

Harrison edges RU

Farmington Harrison held off stubborn Redford Union in a non-league basketball game on Tuesday, 69-63.

The win increases Harrison's overall record to 10-9, while host Redford Union, which has dropped nine straight, fell to 3-12.

Twelve of 13 Harrison players scored, but the Hawks needed a free throw by Mike Koroly in the final 10 seconds to clinch the victory.

Koroly finished with 11 points, while Chad Burgess led the Hawks with 13. Brad Ridgeway, the Hawks' 6-foot-9 center, was limited to seven points, but he did block seven shots.

"We did a good job on him (Ridgeway) — we practiced to stop him (Ridgeway)," said RU coach Tip Smathers, whose team has lost six games by three points or less.

The difference was the second quarter (a 19-15 Harrison spurt) when there subs outplayed ours."

RU's Craig Watson led all scorers with 20 points. Dave Marshall added 14 points and Steve Serafini grabbed 10 rebounds.

SEARHOLM 44, N. FARMINGTON 42: Dave Van Meter's layup at the buzzer Tuesday gave Birmingham Searholm (11-8) the victory over the visiting Raiders (7-12).

basketball

Van Meter and teammate Steve Shekell each finished with 14 points.

Norfolk's 6-5 senior center, Rick Karcher, paced all scorers with 21.

STEVENS 73, EDELS FORD 63: On Tuesday, the Spartans slipped back over the 500 mark with a non-league triumph at Dearborn Eds Ford.

Livonia Stevenson is 10-9 overall, while the Thunderbirds dropped to 4-14.

Eric Johnson led a balanced Stevenson attack with 19 points. He played a strong inside game along with 6-4 senior center Jeff Gibbons, who poured in 17. Other Spartan contributors included Pete Mazzoni (10), Rich Gregor (nine) and Lars Richters (eight).

John Tobin tallied 15 in a losing cause. Jason Sullivan and Joe Mesnier added 12 and 11, respectively.

CLARENCEVILLE 66, TEMPLE 66: Livonia Clarenceville made 26 of 34 free throws Tuesday, including 11 of 13 from Devin DeRoock, as the Trojans rallied in

the final quarter to beat non-league foe Inkster Temple Christian.

Thanks to accurate free throw shooting, Clarenceville outscored Temple 14-15 in the decisive fourth period.

DeRoock, who finished with 17 points and 14 rebounds, hit eight of nine foul shots in the final quarter.

Teammate Rick Larson, who added 17 points, also hit three of four free throws down the stretch.

Gregg Boell chipped in with 12 points and Joe Jentzer hit four in a row from the charity stripe down the stretch.

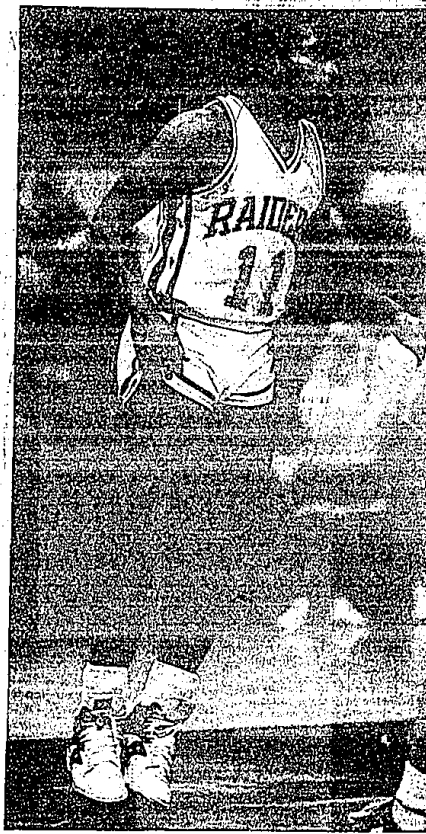
Three Temple players scored in double figures: Scott McKee (16), Kevin Livengood (15) and Don Wing (10).

Clarenceville is 9-9 overall, while Temple fell to 8-10.

NOVI 72, FRANKLIN 58: The Wildcats roared out to a 41-23 half-time lead and never looked back Tuesday, defeating host Livonia Franklin in a non-league encounter.

Senior center Matt Karmish led the winners with 20 points. Teammates Joel Mikovitch and Brian Schram added 19 and 18 for the Wildcats, now 12-5.

Dave Jones and J.J. Swindall added 15 and 12, respectively for the Patriots, who fell to 2-17 overall.



RANDY BOST/Staff photographer

Carson Butler was held to just eight points by Delta CC Wednesday, far below his 21-point average, but OCC still won.

Point spree helps OCC secure tournament bye

Oakland Community College earned a first-round bye in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association (MCCAA) men's basketball state tournament by routing St. Clair CC 112-85 Saturday at OCC.

The win boosted OCC to 12-4 in the Eastern Conference and tied the Raiders for second with Delta CC, which lost at Macomb CC. OCC

earned the first-round bye on a tie-breaker.

