

Raiders come up flat in NSL showdown

The Garden City High School volleyball team took sole possession of first place in the Northwest Suburban Activities Association last week with a convincing 15-9, 15-7 win over North Farmington.

Garden City (28-6 overall and 7-0 in the league) controlled both games more easily than coach Tom Teeters figured. "North Farmington did not play its best game and we played really well," Teeters said. "We still have to play them again and I'm sure they'll be a bit more prepared this time around."

North Farmington coach Sandy Lubienicki agreed with Teeters' assessment.

"We played so flat it was sad," she said. "We were mentally ready to play. The kids were fired up. But, we hadn't

played since last Wednesday and we just just couldn't get it together physically."

For Garden City, Sue Cyrus and Laura Surma combined for 7 kills in the first game and Nikki Stubbs provided 3 service aces.

In the second game, Karen Fels and Stubbs did a good job of setting while Missy Ward did the hitting. Katrina Wallace was the standout server in the second game.

Suzette Greenberg played outstanding in the back row for North making 8 digs. Julie Pistole had 7 blocks at the net.

"We're not out of it yet," said Lubienicki. "I told the kids before the match that even if we won, we wouldn't clinch anything."

volleyball

North Farmington is 6-1 in league play, 21-6 overall. GC will host the Raiders tonight at 7 p.m.

FARMINGTON HARRISON battled back from the brink of defeat Thursday night to upend an improving Farmington team, 12-15, 16-14, 15-2.

After winning game one, Farmington had match point, 14-10, in game two. But, the Falcons were called for a net violation and Harrison reeled off 6 straight points.

"The momentum really switched af-

ter we were called in the net," said Farmington coach Kim O'Neill. "I knew after that second game it would be really hard to come back in the third game."

Harrison, led by Jennifer Hughes and Diana Radtke, raised its Western Lakes mark to 5-3, 12-7 overall.

For Farmington (5-15), it was the second straight heartbreaker.

Livonia Stevenson, Observerland's No. 1-ranked team, defeated Farmington Wednesday night in three games,

15-11, 11-15, 15-4.

"We're playing much better," said O'Neill. "We're starting to put it together as a team. I know we had the talent, we just weren't able to put it together."

A pair of sophomores have led the Falcon resurgence. Lori Casaroli and Jenny Zuhorski have provided a big spark to the team. Against Stevenson, Casaroli nailed 9 points off her serve to help Farmington's win in game two. Zuhorski has given the Falcons a much-needed boost at the net.

Laura Spence, Jenny Wischmeyer, Mary Ann Kwasniewski, Jenny Lindbert and Pam Faulkner have also improved their play.

The Falcons will travel to Walled Lake Central on Monday. Harrison travels to Livonia Churchill.



Rally-busters

Lady Pioneers squelch Lakers

Brenda McLean sank a pair of crucial free throws with 9 seconds left in regulation to force overtime, then scored the first 2 baskets of the extra period to propel Oakland University's women to an 85-73 triumph over visiting Lake Superior State Thursday.

McLean enjoyed her best day of the season. The senior standout scored 25 points, a season high, grabbed 12 rebounds and made 5 steals.

OU was in command at the half, leading 37-28. The Pioneers expanded that to 52-41 with 11:50 left, but the Lakers charged back with a 15-4 spurt to tie it at 56-56.

OU sports

Lake Superior was up 70-66 with 1:23 left. Sarah Knuth's jumper with 31 seconds on the clock cut the deficit to 2, and McLean's free throws tied it. Lake Superior could have led it, but Erica Lady missed the first shot in 2 1-and-1 free throw tries and Deb House missed once.

After McLean scored early in OT,

the Pioneers were never threatened as they outplayed Lake Superior 15-3.

Kim Nash added 11 points, 12 rebounds and 5 assists for OU, with Margaret Boyle scoring 12 points, Toni Gasparovic 11 and Pam Hawkins 10.

House's 22 points topped Lake Superior, with Veronica Schimp adding 12.

OU is 12-13 overall and 7-6 in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC). The Lakers are 13-11 overall and 5-9 in the GLIAC.

