

Sports

Dan O'Meara editor/591-2312

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(F11C)

1st-half surge
buoys Hawks

A good first half was all Farmington Harrison's basketball team needed to get past Waterford Kettering Friday — which is a good thing, since the Hawks played far below their potential after intermission.

Still, they are 2-9 after their 66-55 triumph at Kettering. And one Harrison player could share, at least partially, the emotions filling a basketball star in another city: Rick Mahorn of the Philadelphia 76ers, who battled and beat his former team Friday, the Pistons.

The Hawks' Andy Smith, a 6-foot-2 junior guard, played for Kettering last year. "He had mixed emotions," said Harrison coach Mike Teachman. "He was tight in his shooting, but that was to be expected."

Tight or not, Smith did his share, netting 15 points and making three steals. The Hawks forced 28 Kettering turnovers in the game, a major factor in their building a 17-8 lead after one quarter and increasing it to 39-21 at the half.

Perhaps the Hawks figured the game was over at that point. It wasn't. The Captains took advantage of Harrison's lethargy to pull to within eight with a 22-11 third-quarter surge.

"We played a poor third quarter," said Teachman. "We stood around on offense, we sent them to the line... we just didn't execute our offense."

The Hawks got back on track in the fourth, thanks in part to Blaz Sarcevic's six rebounds (he finished with nine rebounds and 10 points), outpacing Kettering 16-12.

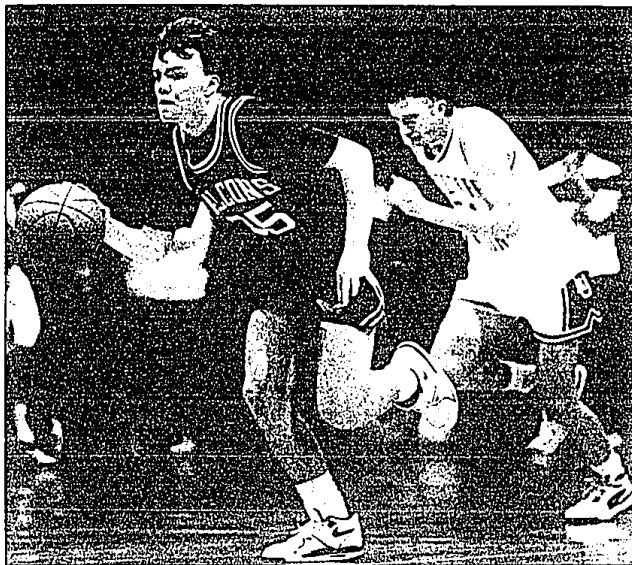
The Hawks got back on track in the fourth, thanks in part to Blaz Sarcevic's six rebounds. Sarcevic finished with nine rebounds and 10 points. Harrison outscored Kettering 16-12 in the fourth quarter.

Pete Karbowski added 12 points and 13 boards and Todd Herremans scored eight points for Harrison. Kettering — winless after two games — got most of its offense from one source: Tad Smith, who had 27 points.

RU 66, FARMINGTON 65: The final shot hit the rim, rolled around and fell out — an injustice, considering the incredible comeback staged by the Falcons Friday at Redford Union.

RU coach Tip Smathers described that final Farmington shot as "a Maalox moment, that's for sure." It should have been, after all, his Panthers were up 56-40 as the fourth quarter started.

"That was our biggest lead," said Smathers. "It looked easy at that point, but it sure wasn't."



P.J. Green (with ball) heads upcourt against Redford Union Friday. Green helped spark a fourth-quarter rally, but it fell a point short.

"(Farmington) switched defenses, from zone to man-to-man, and we were in a lull. They switched (defenses) and picked up the tempo, but we didn't."

P.J. Green hit a pair of three-pointers in the Falcons' final quarter — he also had two triples in the third period — to jump-start the comeback. Greg Bjedov poured in eight of his 18 points in the period, and Brian Browne had six of his 14. Green led Farmington with 19.

But it wasn't enough. RU (now 2-0) built its lead behind Steve Nowak's 10 third-quarter points (he finished with 25), outscoring the Falcons 24-16 in the period. Dan Lezotte got seven of his 19 in the third for the Panthers, who led 18-16 after one quarter and 32-24 at the half.

The defeat evened Farmington's record at 1-1.

OCC stops
St. Clair;
SC tumbles

Oakland Community College broke the century mark Wednesday, soundly defeating St. Clair CC in men's basketball action, 114-98.

