

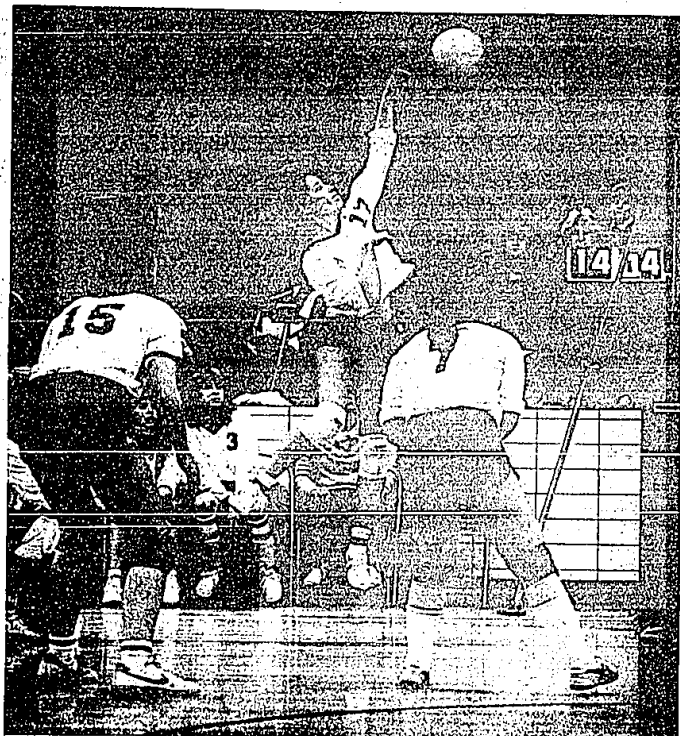
Sports

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(F17A)



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Farmington's Jill Waterman (No. 17) takes a set from Tara Twomey (No. 7) and hammers a ferocious left-handed kill at Harrison last Friday. The

Falcons, thanks to the strong play of Waterman, defeated the Hawks in three games, but lost two straight to North Farmington.

Raiders rule city

Weary North spikers capture 4th-straight Farmington crown

By Chris McCosky
staff writer

North Farmington volleyball coach Sandy Lubieniecki decided to give her team the weekend off. No practice, no tournaments, no volleyball.

In the previous nine days, the Raiders had played 11 matches. They won the Andover-Labser tournament a week ago Saturday. They played in a tri-meet on Monday, a league match on Wednesday and the Farmington City Championship Tournament on Friday.

All that was during final exam week. It seems they had a little vacation time coming.

Lubieniecki's weary band of Raiders, rated No. 10 in the state by the Michigan High School Coaches Association, embarked on their brief hiatus after winning their fourth straight Farmington city title.

But, was it ever a struggle.

THE RAIDERS went to three games with Farmington Harrison, before winning the match, 15-6, 11-15, and 15-9. Then they defeated the host team, Farmington, 15-12, 15-4.

In the first match, Farmington defeated the Hawks, 15-11, 4-15, 15-4.

"This was a very tired team out here," said Lubieniecki. "But, you know, they just won't get down on themselves. They just keep coming back."

Harrison came into the tournament with the worst record of the three teams (1-4), but played both Farmington and North right down to the wire.

"We are coming on all the time," said coach Ron Shortt. "We were inconsistent at times, but we keep getting more consistent with every game."

The Hawks got strong play from Karen Sklar, Deanie Kool, and Jennifer,

Hughes throughout both matches.

After splitting the first two games against Farmington, the team Shortt coached last year, the Falcons raced ahead 4-0 in the finale on the strength of two spikes by Kool.

THEN LAURA Varty began to serve for the Falcons. By the time she had finished, the Falcons had reeled off 15 straight points and the match was over — 15 straight points were scored off

Varty's serves. Jill Waterman accounted for seven of those 15 points with vicious spikes.

It was the same story for the Hawks against North: close but no cigar.

North took control of the first game with four straight service winners by Patti Kozicki. Sklar returned the favor in game two, serving five straight winners. She also made four successful spikes and three blocks pacing the Hawks' 15-11 win.

North outlasted Harrison in the finale. With the North leading 11-9, Mary Kozicki boomed four straight winning serves to put the Hawks away. Linda Rennard played an excellent match for North, as did Brooks Landback, Donna Konjarevich and Suzette Greenberg.

That set the stage for the Farmington-North championship. The last team to win the city title, besides North, was Farmington in 1980.

TRAILING 4-2, Farmington's Laura Spence served five straight winners to put the Falcons up 7-4. Waterman, again, was doing most of the heavy work both in the backcourt and at the net.

