Ypsilanti whips Raiders in regional

It's all over for North Farmington

By C.J. RISAK

North Farmington's basketball season ended on a cold, blustery night of snow showers that left everything icy.

Everything but Ypsilanti's shooting.

From the middle of the second period on, Ypsilanti's cagers hit everything they put up, as they buried North, 84-63, in the state regional basketball tournament Wednesday night at Livonia Franklin.

The Raiders managed to stay with the quicker Ypsilanti squad for only the first quarter, as they trailed by only a 17-15 margin. But Ypsilanti started hiking in the second period, outscoring North, 18-4, in the first four-and-a-half minutes. By intermission, North trailed, 46-25, and it was just a matter of how much the final point spread would be.

"We handled the press very well in the first quarter," North Coach Ken Dean said. "We gave it a shot, but we were lacking their quickness."

That was North's biggest problem throughout the evening. Ypsilanti's quickness forced several Raider miscues that led to easy baskets for the opponents. Ypsilanti's lead just kept mounting and reached its high point at the 3:30 mark of the third quarter, when the score was 61-33.

For most of the contest, North tried to work the ball inside to its 6-foot-7-inch center, Mark Biehl. But that proved to be a futile gesture against the quick-handed Ypsilanti team, as it just resulted in more turnovers.

It seemed that there was very little Dean could do to help his team overtake Ypsilanti. By the final period, the only thing keeping the fans interest was whether or not any of the Ypsilanti players would satisfy the crowd with a slam-dunk.

There were several scoring heroes for Ypsilanti. Scott Robinson had eight first-quarter points and finished with 14. Spencer Gardner, a senior guard, had eight in the second period and was

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the contest's leading scorer with 24 points. Kelvin Patterson had 19 in the contest and Fred Cofield netted 10.

North was led by senior forward Mike Howley with 18 — 10 in the last quarter — and Biehl with 13. The loss left North with a final record of 15-9.

Dean wouldn't speculate on Ypsilanti's tournament chances, but did speak highly of the team that will meet Livonia Bentley for the regional crown Friday.

"They're quick, they rebound well, and they can shoot. It will take a pretty good team to beat them."

YPSILANTI 84 — North 63

YPSILANTI (84) — Fred Cofield 4, 2-2, 10, Spencer Gardner 11, 2-2, 24, Kelvin Patterson 8, 3-6, 19, Darrell Tipton 4, 1-2, 9, Scott Robinson 7, 0-1, 14, Ron Washington 1, 0-1, 2, David Jones 1, 0-0-2, Daddy Powell 1, 0-0, 2, Willie Taylor 0, 2-2, 2 TOTALS: 37, 10-16, 84

NORTH FARMINGTON (63) — Mike Howley 7, 4-4, 18, Rich Butler 4, 0-1, 8, Mark Biehl 5, 3-5, 13, Brian Bowditch 3, 0-1, 6, Ron Nutter 2, 0-1, 4, Bob Henderhan 1, 0-0, 2, Ron Fredericks 2, 4-5, 8, Craig Singleton 1, 2-2, 4 TOTALS: 25, 13-19, 63

TOTAL FOULS — Ypsilanti 18, North 14 FOULED OUT: None

YPSILANTI	17	29	21	17	— 84
NORTH FARMINGTON	15	10	19	19	— 63

North's Brian Bowditch glides in for a basket against Ypsilanti Wednesday night. North lost, 84-63. (Staff photo by Bob Woodring)

Falcon tankers 2nd in ILL

NF cops 7th-straight crown

By C.J. RISAK

The North Farmington and Farmington Harrison swim squads reached their goals last weekend, but Farmington's team fell a little short.

North continued its mastery of the Northwest Suburban League by winning its seventh straight league meet. Harrison, after losing all 16 of its dual meets during the season, accomplished something by finishing out of the cellar in the Western Six League and coming in fourth.

Farmington, however, saw its two-year domination of the Inter Lakes League come to an end, as the Falcons wound up second behind Livonia Stevenson.

Despite North's fine performance, none of its swimmers qualified for the state championship meet, which will be held this weekend at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

Farmington and Harrison each will have one swimmer in the finals: Harrison's John Rudel in the 500-yard freestyle and Farmington's Dave Uzelac in the 100-yard freestyle.

North had only two individual winners in its league ?s? :et, Gerry Highley in the 200-yard freestyle and Scott Whetter in the diving. But superior depth proved to be the difference for the Raiders.

"THAT HAS BEEN our strong suit all season," North Coach Pat Duthie said after the win. "We really don't have any outstanding kids, but our depth has made up for it all year."

It was an easy triumph for North, as it finished with 309 points, well ahead of host team Redford Union's 200. The Raiders strongest events were the 200-freestyle. Besides Highley's first, they also took second, third, and ninth.

In the 500-yard freestyle, the North tankers managed to come in second, third, fourth, and eighth.

Redford Thurston's Dave Miller was the only double winner of the meet, setting a conference record in winning the 200-yard individual medley (2:05.5) and taking a first in the 500-yard freestyle.

