

SPORTS

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MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 1994

FARMINGTON
FARMINGTON HILLS
SPORTS
SCENE

OCC upsets hoop leader

Harold Golson chose an opportune time to have a great game Wednesday as he led Oakland Community College to a 95-91, double-overtime victory over first-place Highland Park in men's basketball.

The 6-foot-1 guard produced a triple double with 32 points, 19 rebounds and 10 steals. He was 12-of-19 from the floor (3-of-3 on threes) and had seven assists.

"This was one of the best performances I've seen from a player in a long time," OCC head coach Lynn Reed said.

"Harold has been waiting for this game all season," OCC assistant coach David Rose said.

Golson didn't play in the first game with Highland Park, which ended in a 32-point defeat for OCC, while serving a suspension for disciplinary reasons, according to Rose.

Willie Payne (11 rebounds) scored 19 points for the Raiders, Craig Martin 14 and Tony McNeal eight. Andre Gregory scored 27 for Highland Park.

OCC is 5-5 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association Eastern Conference and 7-11 overall. The Panthers are 6-3 and 12-4.

The Raiders were down 42-37 at halftime and by 10 points in the second half, but Martin and McNeal made back-to-back triples to keep OCC in the game.

With the Raiders down 82-80, Martin was fouled shooting a three with no time on the clock. He made the first two, sending the game into overtime.

Long made one of two free throws at the end of the first overtime for an 89-87 lead, but the Panthers scored to force a second OT. Golson took charge early and closed out the win for OCC.

"We played an excellent game and played this team tough," Rose said. "We stepped up to the occasion."

Clair stars for CMU

Eve Clair, former North Farmington basketball star, plays a key role on the Central Michigan University women's team, which was 3-4 in the Mid-American Conference and 5-9 overall going into a weekend game at Eastern Michigan.

The 5-foot-6 junior and starting forward was leading the Chippewas with 56 assists and ranked fifth in the MAC in that category. She is averaging 10 points per game and is fourth on the team in scoring.

Clair, who scored 18 points in a 78-67 loss to Ohio University, is second in CMU three-point shooting with a .343 percentage (12-of-35) and steals (29). She was shooting 37 percent (64-144) from the floor and 67 percent at the free throw line (18-27).

North gymnastics results

North Farmington had its highest score of the season and showed it can compete with one of the state's best gymnastics teams Wednesday.

But the host Raiders still were outdone by No. 5-ranked Plymouth Canton in a Western Lakes Activities Association dual meet. The Chiefs scored 132.1 and North 128.6.

Canton freshman Katie Gilles won every event and had the highest all-around score at 36.8. She scored 9.1 on vault, 9.25 on the uneven bars, 9.15 on the balance beam and 9.3 on floor exercise.

North's Michelle Tsai and Elise Turner were second (34.35) and third (32.75) overall, respectively.

Tsai placed second on vault (8.7), bars (8.75) and beam (8.55), and she was third on floor (8.35). Turner tied with Canton's Bria Wall for third on vault (8.3), was third on beam (8.2), was fourth on bars (8.0) and tied with Canton's Adrienne Brenner for fourth on floor (8.25).

The Raiders defeated host Walled Lake on Monday, 127.95 to 112.45. Turner was first in all-around (32.7) and Tsai third (31.75). North teammates Maria Pinsky and Stephanie Cohen tied for fourth (31.7).

Turner won the floor competition (8.6). Tsai led the vault (8.5) and both tied for first on bars (8.0). Cohen had the top beam score (8.1).

Tsai also was second on floor (8.35). Turner tied with teammate Hillary Lum for second on vault (8.4) and was third on beam (7.7).

Lum was third on bars (7.95) and fourth on floor (8.05). Pinsky fourth on bars (7.75) and Cohen fifth on floor (8.0).

CC freezes Stevenson

Redford Catholic Central, rated No. 2 in the latest statewide coaches Class A hockey poll, ran its overall record to 11-0-1 with a 7-2 win over Livonia Stevenson in a non-league Wednesday at Edgar sent in Livonia.