The victory improves OCC to 6-1, while St. Clair falls to 1-6. The Raiders, who trailed by one point at the half, 55-54, came on strong during the final 20 minutes, outscoring St. Clair, 60-43.

Michael Bailey, a Detroit Central High product paced OCC with 22 points and 15 rebounds.

Jerry Priskin, a 6-8½ center from Waterford Mott, added 22 points, while Toine Murphy (Hamtramck St. Florian) contributed 18. Murphy also had eight rebounds and six assists.

Ed Pasque (Hazel Park) and Bobby Dinges (University of Detroit-Jesuit) each added 15 points. Pasque also dished out seven assists. All of Dinges' points came on three-pointers.

Ted Stager's 18 points paced St. Clair.

OWENS TECH 117, SCHOOL-CRAFT 80: On Wednesday, host Owens Tech of Toledo, Ohio, thanks to 31 points by Roy Coleman, blitzed visiting Schoolcraft College for the second time this season.

Manny Durnen added 25 points for Owens Tech, making five of six three-pointers down the stretch.

Freshman guard Jeff Elliot of Plymouth Salem led Schoolcraft with 14 points. Sophomore center Al Hudson (Romulus) added 11 points, while Ken Foster (River Rouge) and Ed Hudson (Royal Oak Shrine) contributed 10 apiece.

Owens Tech led by only seven at the half, 47-40, before pulling away in the second half.

The Owlets record drops to 5-6.

Mercy, North prove dominant

By Bill Parker
staff writer

THE FIRST thing that comes to mind when looking at the 1989 Observer all-area team is depth. Beginning with the Farmington Hills Mercy state champion 200 medley relay team and ending with eight all-large selections, the 1989 team is loaded with talent.

Mercy, which placed third at the Class A state meet, leads the team represented in three individual events, both relays and two all-large selections.

Mercy coach Chuck McClune was selected as the 1989 Coach of the Year. In his second season at the helm of the Marlins' program, McClune directed his team to their 23rd straight Catholic League title.

The following is a brief profile of each 1989 all-Owens swimmer as selected by a panel of area coaches:

Farmington Hills Mercy, 200 yard medley relay (Katie Westhoff, Katie Knipper, Elizabeth DeMatia, Karen Neyer): For the second year in a row this quartet graces the All-Owens first team — last year as the runner-up at the Class A state meet and this year as the undisputed state champion.

This relay opened the season with a bang, turning in a 1:54.75 to win the Brighton Relays. In the process they set a meet and pool record and qualified for the state meet, all in the first race of the year. They went through the season undefeated and capped a stellar season with an All-America clocking of 1:49.49 at the state meet, two seconds ahead of the second place team.

"Four girls never worked harder for me over two years to become state champions," said Mercy coach Chuck McClune. "This relay has been the corner stone of the team. Three out of the four girls made all-state in their individual events and became Mercy's first state champion since Kara McGrath."

Becky Wyquist, Farmington Hills Mercy, 200 freestyle: Wyquist qualified for the Class A state meet in four events and earned All State recognition with eighth place finishes in both the 100 free (53.94) and the 200 free (1:56.08). The senior sprinter was the Catholic League champion in the 200 free. At the Oakland County meet she placed ninth in the 200 free and meet and third in the 100 free.

Wyquist turned in a 53.57 split on the final leg of the third place relay team at the state meet and was a member of the league record holding free relay team (3:44.76), which has earned All America honors for the last two years.

"No one on our team had a better season or state meet than Becky," said Mercy coach Chuck McClune.

"She dropped 3.88 seconds in the 200 free and 1.77 in the 100 free in only four days. I believe she has not yet peaked. I'm very glad I had a chance to work with her these last two years. Every coach should have a swimmer like Becky."

Kerry Doran, North Farmington, 200 individual medley: After winning three events at both the Oakland County meet and the Western Lakes Activities Association meet Doran, a junior, culminated her efforts at the state meet with a second place finish in the 200 IM (2:08.25) and a fifth place finish in the 100 butterfly (58.93).

Doran earned All America consideration as a freshman on the 400 free relay. All America consideration as a sophomore in the 200 IM, and broke two varsity records this year at North Farmington in both the 200 IM and the 100 butterfly.

Karen Neyer, Farmington Hills Mercy, 50 freestyle: The senior sprinter placed fourth at the Oakland County meet with a time of 25.93 and dropped her time to 24.59 at the state meet good enough for a fifth place showing. All America honors and a new Mercy school record.

all-area swimming

She was the Catholic League champ in the 100 free (55.57) and swam a 23.72 split on the state champion medley relay team. Neyer also swam a 54.13 split on the first leg of Mercy's free relay team which finished third at the state meet.

