

NSL welcomes new members

By Brad Emone
staff writer

Although battered and bruised, the Northwest Suburban League (NSL) is alive and kicking.

On Thursday, principals and athletic directors from Garden City, Redford Union, Dearborn, Dearborn-Edsel Ford and Woodhaven met to launch the five-school league, which will be in operation during the 1985-86 school year.

"It's close to being final without being final," said RU athletic director Bob Atkins. "The best analogy I can draw is that we're in the process of crossing the T and dotting the I's."

Presently, the Northwest Suburban League (NSL) consists of six schools — Garden City, Redford Union, Redford Thurston, Livonia Franklin, Westland John Glenn and North Farmington.

However, the latter three schools (Franklin, Glenn and North) are joining the 12-team, two-divisional Western Lakes Activities Association (WLAA) next year.

Left with only nine schools because of the impending closing of Livonia Bentley this summer,

Falcons get split on mat

The Farmington wrestling team split a pair of matches Tuesday, falling to Walled Lake Western 39-24, and whipping Pontiac Northern 41-21.

The Falcons could muster just 6 victories against host Western. Dave Hovey remained unbeaten at 105 pounds by pinning Kevin Faust in 1:54.

Mike Cody defeated Paul Clove in 1:38, 13-6.

The Falcons remained unbeaten at the 155 and 167 weights. Dave Cunningham (155) beat Mickey Hamilton, 2-1 and Ab Hazen stunk Jason Nichols in 57 seconds.

At 198, Dan Parillo nailed John Holyfield in 1:03. Heavyweight Bill Critcher won by a void.

The Falcons dropped just 3 weights to Pontiac Northern, though one of the losses was a major upset. Parillo was outpointed by Northern's Pat Smith, 10-6.

Mike Stern (98), Hovey (105), Mike Papp (112), Mark Pallo (119), Jason Forge (126), Darrell Tharnish (132), Cunningham (155), Hazen (167) and Critcher (heavyweight).

Hovey, Papp, Tharnish, Hazen and Critcher all pinned their opponents.

The Falcons, 2-1, will host Northville tonight.

OU eagers on 4-game tear

Is it luck or is this the real Oakland University mens basketball team?

First-year coach Greg Kampe made no promises when he took the position. He couldn't be sure what kind of team he'd have, but so far there's no argument with the results.

How good have the Pioneers been? Good enough to win their fourth-straight game Saturday, and that on a 25-foot desperation shot Rob Skinner wasn't supposed to take.

Skinner's basket at the buzzer lifted OU to a 49-47 win at Northern Kentucky and boosted it to 4-1 for the season. Defense was again the key to the Pioneers' success. They limited the Kentucky team to just 36 percent of its field goal tries while they hit on 20 of 40 from the floor.

NKU led 26-25 at the half and increased that margin to 43-37 with three minutes left. But the Pioneers battled back to tie it at 47-all, setting up the dramatic finish.

An NKU turnover gave OU possession with seven seconds left. Kampe called for an inbound play designed for Chris Howze — who finished with 17 points. But NKU was not yet in the penalty, so Howze was fouled before shooting and with just three seconds left, OU had the ball out of bounds again.

This time the inbound play to Howze failed, so the pass went instead to Skinner, who sunk the game-winning from the left side of the key. Skinner collected 13 points, 5 assists and 5 rebounds in the contest.

Randy Strunk added 8 points, Walt Dixon had 6 points and 5 rebounds and Scott Bittinger dished out 5 assists. Dan Fleming topped NKU with 17 points.

OU is now idle until Dec. 21, when it hosts Quincy College.

OU WOMEN STUMBLE

Poor shooting was too much a handicap for OU's women eagers to overcome Saturday, as they dropped a 53-52 contest at Indiana Tech.

The loss was the Pioneers second straight. Last Tuesday, they were edged by Eastern Michigan 63-60.

OU took 66 shots at the basket against Indiana Tech but hit on just 24 (37 percent). The Pioneers' frustration was evident everywhere, from sharpshooting guard Toni Gasparovic's dismal showing (0-for-8 from the field) to the limited scoring of Brenda McLean (3 second-half points) and Kim Nash (2 second-half points).

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the WLAA expanded by adding the NSL, taking the three schools mentioned above, but leaving out GC, RU and Thurston.

"I THINK this (the new NSL) is good because it's a group of similar schools," said Garden City principal Ron Cowden. "There's been good cooperation and I think down the line it will work."

When the old Suburban Eight League folded in 1981, Dearborn and Edsel Ford became independent. Woodhaven, also an independent, was formerly a member of the 4-team Metro West Conference.

As for Thurston, the NSL's only Class B school (enrollment 569 to 1,134 students), the school will join the eight-team Tri-River League next season.

(1985-87), Atkins said.

"But we don't want to be guilty of what happened to us," cautioned Cowden. "We don't want to break

up a league, but I anticipate we'll have a sixth school. There has been some conversation already."

Atkins said that the new NSL will operate under full league schedule in all sports next year with the exception of football, which will commence during the 1986-87 school year.

FORTUNATELY, according to Atkins, all of next year's non-league football dates have been filled at RU with the exception of the sixth week. The RU athletic director also added that GC has also completed eight of nine football dates for next season.

"I have 19 girls basketball and 19 boys basketball games lined up," Atkins said. "We're very fortunate in that respect."

According to Atkins, league principals will meet again on Jan. 8 and league ADs will get together on Jan. 10.

Thursday, December 13, 1984 O&E (F9C)

Raiders win 2nd straight

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West Bloomfield (0-2). Farmington is 1-1.

N. FARMINGTON 62, W.L. CENTRAL 52: This was a crucial test for the Raiders and they passed it with flying colors.

This was to be one of big question marks," said coach Tom Negosian. "We were playing on the road, against a big, well-coached team. We feel real good about this win."

As was the case in North's opener, Bob Chwalik was the big man. He scored 22 points and grabbed 10 rebounds. He helped North to a 26-13 edge in rebounds.

The Raiders are 2-0.

"We played just a terrible first half," Farmington coach Richard Roy said. "We woke up some in the second half."

Trailing 29-18 at the half, Roy deployed a full court man-to-man press that eventually wore West Bloomfield down. The Falcons outscored the Raiders 10-4 in the fourth quarter.

Matt Lundh played a prominent role in the Falcon comeback. He pulled down 10 rebounds in the game, 8 in the second half.

"This was a very good win for us," Roy said. "We played a great second half."

Warnicke led all scorers with 17 for

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