

Raiders miss upset, playoffs

History nearly repeated itself Friday night, but this time North Farmington fell just short of the upset.

As was the case in 1988, the Raiders went to Walled Lake Central for the final league game and needed a victory to qualify for the Western Lakes Activities Association playoffs.

North knocked off the Vikings that time and eventually won the WLLA championship.

The Raiders almost did it again Friday, but Christian Emert's basket with one second remaining lifted heavily-favored Central to a 59-56 victory.

A win would have put North in the playoffs since Livonia Stevenson lost to Westland John Glenn. The Raiders and Stevenson finished 4-7 in the league, but the Spartans won the tiebreaker for the eighth and final playoff berth because they had beaten North.

"We came up just a little short," North coach Tom Negoshian said, adding it's the first time the Raiders have not made the WLLA playoffs.

Negoshian said his team will look on the positive aspects of the game, having effectively countered Central's pressure tactics and played well in the same gymnasium where the upcoming district tournament will take place.

"Hopefully, it's a positive step, showing us we can compete with other people," Negoshian said.

The Raiders trailed by 11 points early in the fourth quarter, but they rallied to tie the despite losing Jay Sturtz with a fifth foul midway in the period.

"We did a nice job of not panicking, executing and hitting some shots," Negoshian said.

Mark Temple, who led the Raiders with 13 points, knotted the score at

basketball

56 with 38 seconds left. Central worked the ball and took a contested shot as time was running out. The missed shot fell to the floor, but Emert picked it up at the free throw line and banked in the winning basket as the clock expired.

"The kids gave it a shot," Negoshian said. "It was a great effort. It was just a real good game."

Brian Lee and Dean Pennala sank three-point shots, and Temple and Eric Hewitt made some key steals to help North rally in the fourth quarter. The Raiders not only handed Central's pressure but used the same strategy to spark the comeback.

"We gambled and got lucky," Negoshian said. "When you're down, you can either sit and stay down or try to win, and this time it got us back in it."

Sturtz added 10 points for the Raiders. Pennala had seven assists and Hewitt eight rebounds. Mike Gluski scored 13 points, Emert and Steve Habaub 12 apiece for the Vikings.

North finished 1-4 in the Lakes Division of the WLLA and 15-61 overall. Central tied with Plymouth Salem and Westland John Glenn for the Lakes title at 4-1. The Vikings are 9-2 in the WLLA and 14-3 overall.

HARRISON 55, CHURCHILL 44: Paul Glyvisdis scored 11 of his game-high 22 points in the final quarter Friday, leading visiting Farmington Hills Harrison past Livonia Churchill.

The 6-foot-8 Glyvisdis helped spur

a 21-17 Harrison advantage in the fourth quarter. Senior forward Andy Fitzpatrick, who finished with 13 points, added six during the period.

Senior guard Brian Johnson and senior forward Marcus Sarnowski contributed 15 and 10 for Churchill, respectively.

Harrison finished third in the WLLA with an 8-3 record and will play host to Northville in the first round of the playoffs Friday. The Hawks are 14-3 overall. Churchill was 2-9 in league games.

The Chargers, who trailed by only five at intermission (31-28) held the ball during the third quarter.

Harrison outscored the Chargers 1-1 to lead 34-27 after three quarters.

"We can't match up with Glyvisdis so what am I going to do?" Churchill coach Tom Long said. "I've got a 6-3 guy against 6-8, or whatever he is, so I figured if we could hold the ball and play even in the third, then maybe we could beat them in the fourth."

CLARENCEVILLE 65, LUTHERAN WEST 62: Senior forward Dan Nunery tallied 17 points Friday, including a pair of critical free throws in the final minute, lifting host Livonia Clarenceville to the Metro Conference victory over Detroit Lutheran West.

Clarenceville is now 8-8 overall and 6-5 in the Metro, while the Leopards fall to 4-12 and 2-7.

Nunery, who made the two free throws after a technical was assessed on the Lutheran West bench, was one of three Trojans to score in double figures.

Senior guard Tony Malinowski and sophomore forward Mark Kalaj added 14 and 11, respectively.

West senior Reggie Dalton paced all scorers with 23 points.

sport shorts

AAU TRYOUTS
Farmington AAU 15-and-under boys basketball tryouts will take place Sunday, March 1, from noon to 2 p.m. in the Farmington High School gym. For information call Tom Latra at 478-8629.