Farmington soon increased its lead to 12-5 after four straight winners served by Mary Ann Kwasniewicz, two points scored on Varty spikes.

At this point, Lubieniecki made a pivotal substitution. She inserted 6-foot junior Julie Pistole who immediately made a block to get the serve back.

Then Patti Kozicki, a thunderous server, scored eight points in a row, four on service aces. Pistole added a

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Raider cagers on roll

Those who counted the North Farmington basketball team out after its 1-6 start are now hoping they will be able to digest their words.

The Raiders won their fourth straight game Friday night, blitzing lowly Livonia Franklin 67-50 in a Northwest Suburb League contest.

"I feel real good about it," said North coach Tom Negoshian. "We are showing a lot of poise and playing hard."

Junior Bob Chawlik was sensational. He scored a season-high 29 points and grabbed 15 rebounds. Sophomore Rick Anderson scored 23 points and pulled in 10 rebounds for the Raiders.

The score was 39-30 at the half and North erased all doubt with a 14-4 third-quarter spurt.

"They are really getting better," said Franklin coach Jim McIntyre. "They are doing things we should be doing now."

Negoshian said his team's turnaround was partly due to the maturity of his backcourt, Rick Penna and Steve Bamback.

"They are really providing a lot of leadership and they are making much better decisions," Negoshian said.

North is now 4-5, 3-2 in the NSL. Franklin is now 0-5, 2-8 overall.

BENTLEY 58, FARMINGTON 54: Livonia Bentley held off Farmington down the stretch to score a Western Lakes basketball win Friday night.

The Bulldogs, 3-6 overall, led 24-19 at the half and 39-32 at the end of three quarters. The host Falcons, winless in league play, got as close as three points in the final quarter, but Bentley weathered the rally.

"We overcame adversity," said Bentley coach Tom Niemi. "When they made a couple of runs at us, we held them off. I'm pleased with the win."

Bentley's 6-foot-8 center Phil Graczyk, who came alive in the second half, led all scorers with 22 points and 14 rebounds. Marv Rons added 15 points and 10 rebounds while John White contributed seven assists.

Farmington was led by Tim Carruthers, who pumped in 20 points. Greg Feenstra added 10.

"Our shooting was not very good," said Farmington coach Richard Roy, whose team is 1-8 overall.

"We were playing better defense earlier in the year, too. Fifty-four (points) is as many as we've scored all year."

"We were in it, we didn't play badly again."

NORTHVILLE 45, HARRISON 40: It's getting a bit frustrating. The Hawks, again, played well enough to win a ballgame Friday night only to come up short.

The Hawks led by a point, 20-19, at the half. But a bad third quarter led to their downfall. The Hawks got off just eight shots in that quarter, made three of them, and committed six turnovers. Northville outscored Harrison 14-7 in the quarter to take command of the game.

"The Northville coach (Tim Lutes) came over after the game and shook my hand. He said we should

have won the game, we outplayed them," said Harrison coach Mike Teachman.

The Hawks pulled within two points with two minutes left in the game. Northville went to the line and missed a pair of free throws, but the rebound bounced away and the Mustangs retained possession and led the win.

Harrison got 14 points, 10 rebounds, three assists and four steals from John Miller. Vince Enright added 11 points and seven rebounds.

The Hawks were without the services of point guard Brian Hickey, who is out with an ankle injury.

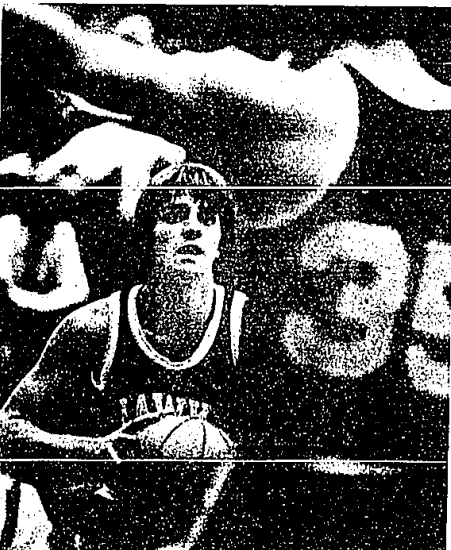
Steve Schrader led Northville with 18 points.

Steve Frellick added 12.

Harrison is now 2-7 on the season, 1-8 in the Western Lakes. Northville is 6-4 overall, 3-4 in the league.

"I feel real good about it. We are showing a lot of poise and playing hard."

—Tom Negoshian
North coach



BILL BRESLER/staff photographer

Dave Quarles, pictured above against Canton, and his Hawk teammates are wondering what they have to do to win.

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