Greg Vaquera, Pete Davis, Eric Vaquera and Bob Klemmer scored during a third-period surge. Kevin Pedersen assisted on two of the goals. Davis, Dan Hunt, Greg Vaquera, Ken Lauer and Chris Gonzalez also drew assists.

The Shamrocks led 3-0 after one period on goals by Jon Heady, Mark Holdridge and Greg Vaquera. Assists went Jeff Helner, Jason Couture, Heady and Holdridge.

Stevenson got second-period goals from Kevin Berger and Dave Gorton, but the Spartans (8-6 overall) couldn't beat CC netminder Mike Brusseau in the final period.

CC outshot the Spartans, 31-12.

Hot-shooting Hawks rout Chargers



Harrison's boys basketball team couldn't miss early in the game Friday and rolled over Livonia Churchill, 74-58.

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER



With only a few minutes gone in the basketball game, it was clear Livonia Churchill's three-goal winning streak was in jeopardy Friday.

Farmington Hills Harrison wasted no time getting its game in high gear and eventually coasted to 74-58 victory over the host Chargers.

The Hawks were incredibly efficient in the first quarter, hitting 11 of 12 field goals for 92-percent shooting. A bad situation was compounded for Churchill by its 2-of-15 shooting (13 percent) as Harrison scored to a 26-5 lead after one period.

"That's not a bad team we played against," Harrison coach Mike Teachman said. "Churchill has been on a roll. I think they've turned the corner down here after a couple of lackluster years. It just happened for us tonight."

Both teams are 2-3 in the Western Lakes Activities Association. The Hawks improved their overall record to 6-5 and the Chargers fell to 4-7.

While most people would be impressed by Harrison's scoring, Teachman was glowing afterward about the team play that enabled the Hawks to get the kind of shots they did.

"I like to have team playing like that," he said. "You can't control the shooting, but you can control the intensity, the alertness and the execution."

"A lot of times winning isn't the concern. But performing is. Do you perform up to your capabilities? A lot of shots come because you're passing so well, and a lot of people were touching the ball."

Senior Rick Smith and freshman Kevin Bambenek did all of their scoring (11 points apiece) in the first half.

See HAWKS, 2C

Road Warrior: Ryan Forth was one of the players who came off the bench Friday and contributed to Harrison's 74-58 victory over host Churchill.

Sophomore's shot lifts CC to win

BY NPAI ZITSER
STAFF WRITER

Justin Hoener's 19-foot jump shot with one second left Friday not only clinched a victory for Redford Catholic Central's basketball team, it also won some additional respect from coach Bernie Holowicki.

Hoener's shot broke a 60-60 tie and the Shamrocks held on for a 64-60 win over visiting Redford Bishop Borgess.

The sophomore guard was eager to have the ball in his hands at the end.

"After we called timeout with 11 seconds left, he came to the huddle Holowicki said.

"He kind of chuckled at me and said 'don't give me any of that,'" Hoener said. "I knew once I got the ball I was going to take the shot. I knew it was going in when I let go of it."

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The inbounds pass from half-court went to Hoener, who released the jumper with his foot on the three-point line.

"I guess he proved he was right," Holowicki said.

Borgess' last chance failed when a desperation full-court pass hit the ceiling. Mike Ridley added two free throws for the final points.

With the win, the Shamrocks improved to 7-3 overall and 5-1 in the Catholic League Central Division. The Spartans, who let a 34-21 halftime lead slip away, dropped to 6-5 overall and 4-2 in the Central Division.

It was the second heartbreaking loss for Borgess to CC this month. On Jan. 4, the Spartans rallied from a 17-point deficit to tie the game before losing 61-53.

On Friday, Borgess led 42-29 midway through the third quarter, before the Shamrocks exploded on a 27-8 run over the next seven minutes for a 56-50 lead with 4:03 left in the fourth quarter.

"I told the team at halftime that we weren't playing with intensity and we weren't finding our men on defense," Holowicki said. "We were leaving (Charles) Smith wide open and you can't do that — he can flat out play."

Smith scored 15 of his game-high 24 points in the first half, but his hot shooting was cooled in the third when the Shamrocks made their run.