OU'S MENS team fought back from a 9-point deficit with 4:10 left to take a 1-point lead on Scott Bittinger's jumper, but Mike Brennan hit a short jumper with 4 seconds remaining to lift Lake Superior to a 65-64 victory Thursday at OU.

Falcons splash Chiefs

How strong is the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes swim conference? Consider this. Farmington is the third best team in the Lakes behind Stevenson and Plymouth Salem.

On Tuesday, Farmington defeated the Western Division champion Northville, 87-82. Then last Thursday, the Falcons beat the second place Western team, Plymouth Canton, 93-76.

The Falcons won both meets despite having to yield 13 points to their opposition because of a broken diving board in the Farmington pool.

Against Canton, Jay Weaver won a pair of events. He took the 100 yard freestyle (51.0) and the 100 backstroke (1:01.2).

Chris Inch won the 200 individual medley in 2:15.72. Adam Krause took the 500 freestyle (5:19.0) and Chris Tellerico won the 100 breaststroke (1:07.5).

swimming

Doug Riccio, Tellerico, Eric Davis and Rich Galat combined on a 1:52.13 in the 200 medley relay. Inch, Krause, Davis and Kurt Einhaus went 3:36.2 to win the 400 free relay.

For Canton, John Ahrens won the 200 free (2:02.12), Jim Casler won the 50 free (24.13) and Dean Roberts won the 100 butterfly (1:02.50).

Farmington is now 8-4 this season. Canton falls to 6-6.

NORTH FARMINGTON rolled to a pair of easy wins in its final two dual meets of the season last week.

On Tuesday, the Raiders whipped Novi 105.5-66.5. Thursday, the Raiders

finished off their unbeaten Northwest Suburban League season with a 114-88 thrashing of Westland John Glenn.

North is now 12-0-1 overall. Brian Goins, Mike Turney and Mike Buatti led the way against Glenn with two wins each.

Goins captured the 500 free (4:58.2) and the 200 free (1:49.1).

Turney won the 200 IM (2:06.1) and the 100 butterfly (55.0).

Buatti took the 50 free (23.1) and the 100 free (50.1, his best this season).

Dave Petterson won the backstroke for North with a 1:02.1. He also swam the first leg of North's victorious medley relay. He, along with Chris Heitzman, Turney and Dan Mannisto went 1:49.1.

Buatti, Craig Burland, Mannisto, and Goins won the 400 free relay in 3:30.4.

St. Mary to host NLCAA tourney

Orchard Lake St. Mary's cage record may not be as sparkling as in the past, but that won't keep the Eagles from scoring into a post-season tournament.

True, their 8-16 mark won't earn them a bid to the NAIA tourney, which they've qualified for in each of the past two seasons. But this season, St. Mary's will be hosting a post-season event.

The NLCAA, or National Little College Athletic Association, has chosen the Eagles' Dombrowski Fieldhouse as the site of its Michigan regional. Four teams, including St. Mary's, will vie for a berth in the NLCAA's national tournament, to be in Omaha, Neb., in March.

JOINING ST. MARY'S in the Michigan regional are Michigan Christian, one of the few junior colleges in the NLCAA, Jordan College of Flint and Nazareth College, located in Kalamazoo.

The tournament's first round will be Friday, March 1, with games at 7 and 9 p.m. The championship will be at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 2. The tourney draw will be Feb. 25.

The NLCAA tournament is open to all colleges with a full-time enrollment under 800. St. Mary's has 410 students.

"If it was a high school, it would be like Class C," said St. Mary's coach Tim Domke. "Anybody (who meets requirements) in the state can get in it, but they have to pay a fee. A lot of schools who know they can't win it don't enter."

THAT'S NOT the case with St. Mary's. Despite their poor record, the Eagles have played a formidable schedule that includes a bundle of Division II and NAIA powers.

Approximately 90 schools nationwide are NLCAA members. Many, like St. Mary's, are affiliated with both the NAIA and NLCAA.

"You can't play in two national tournaments," said Domke. "We opted for the NAIA the last two years. It's more prestigious, there are bigger schools in it."

Schools must decide in January what tournament they will compete in, be it the NAIA, NCAA Division II or NLCAA.

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