

Sports

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(F10)

Harrison advances to WLAA semifinal

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

Andy Fitzpatrick led the Farmington Hills Harrison football team to an unbeaten season and state championship as its quarterback last fall.

So when basketball coach Mike Teachman needed someone to take charge in a tight game with visiting Northville, he tapped Fitzpatrick's leadership skills Friday night.

The 6-foot-4 senior forward responded with 23 of his career-high 25 points in the second half as Harrison broke a halftime deadlock and pulled away to an 83-75 victory in the Western Lakes Activities Association playoffs.

"We're basically feeding off (football coach) John Harrington," Teachman said, meaning the Hawks got "the ball in the quarterback's hands and let him make good decisions. When he got the ball at the top of the key, he made good decisions as to what he was going to do with it."

"In the second half, I went to the guy who's been here three years. That's the investment you get from keeping a sophomore on the varsity. When he's a senior, he saves you a couple timeouts and makes good decisions on the fly."

NORTHVILLE USED an aggressive, 1-2-2 defense with a half-court trap and put pressure on the Harrison guards the entire game. Teachman moved Fitzpatrick from the low post to help break the press in the second half, and the veteran forward took charge once he got the ball from the guards.

Fitzpatrick, who sank nine field goals and was 5-of-8 shooting free throws in the second half, made an assortment of layups. He pivoted in the post and used a power move to the hoop, scored off rebounds or drove the baseline for reverse layups if he didn't kick the ball out to the wing.

"I had foul trouble in the first half and couldn't play as aggressively," Fitzpatrick said. "I only had two (at halftime), so I could play more aggressively in the second half."

"It's a little difficult to get fouls and take the ball to the hole and be aggressive. I made sure I didn't get a third foul in the first half and saved a little energy for the second half."

basketball

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— Mike Teachman
Harrison basketball coach

Things started going well and the adrenaline started flowing."

Harrison forward and 6-2 senior Duane Anderson also played a key role in the Hawks' breaking away from a 37-37 halftime score as he counted half of his career-high 20 points in the second half.

Mike Pesci added 14 points for Harrison (14-4), which plays at Walled Lake Central in the second round Tuesday night, Dan Hight 11 and Paul Gilydis eight.

"WE DIDN'T move in our defense," Northville coach Omar Harrison said. "When you don't shut down the middle man, that defense breaks down."

"(Fitzpatrick) is an aggressive kid. We knew he would attack the boards, so it didn't surprise me that he'd do that. It doesn't help that (Anderson) comes in and gets that many, and you don't expect him to do that."

Anderson, who got a scholarship to Bowling Green in football, is a sleeper in terms of his untapped and still-developing athletic skills, Teachman said.

Anderson, who moved into the Harrison district as a sophomore and got a late start that year on the JV basketball team, also had eight assists and seven rebounds. Pesci had 14 rebounds to lead the Hawks, Gilydis 12 and Fitzpatrick six.

"If he's not the best pure athlete in our league, then he's tied with some-

body," said Teachman of Anderson. "It's been a joy to watch him develop. The amazing thing is he has a 6-1 body and he's up there with the trees."

With Fitzpatrick and Anderson, flying to the basket for layups in the third quarter, Harrison jumped to a 19-point lead and was up 57-46 at the end. They had four and three field goals in the third, respectively.

"In every game we've lost, including the first time we played Harrison, we've had a bad third quarter," Harrison said. "We've been averaging 11 points in the third in games we've lost and 16 in games we've won."

IN THE FIRST meeting, the Hawks outscored Northville 29-10 in the third quarter after leading 30-29 at halftime and eventually routed the Mustangs 74-53.

Not only was the score tied Friday, but the first-half shooting was nearly even. The Mustangs made 16 of 37 attempts, Harrison 15 of 37. But the Hawks were 10-of-19 for 53 percent in the third quarter while Northville dropped to 5-of-18 for 28 percent.

Harrison, with Fitzpatrick scoring another 15 points, also had a good fourth quarter and was 18-of-35 in the second half, the Mustangs 16-of-42.

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Jeremy Teachman passes the ball to a Harrison teammate while Kieran Williams of Northville defends Friday night in the WLAA playoff game.