Farmington killed any hopes of a third consecutive title by getting disqualified in the meet's opening event, the 200-yard medley relay.

"That was about a 40-point swing," Farmington Coach Jack Merritt said about the disqualification. "It really took the wind out of our sails. It took us until the diving to recoup.

"Our entire team tapered well, they all bettered their times. And you couldn't really ask for more than that. But their kids (Stevenson) swam real well."

Stevenson, which hosted the meet, had 394 points to Farmington's 332.

Dave Uzelac was the top performer for the Falcons, capturing both the 50 and 100-yard freestyle events.

FOR HARRISON, IT helped end an otherwise disappointing year on the upswing. Rudel was one of the outstanding swimmers in the meet, winning the 200 and 500-yard freestyle events.

Canton, which took the team honors with 364 points, got an great performance from Paul Petersen. Petersen won the 100-yard fly and the 100-yard breast with two of the fastest times recorded in the state so far this season. The senior swimmer splashed to a 53.5 in the fly and a 1:01.78 in the breast.

Harrison's strongest events were the 200-yard freestyle, with Rudel winning and Al Laforet finishing second; the 500-yard freestyle, with Rudel again winning and Lenis Gilvydis coming in sixth; and the 400-yard freestyle relay, with the team of Laforet, Gilvydis, Al Babcock, and Rudel finishing second.

Rudel and Uzelac now move on to the state championship meet. Rudel's best effort in the 500-yard freestyle, 4:56.4, is two seconds ahead of the state qualifying time, but he has a ways to go to make the top 12.

Uzelac, who went 49.8 in the 100-yard freestyle in the league meet, will also have to drop considerably if he hopes to get into the top 12.

Meet summary

WSL LEAGUE MEET

TEAM FINISH — 1 Plymouth Canton, 364, 2 Northville, 372, 3 Wa'led Lake Western, 197, 4 Farmington Harrison, 137, 5 Livonia Churchill, 112

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY — Canton (Jeff Seipple, Paul Petersen, Ron Hurley, Dave Tanner), 1 44 75, Northville, Western, Churchill, Harrison

200-YARD FREESTYLE — John Rudel (Harrison), 1 49 82, Al Laforet (Harrison), Bob Simrak (Canton), Russ Gass (Northville), Keith Greenleaf (Canton), Troy Haarala (Canton)

200-YARD INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY — Bob Close (Canton), 2 07 12, Mark Hughes (Western), Tom Cahill (Northville), Hurley (Canton), Art Kranites (Western), Brad Kramer (Western)

50-YARD FREESTYLE — Tanner (Canton), 23 19, Tom Mihlfeld (Western), Mike Gaab (Canton), Rick Hergert (Northville), Dave Smith (Canton), Cahill (Northville)

DIVING — Paul Cooper (Northville), 333 20, Steve Gray (Canton), Gary Beaver (Northville), Burr Nau (Western), Dale Fisher (Northville), Greg Nixon (Western)

100-YARD FLY — Petersen (Canton), 53 5, Laforet (Harrison), Hurley (Canton), Hughes (Western), Kranites (Western), Russ Gass (Northville)

100-YARD FREESTYLE — Tanner (Canton), 50 61, Mihlfeld (Western Hergert (Northville), Gaab (Canton), Cahill (Northville), Smith (Canton)

500-YARD FREESTYLE — Rudel (Harrison), 5 00 22, Simrak (Canton), Greenleaf (Canton),Haarala (Canton), Char Ramsey (Northville), Lenis Gilvydis (Harrison)

100-YARD BACK — Mike Sietz (Livonia Churchill), 59 56, Cline (Canton), Brady Kramer (Northville),Al Babcock (Harrison), Steve Bramble (Churchill), Seipple (Canton)

100-YARD BREAST — Petersen (Canton), 1 01 78, Cahill (Northville), Tony Nader (Northville), Brian Bell (Western), Ken Groth (Churchill), Dan McMann (Northville)

400-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY — Canton (Smith, Gaab, Simrak, Cline) 3 29 11, Harrison, Western, Northville, Churchill

North gymnasts triumph

North Farmington's girls gymnastics team qualified for the high school state meet with a victory in the regional tournament last weekend at Troy Athens. Kathy Temple was the all-around winner for North, with Sue Casillo fourth and Diane McClain (pictured above) fifth. North will now travel to Spring Arbor College in Spring Arbor for the state championships on Saturday. (Photo by Randy Borst)

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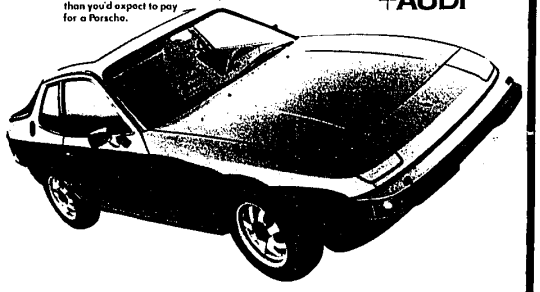

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