SOFTBALL NEWS
Canton Softball Center is accepting registrations for its 1992 spring and summer seasons. The spring season begins April 11, summer July 19. Discounts are available to teams that register for both. There are no residency requirements. Call 483-5600 ext. 102.

Canton Softball Center is offering the following upper-level leagues: Super B, 30 games, all Tuesday double-headers; and Super C, 30 games, all Wednesday double-headers. Call 483-5600 ext. 102.

Canton Softball Center's Early Bird Tournament will be April 10-12. Four games are guaranteed. All teams are welcome. The entry fee is \$95 plus a \$7 per game umpire fee. Call 483-5600, ext. 102.

CORKTOWN RACES
The St. Patrick's Parade Corktown Races sponsored by the Fraternal order of United Irishmen, will take place Sunday, March 15.

The first event is a half-mile run, with 10 children 12 years and younger at 12:30 p.m. A 1 1/2-mile walk and four-mile run begins at 1 p.m. All three start at Tigs' Stadium, with the run winding through the Corktown neighborhood.

The non-refundable, pre-entry fee is \$8. The deadline is Friday, March 6. Checks should be payable to Motor City Striders and sent to St. Patrick's Parade Run, 10141 Lancelot, Huntington Woods, 48070.

Entries after the closing date are \$12. Late registration also will take place at Tigs' Stadium between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on race day. Awards will be presented immediately after the last finisher.

BENEFIT HOCKEY
Former Detroit Red Wing players Ted Lindsay, Alex Delvecchio and Dennis Hextall will hit the ice in a hockey game benefiting St. Joseph's Hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit 7 p.m. Saturday, March 1, at Garden City Ice Arena.

The game will also feature ex-Wings Mickey Redmond, Gary Bergman and Robert Picard.

The ex-Wings will square off against members of the Garden City Hockey League.

The benefit will also include a drawing for two sets of tickets to a Red Wings game with an autograph session following the game.

General admission tickets are \$5 per person. Children under four will be admitted free. For ticket information, call 326-4104.

Shamrocks suffer loss at the buzzer

Knowing that Rob Valentino would take the last shot Sunday afternoon was of no help to the Redford Catholic Central basketball team.

Valentino, by far Dearborn Divine Child's best player, made a desperate three-point shot as time expired to give the Falcons a 45-42 upset of CC in a Catholic League quarterfinal playoff game at Calihan Hall.

Valentino hounded the entire second half by CC's defense, somehow got the shot off over the outstretched arms of the Shamrocks' 6-foot-6 Bob Kummer and 6-5 Chad Varga.

"We know he's their go-to guy, and to his credit he made the shot," CC coach Bernie Holowicki said. "It reminded me a lot of the Mike Prince shot that won the Catholic League (for CC) in 1976."

Valentino, a senior guard, scored 15 of his game-high 22 points in the first half as the Falcons built a 29-15 halftime lead. Kummer held Valentino scoreless in the third quarter and Valentino made only two-of-seven second half shots, but he made the one that snatched the most.

CC fought back from a 40-34 deficit in the last 4:31 and tied the score at 42-42 with 1:58 left on a three-point play by junior forward Brian Baluk. CC then stole the ball in the

backcourt from DC but Marc Goodrick's 10-foot shot in the paint hit the back of the iron and gave DC the ball for a last-shot opportunity.

DC held the ball the rest of the way and called timeouts twice in the last 20 seconds for a last-shot. With less than 10 seconds left, Valentino drove the lane but the ball was knocked out of bounds and given back to DC with six seconds remaining.

After another timeout, Valentino received the in-bounds pass near half-court, dribbled to the three-point arc and launched the game-winning shot.

"We planned to get the ball to Valentino and let him try to win it for us," DC coach Joe Charnley said. "He's a great kid who works hard every day. Teams have been doubting him all year. He's just a winner."

Despite the loss, Holowicki was enthused about CC's second-half comeback. The Shamrocks seldom looked worse than they did in the first half when they made only five-of-19 field goals and were out-rebounded, 16-11.

CC is 13-4 overall. DC, 12-4, will meet Detroit St. Martin DePorres in a semifinal game at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Calihan. DePorres beat Birmingham Brother Rice, 50-49, in another quarterfinal game.

Rice misses opportunity

Paul Grant's dream opportunity ended in a nightmare Sunday in a Catholic League quarterfinal playoff game at Calihan Hall.

Grant, Birmingham Brother Rice's 6-foot-10 senior center, made only one of two free throws with no time showing on the clock as Detroit St. Martin DePorres held on for a thrilling 50-49 win.