"Karen is one girl I can always count on to pull out a great swim when the team needs it," said Mercy coach Chuck McClune. "Dropping from 17th to fifth at state in the 50 free was an incredible swim. She lives for the 50."

Tonya Slicker, Farmington, diving: Slicker was the team MVP for the second time and repeated as the WLAA champion with a 363.70. She holds their Farmington varsity record at 253, the North Farmington pool record and finished the season with an 11-1 dual meet record.

Elizabeth DeMatia, Farmington Hills Mercy, 100 butterfly: DeMatia, a senior, enjoyed a fantastic career earning All America honors on two relay events four years in a row.

This season, DeMatia placed third in the fly at the state meet (58.58) and finished second in the fly at the Oakland County. She finished

second in the Catholic League meet in both the 100 free and the 500 free, swam the fly on Mercy's state champion medley relay (26.23) and swam a leg (58.58) on Mercy's free relay team which placed third at state.

"Liz is a natural athlete," said Mercy coach Chuck McClune. "Last year, when I came to Mercy everyone told me how talented she was, all she needed was a little direction. Well, going from not making the (state) cut in her first two years to finishing third at state in the 100 fly just two years later seems incredible. Some names we've seen for years at state, but Liz is an unknown. She could be the find of the year for some college."

Ellen Lessig, Livonia Churchill, 100 freestyle: Lessig was a double winner at the WLAA meet, winning the 100 free in 54.46 and the 50 free in 24.90.

Nicole Drake, Plymouth Canton, 500 freestyle: The senior distance swimmer capped her high school career with an eighth place finish this year at the Class A state meet (5:15.55).

Drake holds the Canton school

record in the 200 free and the 500 free and was a member of the school record 400 free relay team. She has earned All State honors two out of three years and has been a representative of the Observer team for three years in a row.

"Nicole has outstanding talent and has matured into a fine team leader," said Canton coach Hooker Wellman. "She helped lead her team to the division championship and placed at the state meet for the third straight year. She is an outstanding person and a pleasure to work with."

Cheri Vincent, Plymouth Salem, 100 back: The Salem senior finished seventh seventh at the Class A state meet (1:00.98). She also qualified for state as a member of Salem's 200 medley relay and the 400 free relay teams. She was the WLAA champ in the back (1:01.95) and helped the 200 medley relay team finish second in 1:55.51.

"Cheri Vincent proved to be an

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ALL-AREA SWIM TEAM

Individual events

Becky Wyquist, Mercy — 200 freestyle
Kerry Doran, N. Farmington — 200 IM
Karen Neyer, Mercy — 50 freestyle
Tonya Slicker, Farmington — 100 butterfly
Elizabeth DeMatia, Mercy 100 butterfly

By Ellen Lessig, Churchill — 100 freestyle
Nicole Drake, Canton — 500 freestyle
Cheri Vincent, Salem — 100 backstroke
Jennifer Knapp, Stevenson — 100 breast
Katie Knipper, Mercy — at-large
Katie Knipper, Mercy — at-large
Christie Duthie, N. Farmington at-large
Anne Palmer, N. Farmington at-large
Curtie Worthen, N. Farmington at-large
Katie Westhoff, Mercy — at-large

Relays

200 medley relay — Farmington Hills Mercy (Katie Westhoff, Katie Knipper, Elizabeth DeMatia, Karen Neyer)

400 free relay — Farmington Hills Mercy (Karen Neyer, Elizabeth DeMatia, Michelle McCaffrey, Becky Wyquist)

200 medley relay at-large — North Farmington (Juliana Markay, Anne Palmer, Christie Duthie, Katie Knipper)

400 free relay at-large — North Farmington (Christie Duthie, Jennifer Wagner, Katie Knipper, Kerry Doran)



Farmington Hills Mercy's medley relay: from left, Katie Westhoff, Elizabeth DeMatia, Katie Knipper, Karen Neyer.



Farmington Hills Mercy's freestyle relay: from left, Becky Wyquist, Karen Neyer, Elizabeth DeMatia, Michelle McCaffrey.



Jennifer Knapp
Livonia Stevenson



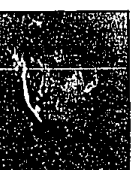
Cheri Vincent
Plymouth Salem



Nicole Drake
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Ellen Lessig
Livonia Churchill



Elizabeth DeMatia
Farmington Mercy



Tonya Slicker
Farmington