

North gymnasts swing past Harrison



North Farmington's Kim Edwards won two events, including the balance beam, to help the Raiders defeat Farmington Harrison in a girls' gymnastics meet Monday.

North Farmington's girls' gymnastics team, with Kim Edwards winning two events, upped its record to 5-0 last Monday with a 113.70-88.15 win over Farmington Harrison.

Edwards won balance beam (7.85) and floor exercise (7.8) and earned third places in vaulting (7.25) and uneven parallel bars (7.75).

North's Alyene Wolf won vaulting (8.10) and finished second on bars (7.85), beam (6.55) and floor (7.4). Sharon Shifra, also of North, had a first on bars (8.30) and a second in vaulting (7.95).

Harrison's Anna Mele placed third on beam with a score of 6.50. North Farmington hosts Birmingham Seaholm at 7 tonight. On Monday, Harrison is home to Walled Lake Central and North Farmington travels to Walled Lake Western.

SOUTHFIELD-LATHRUP'S Susan Bennett won two events and placed second in two others in the Chargers' 100.95-68.75 victory over Rochester Adams last week. Lathrup is 2-1.

Bennett had firsts in vaulting (8.0) and balance beam (6.95) to go with seconds on uneven parallel bars (7.2) and floor exercise (6.8). Teammates Laura Scheetz and Sarah Brock won bars (7.85) and floor (7.3), respectively.

Adams' best performance came on the beam, where Nancy Turner finished fourth with a score of 6.2.

On Thursday, Adams hosts Royal Oak Dondero, and Lathrup competes at Troy Athens. Both meets have 7 p.m. starts.

ROCHESTER HIGH improved its record to 5-1 Monday with a 106.65-72.00 victory over Ferndale.

Christy Machovec, who took first in

all four events last week against Berkeley, turned the trick against Ferndale. Machovec was first on the vault (7.50), uneven parallel bars (7.50), the balance beam (7.55) and the floor exercise (8.35).

Georgia Fisher, Dawn Bodrie, Mindy Morley and Jenny Kendall each took a second place for the Falcons gymnasts.

Tuesday, the Falcons host Fraser at 7 p.m.

IN BOYS' GYMNASTICS, Lathrup dropped a 110.14-90.45 decision to Ionia last week despite six first places by Charger Brad Horowitz. Lathrup has a 1-2 record.

Horowitz won floor exercise (7.45), pommel horse (6.45), still rings (7.95), vaulting (8.60), parallel bars (7.8) and horizontal bars (6.75).

Lathrup's boys have a 7 p.m. meet at Ann Arbor Pioneer on Thursday.

Hawks dominate Redford Union

Farmington Harrison opened up a 34-22 halftime lead Tuesday night, and kept in front of Redford Union the rest of the way to post a 63-48 non-league basketball victory.

Coach Mike Teachman's Hawks, now 10-3 on the season, led 48-36 after three quarters.

Senior 6-4 forward Steve Hollatz played a complete game for Harrison, as he led all scorers with 18 points, hauled down 16 rebounds, and tied a school record with six blocked shots. Mike Turnquist also tied a school basketball record as he dished out 13 assists.

Senior guard Gus Kehagias added 14 points, while Turnquist chipped in with six. Paul Crider led Redford Union (1-11) with 16 points.

Friday, Harrison is home to Livonia Churchill.

NORTH FARMINGTON 55 BRIGHTON 43

The North Farmington Raiders improved their overall record to 8-3 Tuesday night, with a 55-43 non-league victory over Brighton.

The Raiders, led by Bill Gravius' 16 points, made their 29-16 halftime lead too much of an obstacle for Brighton to overcome.

Mark Bowditch added 12 points for North Farmington, and Tom Rennard scored 10. Gravius pulled down eight rebounds for the Raiders, who also won the battle of the boards, 36-14.

Greg Young led Brighton with 20 points.

Friday, the Raiders host Redford Union.

FARMINGTON 45 CHURCHILL 41

Paul Kobel scored 17 points and Mark Orlando added 11 as Farmington



Mike Teachman Harrison basketball coach

defeated Livonia Churchill, 45-41, Tuesday night.

The Falcons led, 7-6, after one quarter, 24-20 at the half, and 34-24 after three quarters. Despite a 17-11 scoring advantage by the Chargers in the fourth quarter, Farmington managed to hang on and post the four-point win. Friday, Farmington hosts Waterford.



Brad Emons

Few plush deals for JUCO stars

Junior college basketball.

It's not highly publicized and often gets a bad rap.

The players are usually college rejects. They're either not good enough physically or have bad academic backgrounds.

Some are forced to play junior college ball because they're mavericks — unable to fit into the simplest of systems.

In Rick Telander's book "Heaven is a Playground," stories revealed how players without high school diplomas were easily admitted into success-hungry two-year institutions.

And once you get there, basketball is the only thing that matters. Attending class is an afterthought.

Some programs fit that bill. Others, fortunately, do not.

SCHOOLCRAFT, OAKLAND: St. Clair, Henry Ford and Washinaw offer basketball programs to athletes who want to stay close to home. But of the four, Henry Ford is the only school known to have lodged athletes. And that was off campus.

A majority of the nation's top 20 junior college teams have housing facilities to entice quality talent.

Spencer Haywood started out at Trinidad (Col.). Bob McAdoo from North Carolina, Foots Walker from Georgia and Rickey Green from Chicago made their mark at Vincennes of Indiana.

Michigan's top team the past few years has been Jackson CC, a modern collection of buildings and dormitories in the county just outside the city limits. Head coaches Dick Versace (Bradley) and Alan Van Winkle (Southern Illinois) made the jump into big-time coaching after "paying their dues" at Jackson.

THE SCHOOL has been and continues to be a training ground for some of the best NCAA Division I and II teams in the country. Players come from all walks of life and from all parts of the United States.

This year's star is Bryan Kirkland out of Los Angeles Morningside High, who signed with MSU but couldn't be admitted because of academic deficiencies.

Jed Heathcote, the Spartan coach, had Kirkland enroll at Jackson so he could keep his eye on him the next two years.

On the other side of the coin, Schoolcraft coach Rocky Watkins and OCC's Leonard Cole both rely on commuters to build their basketball programs.

Watkins is not a full-time Schoolcraft faculty member. He's earned his money working the past 20 years in the Detroit Fire Department. Coaching basketball on the junior college level is a labor of love. An avocation.

A FEW of my misconceptions were erased recently when I went to see Schoolcraft, the Eastern Conference leaders, battle at nationally ranked Jackson, the Western Conference favorite.

It was bitterly cold that day. A majority of Watkins' team lives in the inner city, and some were unable to start their cars.

One player, in fact, told the coach he was going to be late because he was stranded at Willow Run airport. But later he was able to find other means of transportation and made it to the game.

I FOUND out that another Schoolcraft player, who lives on the east side, takes a bus each morning to get to school because he can't afford to buy a car. Despite the obstacles, he makes all the games and practices.

After that Sunday game, won incidentally by Jackson 78-72, I came away even more impressed with what Schoolcraft was doing on the basketball floor under the direction of Watkins and assistant Danny Williams.

I saw a well-conceived offense and hustling defense. The team showed discipline, and the coach was well in command.

There was no backtalk on the bench. Players came out of the game if the offense wasn't executed.

Meanwhile, the talent-laden Jackson team was far less disciplined. One player tried a dunk shot that carried out of bounds as his team tried to protect a four-point lead with less than two minutes to go.

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