Raiders roast Warriors in WLAA hoops

North Farmington posted a 14-point halftime lead Friday and held course for a 65-56 victory over host Walled Lake Western in a Western Lakes Activities Association basketball game.

The Raiders, 5-7 in the league and 7-11 overall, raced to a 20-12 lead in the first quarter and were ahead 41-27 at the intermission. The Warriors closed a 17-point gap after three periods (57-40) with a 16-8 advantage in the finale.

Senior guards Jon Sturtz and Mark Temple paced the North victory with 18 and 13 points, respectively. Brent Mackowiak scored a game-high 19 points for Western, and teammate Matt Engott finished with 18.

In the final week of the regular season, the Raiders play host to Livonia Churchill and Farmington on Tuesday and Friday, respectively.

CHURCHILL, 60, FARMINGTON 46: Livonia Churchill snapped a four-

game losing streak Thursday with a 60-46 win over visiting Farmington in WLAA basketball.

Churchill moved to 4-14 overall and 3-9 in the WLAA. Farmington is 3-15 overall and 2-10 in the WLAA.

Junior center Darrell Wlaack scored a career-high 13 points and senior center Mario Luca added 12 for the Chargers. Senior forward Marcus Sarnovsky scored eight points, with eight assists and 11 rebounds.

Guard Matt April scored 22 to lead Farmington. The Chargers played strong defense on Farmington's biggest threats, Steve Gallagher (seven points) and Brian Afferbaugh (six). Churchill coach Tom Lang gave Brian Johnson and Mark Rutherford credit for their play on the two Falcons.

The Chargers trailed 14-10 after one quarter but outscored Farmington 31-16 in the middle quarters for a 41-30 lead.

The Falcons will be host to Walled Lake Western on Tuesday and visit North Farmington for the regular-season finale Friday.

LUTHERAN EAST 93, CLARENCEVILLE 33: Livonia Clarenceville never stood a chance Friday, falling behind 44-14 at halftime en route to the lopsided loss at Harper Woods Lutheran East.

The Trojans, 9-9 overall and 7-7 in the Metro Conference, were led by senior forward Dan Nunery's 13 points. Senior forward Mike Johnson led Lutheran East with 30 points.

BISHOP FOLEY 77, BORGESS 50: Redford Bishop Borgess fell to 9-8 overall Friday night with an embarrassing loss at Madison Heights Bishop Foley. The Spartans face Saginaw Buena Vista on the road Tuesday and coach Mike Fusco frets about that trip.

"If we play like we did tonight we'll be in for a real long ride," Fusco said. "We had a string of five or six good games but the bottom fell out tonight. We did not come to play."

Lamar Westbrook led Borgess with 12 points.

North has gymnastics champion

North Farmington freshman Annie Jud earned first place in the vault competition Thursday at the Western Lakes Activities Association gymnastics championships. Senior Jameelah Gater was North's top all-arounder, finishing fourth. The Raiders were third in the seven-team meet, Farmington sixth. Plymouth Salem won the title for the third consecutive year. See story on Page 2B.



JOHN B. THOMAS/staff photographer

Falcons, Harrison winners

Farmington and Farmington Hills Harrison finished the dual-meet season Thursday with victories in boys swimming.

The Falcons whipped visiting Walled Lake Central 139-41, and the Hawks crushed host Walled Lake Western 115-65.

Marc Scario and Don Boyer won two events apiece to pace Farmington. Scario was first in the 200-yard individual medley (2:15.55) and butterfly (1:02.56). Boyer the 200 freestyle (1:56.21) and 100 freestyle (52.84).

Scario also anchored two winning relay teams. Scott Frump, Kevin Yoder, Scario and Dave Kandt won the medley in 1:49.29, and Frump, Boyer, Kandt and Scario combined efforts for a 1:37.89 time in the 200 freestyle.

Frump, who also won the 50 freestyle (23.73) and Kandt teamed with Jon Reed and Mark Kurzer to win the 400 freestyle relay in 3:39.21.

Farmington's Bradton Richardson won the diving competition with 257.8 points. Also taking firsts for the Falcons were Reed in the 500 freestyle (3:18.9), Scott Brown, backstroke (58.35), and Jeff James, breaststroke (1:06.74).

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