

Mercy grad lifts Crusaders

By C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER

For openers, Bill Potter really had few complaints. All right — it's true his Madonna University women's basketball team did shoot like it was their first game of the season (not their eighth) in the second half. The Lady Crusaders converted just 11-of-39 from the floor — or 28.2 percent. Included was a 1-of-10 performance from three-point range.

But all things considered, it wasn't bad for a home opener. "It was a nice crowd," said Potter, "and everything went our way." Including the decision — 71-59 over Olivet.

They converted 20-of-40 from the field and opened up a 47-33 lead by the intermission.

Madonna led 19-11 with 13:35 left, but seven-straight points by Olivet's Heather Davidson, followed by two Becky Chapin free throws and another Davidson basket put the Comets ahead 22-19 with 11:11 to go.

The Crusaders responded with a nine-point run of their own, the first five coming from Denise Williams and the last four from Mary Bieniewicz. In the final 10:35 of the half, Madonna outscored Olivet 28-11. Bieniewicz had 13 first-half points, with Shawn Bannon adding 11 and Jill Burt eight.

Bieniewicz, a Farmington Hills Mercy grad, led Madonna with 17 points. She also had five rebounds and three steals. Burt totaled 14 points, and Bannon had

11, with six assists and three steals. Stephanie Creley scored seven, grabbed nine boards, dished out four assists and made four steals.

Davidson's 15 points topped Olivet.

Men's slide continues

Plagued by poor shooting and rebounding, Madonna's men's team fell to 1-11 with losses to Michigan Christian (119-109 on Dec. 8) and St. Xavier of Chicago (114-85 on Dec. 10). Madonna made just 41 percent of its floor shots against Michigan Christian, and only 28 percent against St. Xavier.

In the loss to Michigan Christian, Kurt Carlson scored 30 points and grabbed nine rebounds. Mike Stone had 19 points.

Shawn Braum had 18 points (including four three-pointers) against St. Xavier.

Double tumble for S'craft

Winning a game at Henry Ford Community College would be a difficult challenge for Schoolcraft College's men's basketball team under the best of circumstances. Making the trip with two of its top three scorers battling the flu, which SC did Saturday, made it nearly impossible.

So the final score — Henry Ford 96, SC 73 — was not surprising. The Ocelots' second-leading scorer, Abu Hamilton, was too ill to make the trip. And although Steve Whitlow, the only returning starter from a year ago, did play, he was hardly a factor. His condition limited him to 25 minutes (the averages 35), during which he totaled seven points and five assists.

Hamilton and Whitlow combined for 23 a game.

But coach Dave Bogotaj wasn't ready to blame the result

solely on health troubles. "Henry Ford's a fine team," he said, noting the Hawks' win over highly-regarded Macomb CC three days earlier. "I'm not saying we should have won. But it should have been a lot closer."

Todd McNeil had a game-high 28 points for Schoolcraft and eight of the team's 13 total rebounds.

Not all the news was bad, even though SC slipped to 5-6 overall and 0-2 in the Eastern Conference (Henry Ford is 5-4 overall, 2-0 in the conference). For example, Milton Stoudevire came off the bench to score 14 points.

And the Ocelots did outscore the Hawks 46-45 in the second half. Henry Ford got 25 points from Chad Felder, 14 from Mickey Brown and 12 from Cortez Loti.

Henry Ford got 12 points from Melissa Toth.

of factors worked against Schoolcraft College's women's basketball team Saturday at Henry Ford CC, and they all added up to a loss, the Lady Ocelots' second in a row in Eastern Conference play.

With one player hospitalized the night before for an examination for a possible brain tumor (results were negative), a wide discrepancy in free throw opportunities (38 for the Lady Hawks, 36 for SC) and some bad decisions down the stretch all played a part in the defeat, which left SC at 4-3 overall, 0-2 in the conference.

In spite of the problems, the Ocelots were within three with 1½ minutes left, but resorted to taking long outside jumpers. Alisa Wechter and Tricia Kazyska each scored 12 points for SC.

WRESTLING

Hawks get up off backs to pin Rochester, North

After getting pummeled by one of the state's best, the Farmington Harrison wrestling team decided to do a little steamrolling of its own Saturday in a four-team meet at North Farmington.

Wrenn Lincoln, ranked No. 4 in Class A by the state's coaches, put a 70-6 hurt on the Hawks in the first match.

That was the last time the Hawks were on their backs. In wins against Rochester (45-27) and North (69-16), the Hawks registered 14 pins.

Brian Atkinson was the team's only triple winner. He pinned his Lincoln opponent at 112 pounds, then won by pin at 119 against Rochester and North.

Hawks with a pair of pins: Travis Schrowe (112), Brad Birkett (125), David Eaton (140) and Adam Lankin (heavyweight).

Mare Lespérance won two decisions at 145 pounds. At 189, John Amayo pinned his Rochester foe, then won by injury default against North's Nick Grant. Charlie Jaeger won both his matches at 103. Andrew Dzyngel (130) and Jeff Gutierrez (135) both scored pins against North.

For the Raiders, Andy Gertz won by pin at 152 and Jeff Light won a major decision at 160.

Farmington goes 2-1

The Farmington High boys wrestling team finished with a 1-2 record Saturday in a quad meet at

Milford Lakeland.

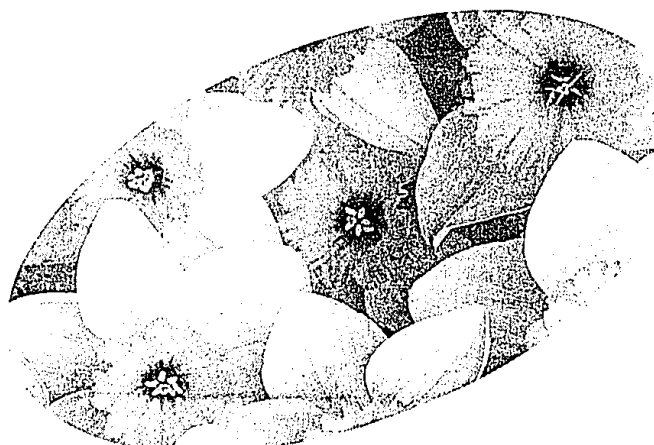
The Falcons defeated Clintondale, 36-34, but lost to Lakeland, 39-34, and Waterford Kettering, 40-24.

Matt Michalski, a 103-pounder, and 189-pounder Rob Gingerich were the Falcons' only triple winners. Michalski pinned Clintondale's Mike Santoro in 1 minute, 18 seconds and Lakeland's Scott Ricard in 2:48. Michalski also beat Kettering's Jason Blair, 11-0. Gingerich pinned Clintondale's Rico Spicuzza in 1:10, Lakeland's Jim Poole in 1:25 and Kettering's Eric Somisero in 1:52.

Mark Mason (140), Mike Prough (145), Chris Engel (152) and Durek Piquette (160) won two matches each. Mason pinned Clintondale's Jeremy Holmes in 1:49 and beat Lakeland's Ben Lakestraw, 12-2. Prough pinned Lakeland's Eric Hkade in 3:22 and Kettering's Andy Thornton in :56. Engel pinned Lakeland's Andy Winbiger in 1:36 and Waterford Kettering's Spencer Thornton in 2:15.

Piquette won on a wild against Clintondale, and he also pinned Lakeland's Shane Kern in 1:21. Single winners included Chris Neville (112), who pinned Lakeland's Roger Osborn in 5:50, heavyweight Adam Tanielian, who pinned Lakeland's Angelo Davis in 4:07, and Mike Johnston (171), who defeated Kettering's Rick Amyx, 9-2.

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