and Jim Bowser whirl through a routine. (Staff photo by Steve Cantrell).

SIENA HEIGHTS COLLEGE

Southfield Center
21700 Northwestern Highway
offers
a Baccalaureate Degree
Completion Program in
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
AND MANAGEMENT
Program Features

- Designed to meet the needs of the Working Adult Student with all classes in flexible evening/weekend time frames.
- Program assumes that you have an Associates Degree in Business Administration and Management or its equivalent.
- Small class sizes; personal attention.
- Fully accredited program at reasonable costs.
- Skilled advisors who will assist you in receiving the maximum credit you are entitled to.
- Convenient location adjacent to Northland Shopping Center; excellent parking.
- A well-developed prior life experience learning program; credit awarded for AIB work and some company-sponsored training programs.

CLASSES BEGIN JANUARY 7

Call now (313) 569-6490

SOUND GOOD? IT IS!

GIVE US A LOOK