CC gained the momentum by stepping up its defense and forcing Borgess into seven third-quarter turnovers. On offense, the Shamrocks

were scoring at will with drives through the middle by Hoener and senior guard Anthony Hesano.

"We played with handicaps on in the first half," Holowicki said. "I told them that if (the lane) was there to take it."

Ridley led the Shamrocks with 21 points and they were vital since senior guard Andy Kummer, who scored 17 in CC's first win over Borgess, was held scoreless in the game.

Hoener finished with 13 and Joe Daly added 11. Perry Robinson tallied 13 points off the bench for Borgess.

"We made some mistakes late," said Borgess coach Glen Donahue. "We took the lead three times in the fourth and let them come right back and score on simple shots. We didn't help out on defense, and we weren't taking the lane away."

Rice overcomes foe's slow-down tactics

BY MARTY BUDNER
STAFF WRITER

Talk show radio host Rush Limbaugh would have felt right at home watching Cranbrook Kingswood's ultra-conservative game plan Wednesday against neighborhood hockey rival Birmingham Brother Rice.

The No. 1-ranked Warriors, who had just come off a tiring road trip to the Upper Peninsula where they captured the Sault Ste. Marie tournament championship, managed to slip past the host Cranes, 3-2.

Although Rice was in control throughout the majority of the game, it was not a vintage Brother Rice performance. But Cranbrook had a lot to do with that. The Cranes iced the puck at every opportunity and simply used a slow-down style that kept Brother Rice from getting into its free-wheeling offense.

The weary Warriors were held well below their seven-goals-per game average, and when they did get a shot, Cranbrook goalie Terry Kalna was there to stop them.

"We just didn't have any jump, and it showed," said veteran Brother Rice coach Mike Brown. "We were concerned that the guys would come up a little flat. The guys were trying, but nothing happened."

Cranbrook's first-year coach Andy Weidenbach, who previously coached in the highly regarded Compuware program, instituted the slow-down

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strategy especially for Rice. And while it didn't make for real exciting hockey, it definitely was effective.

"We went out with a specific game plan, and it worked," said Weidenbach, whose team fell to 6-8 on the season. "We played to slow down the game and make as many line changes as possible. We were hoping to capitalize on their mistakes."

"This was the first time we played this way, and I'm very pleased with the way the kids responded to the system," he said. "We didn't feel we could run-and-gun with them. We just wanted to play a little more conservative."

The Cranes slowed down the tempo from the opening face-off and nearly pulled off the upset of the prep season.

Kalna set the tone early in the game when he stopped Rice forward Mike Jalaba on a clear-cut break-away with a fine pad save. A few minutes later, Kalna again came up with a point-blank glove save on Rice forward Owen Townsend.

However, on the ensuing face-off, centerman Pat Dahki won the draw and sent the puck back to Townsend who wristed home the game's first goal.

It was the lone tally of the first period. Defensive-minded Cranbrook managed just one shot on

goal — from outside the blue line — in that opening period.

The game opened up somewhat in the second period as Rice scored two more goals, both by hard-skating, rugged winger Dan Rominski. The first goal came off a rebound shot, and the second capped a slick three-way passing play involving linemates Jeff Wojcik and Jalaba with a man advantage.

Cranbrook held Rice scoreless throughout the first 10 minutes of the final period. Then the Cranes received the break they were hoping for.

With less than four minutes left, the Warriors were assessed a pair of double minors that gave the Cranes a two-man advantage for a full two minutes.

It took Cranbrook Kingswood 46 seconds to break into the scoring column when hard-shooting defenseman Bryan Donner rifled in a 20-foot shot. Less than a minute later, playing with a one-man advantage, the Cranes scored again on a nice play by forward Ryan Charetta.

Cranbrook lifted its goalie with time running out, but to no avail. Rice hung on to lift its overall record to 13-0.

"In the four year I've been at Brother Rice, (all the games against Cranbrook Kingswood) have been one-goal games," said Brown. "You have to give them credit. Cranbrook played solid, and their goals came up with some big saves."