Grant, a 75 percent free throw shooter, made his first six free throws Sunday but had to settle for 50 percent on his last visit to the line. Grant's first free throw was perfect and the second hit the back of the rim and bounced away.

Grant got to the line after rebounded a missed shot by teammate Matt Flynn and was fouled while shooting with no time left.

"You dream about these situations, but in your dreams, you make them," said Grant, who had a game-high 20 points and seven rebounds. "I rushed the second one, if I would have taken one more second I would have made it. After I made the first one, I just wanted to get to overtime. There'll be another situation in college or maybe this year and I'll make it."

The loss dropped Rice to 8-9 overall. DePorres, 15-1 overall and No. 1-ranked in Class C, will play Divine Child's surprise 45-42 winner over Redford Catholic Central, in Thursday's 7:30 p.m. semifinal at Calihan Hall.

Rice led most of the game and enjoyed a 44-41 advantage with about four minutes left after a fast break layup by Flynn. But DePorres' guard David Moore, who finished with a team-high 16 points, scored seven in the last four minutes, including the front end of a one-and-one free throw to give the Eagles a 50-48 lead.

The Warriors had more than one chance to send the game into overtime. With less than a minute remaining, Rice guard Damon McClendon stole the ball in the backcourt and went in for a reverse layup but missed. Rice fans thought McClendon was fouled on the play but no call was made.

Rice surprised DePorres early, taking a 14-10 lead after one quarter and a 29-22 halftime lead. DePorres' full-court press forced Rice into several turnovers in the third quarter and Brian Tolbert's three-point shot at the end of the period gave the Eagles a 39-38 lead.

"No one gave us a chance except us," Carrico said. "We were very confident the kids would come to play. We played to win, not just show up. Grant is clearly our best free throw shooter, there's no one I'd rather have on the line."

Falcons flirt with victory until 4th

Continued from Page 1

Head sank a triple to end the third quarter for a 49-44 lead, and Stone converted a three-shot foul for a 52-44 difference early in the fourth.

But Farmington rallied again. Tucker, who came off the bench to score some key baskets, hit two straight and Farr made a four-point play to tie 52-52 with 6 1/2 minutes remaining.

"We hung in there and that's what I felt best about," Mikeel said, "because there have been times when we haven't done that."

"I think we gave them a ballgame

until the last five minutes. They just seemed to get so many more second shots than we did. I thought I was at a volleyball game. The ball kept going over the net for a while."

Salem began using its height advantage to crash the boards, and Head stepped up his game. He had nine points and the Rocks made 11 of 16 free throws in the finale.

"It WAS a matter of us going to (Hewitt) more and him taking charge of the game," Brodie said. "It's a team effort but you have to have some go-to guys."

"I knew we were not playing real

well (early in the game). It was a matter of us getting in sync and once we did we felt more comfortable."

Gallagher fouled out with 4:43 to play and Salem leading 59-54. The Rocks outscored Farmington 12-2 after that.

"That hurt because so much of what we do revolves around Steve," Mikeel said. "That's no excuse but it had an effect on the game."

Farmington made 24 of 54 field goals for an overall shooting percentage of .444. The Rocks were 21-of-66 for 32 percent.

Eagles win — and that's bottom line

There was nothing impressive about St. Mary's College of Maryland's win over NAIA District 23 foe Concordia College Thursday, except that it was a win, and it did move the Eagles one step closer to the top spot in the district standings.

"It was not a particularly good game for us," said St. Mary's assistant coach Kevin Donahue of the Eagles' 113-91 triumph at Concordia. "But we did what we had to do to win."

That meant finding an answer to every Cardinal rally. St. Mary's led

26-13 midway through the first half, but never increased it. At the half, the Eagles were up 55-45.

Concordia knocked down two three-pointers to open the second half, closing the gap to 55-51. St. Mary's replied with a 7-2 mini-run that pushed their lead to 62-53 with 17:24 left. The Cardinals never got closer than that the rest of the way.

Jeff Suspek's 22 points paced six Eagles in double-figures. Fred Russell and Jimmy Bolden scored 18 apiece, Garth Howard netted 17, Brian Smith had 12 and Brian Kosciel

ski totaled 11. Bolden added six assists and five steals, while Howard had five assists and Koscieliski grabbed eight rebounds.

Mike Kollien's 33 points topped Concordia. Nate Jordan finished with 23 and Shaun Hayward had 18.

St. Mary's improved to 23-6 with 10 wins, 10-2 in the district. Concordia fell to 4-23 overall, 1-11 in the district.

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