The Raiders (20-7 overall) wasted no time in disposing of St. Clair, which finished in the conference basement. They constructed a 59-40 lead by halftime and were never in trouble.

Seven players reached double-figures in scoring: Reggie Anderson (22 points), Derrick Williams (18), Gary Holt (14), Sam Smith and Carson Butler (13 each), Greg Davis (12) and Tom Muhleck (10).

2d-half run lifts OCC past Delta

Coaches always carry on about how they hate playing a team a third time. Lynn Reed, though, turned that dislike to Oakland Community College's advantage.

The Raiders blitzed Delta CC with a 23-5 run over an eight-minute second-half stretch to roll to a 100-86 victory in a Michigan Community College Athletic Association second-round men's basketball playoff Wednesday at OCC.

With the win, the Raiders (22-7) advance to the MCCAA Eastern Conference final (8 p.m. Friday at Schoolcraft College) against the Highland Park-Alpena victor. Friday's winner will play the Western Conference champ for the state title at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at SCC.

As usual, the scoring Wednesday was high but it was the Raider defense that dictated the tone. Delta's inside tandem of Lloyd Sergeant and Dan McEllan combined for 33 points in the Pioneers' thrashing of Schoolcraft Monday. Against OCC, they managed eight.

"We played them twice, and both times we went man-to-man and had to do some scrambling," said Reed. "This time we went to a match-up zone. It's the first time we've used it all year."

It worked. The Pioneers had to go outside, and for a while did so successfully. Steve Hard scored 17 first-half points (he finished with 38), and his running mate at guard, Mike Ody, added nine. Their shooting, however, helped Delta rally from nine points down to tie it, 42-42, at the half.

But that kind of shooting couldn't last. The game remained tight until OCC started its streak with 13:45 left, on a Sam Smith basket that gave the Raiders a 60-59 lead. Eight minutes and nine Smith points later, OCC was securely in front, 82-64.

Derrick Williams paced OCC with 28 points. Smith had 22, Gary Holt scored 20, Jimmy Sherrill got 15 and Reggie Anderson totaled 10.

Free-throw shooting plagued Delta (23-10), which made just 12 of 21 and didn't score on three one-and-one opportunities during OCC's streak. The Raiders made 25-of-28, from the line.

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By Bill Parker
staff writer

The Rocks are on a roll.

After winning eight games in a row, including last Friday's thrilling 61-59 triumph over Westland John Glenn, the Plymouth Salem eagles picked up their biggest win of the season Monday morning.

Both Glenn and Salem finished with 15-1 records in the Western Lakes Activities Association and were dead even in all other tie-breakers. The draw was broken Monday morning when Salem won a coin toss which determined the WLAA Western Division championship.

The Rocks now host Plymouth Canton, the Lakes Division champion, tonight for the undisputed WLAA crown.

"It will be a tough game," said Salem coach Bob Brodie. "Anytime Salem and Canton meet it's always a tough game. You can't grow out all the records and everything. This will be a heads-up ballgame."

THE TWO teams met earlier this season and Salem nipped the Chiefs 64-63 in overtime.

Canton coach Tom Niemi, whose team stands at 12-7, 11-5 in the WLAA, feels tonight's clash will take on a similar tone.

"We played them tough the first time and took them to overtime," said Niemi. "I believe Salem is ranked No. 7 in the state, so of course we will be the underdog going into the game."

"I think that with the rivalry between the two schools it will be a good game for the fans to watch. It's a natural rivalry and there is a lot at stake. This is what you work for all season, to get an opportunity like this."

The Chiefs, a much smaller team than Salem, will try to take advantage of their superior speed and get the Rocks into a running game. To do this they will rely heavily on 6-foot Junior Roger Trice and 5-foot-10 senior Tyrone Reeves. The big man on Canton's roster is 6-foot-4 Junior Jeff Anselm.

CANTON ALSO relies heavily on substitution and tries to wear its opponents down by continually bringing fresh players into the game.

"We've tried to keep our players fresh all year and by doing that our

bench has developed very well. They can play," said Niemi. "We are going to have to board with them and that's going to be a problem. We have to play an up-tempo game and make them play the full 34 feet of the court. With their size we can't let them play a half-court game."

Led by 6-foot-7 senior Rick Taylor and 6-foot-5 seniors Mike Hale and Jeff Justice, the Rocks will try to keep Canton outside and force them to shoot from the perimeter.

"We've got to keep them from penetrating our middle," said Brodie. "That and our ability to handle their defensive quickness will be the key to the game. Reeves and Trice are extremely quick and right now they're rotating a lot of people in and out. They always have a lot of fresh people on the floor. We can't let down."

"We've got the momentum now. We've won eight in a row and we just won the big one over Glenn. That's our big advantage. Our two goals at the beginning of the year were to go 16-2 and to win the league championship. Now we've got the opportunity to accomplish both goals in one game."

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