

Sports & Recreation

The Farmington
Observer

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Dan O'Meara, Editor 734-953-2141

on the web: <http://observer.occnet.com>

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FARMINGTON- HARRINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Hoop games postponed

The Farmington-North Farmington varsity and JV boys basketball games were postponed Friday due to a vapor leak at Farmington High School earlier in the day.

The leak came from an area of the school under construction. Fumes similar to those from paint thinner or turpentine leaked into the main building when workers put sealer on a concrete floor.

Students were sent home early and a decision was made to postpone the games until Tuesday, Feb. 23.

Hawks defeat Falcons

Farmington Harrison outlasted visiting Farmington in a marathon first game, 19-17, and went on to win the second game and the volleyball match Wednesday, 16-8. Both are 1-1 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Farmington led early in the first game, 6-3, but Harrison rallied for an 8-7 advantage. With the Hawks trailing 17-16, senior Ali Ault served the final three points for Harrison.

"It was just a battle of wills as to who was going to win the game," Harrison coach Lisa Schrowe said, adding her girls played aggressively from the start. "I think our serving won the game. In both matches, we missed only four serves; so our serving was very accurate."

In addition to Ault, Eva Chavez, Emily Jackson, Brittany Maxey and Lindsey Emmett were 100 percent on the service line in the match.

Harrison raced to a 14-3 lead in the second game after five serves. The Falcons closed to 14-7 as the Hawks experimented with different offensive attacks before finishing off the win.

Maxey had six kills and Jennelle Welling five in the match. Chavez had 22 kill assists. Maxey also had 13 defensive digs, Patty Moloney seven and Emmett six.

"It was just a team effort all the way around," Schrowe said. "If the girls keep up the team work, it will take us far. We're more aggressive and accurate with our serving than last year. We're looking to get above .500 this year."

Lynday Howard had 12 kills and Emilie Villemonte nine for the Falcons. Meghan O'Rear did a good job of setting the ball, according to Farmington coach Anne Badyne said.

"We were down and came back; we fought hard and didn't give up," Badyne said. "It was a good team effort. The kids who came in off the bench did a good job."

Late goal lifts Flyers

Ross Patterson's goal with one second remaining Friday night gave host Farmington a 3-3 tie with Livonia Franklin in high school hockey.

It was Patterson's second goal of the game. He also scored with 11 seconds left in the second period to force a 2-2 tie.

Scott Salomonson scored the Flyers' first goal at 13:51 in the first period for a 1-1 tie. He also assisted on the first Patterson goal.

Danny Mooney, Matt Lee, Chris Hone (two) and Tom Close also had assists for Farmington, which lost to host Dearborn on Wednesday, 10-0.

The Flyers (2-12-2, 1-9-1) were short-handed when Patterson scored his second goal, but they had pulled their goalie for an extra attacker.

A few seconds earlier, Close sent the puck across the front of the Franklin goal and just missed on the far post. Hone dug it out of the corner and centered it to Patterson.

Shortly before that, the Patriots (6-6-1, 3-6-1) had missed Farmington's open net by six inches twice.

Whalers increase lead

The Plymouth Whalers added two points to their cushion over the Sarnia Sting, the second-place team in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division, by edging the Sting 2-1 Wednesday at Compuware Arena.

The West Division-leading Whalers are 34-8-3 (71 points). Sarnia is 20 points behind but has played three fewer games (23-14-5, 61 points).

Plymouth's Eric Gooldy got the game-winner with 8:45 left in the third period. It was his 14th goal of the season.

There was a big difference in shots on goal. Plymouth bombarded Sarnia goalie Curtis Cruickshank with 39 shots; Rob Zepp got the win for the Whalers, stopping 20 of 21 shots.



On the offensive: Farmington Harrison point guard Dave Pesci looks for the next pass Friday while being guarded by Canton's Nick Cabauatan. The Hawks rallied but fell a point short in the end.

Hawks drop close game

Farmington Harrison rallied from a double-digit deficit in the second half again Friday only to fall short in the final tally. The Hawks suffered their third Western Lakes Activities Association loss at Plymouth Canton, 53-52.

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER
domeara@occcomm.net

Plymouth Canton played outstanding team basketball to get the lead Friday, but the Hawks had to survive another late rally by visiting Farmington Harrison to get the win, 53-52.

The Chiefs were tireless workers at both ends of the court, holding down Harrison's explosive offensive potential while executing their half-court offense successfully.

"We must play five-man team defense," Canton coach Danny Young said. "We're trying to build our defense

through togetherness. To do that, we have to play five-man offense and we did."

"We passed and caught the ball; we took good shots. Then we were able to get back against a good, athletic Harrison team. That gave us a chance."

Canton's Mike Major scored 18 points, converting all seven of his free throws, to lead the Chiefs, who improved to 2-1 in the Western Lakes Activities Association and 4-5 overall.

Joe Cortellini noted 16 points, which included four three-point baskets. Jason Waldman was 4-of-4 at the line in a 10-point effort and Dan McLean

tossed in six points.

Harrison's Andrew Burt and Nick Hall scored 20 points apiece, working hard on the offensive board for rebounds. Lemar Wilson added six points and Matt Reed five.

"They're tough to play because of all the picks," said Harrison coach Mike Tenchman of the Chiefs. "They've got the running part of the game, but they also have the blasting part of the game — and we got blasted pretty good."

"Canton worked really hard to get open and they hit (the shots)."

The Chiefs took a 10-point lead — their biggest of the game — when Major scored from the baseline with just over five minutes remaining, 51-41.

But Harrison, 2-3 in the WLAA and 6-3 overall, finished with an 11-2 run to make it interesting at the end.

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Team leader: Senior Dale Rominski has become a key part of U-M's program.

Harrison grid star commits to GVSU

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER
domeara@occcomm.net

As a high school football player, Mike Hoad knew nothing other than being a winner and a part of winning teams at Farmington Harrison.

That's a major reason Hoad has chosen to play to college ball at Grand Valley State University and why the Lakers wanted a player like Hoad to join their team.

Grand Valley, situated in the West Michigan town of Allendale near Grand Rapids, is the defending Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference champion and a perennial Division II powerhouse.

"Coming from a championship team like Harrison, they expect me to bring that kind of attitude and instill it in some of the freshman guys coming in," Hoad said. "I've been around and seen how teams work together to accomplish their goals. They expect me to be a leader."

In Hoad's three years as a varsity starter at Harrison, the Hawks were 37-2 and played in three straight Class A finals, winning state championships the last two years. Being accustomed to that kind of success, Grand Valley seemed like the place to be.

"I knew they had an established program and are still on the rise," Hoad said. "They're at the top and people are shooting at them, like at Harrison. That kinda persuaded me to be part of a good program."

Hoad, who started at tight end and linebacker for the Hawks since he was a sophomore, will play linebacker for the Lakers.

The 6-foot-1, 208-pound Hoad was twice an All-Observer selection on defense and finished his career as one of Harrison's all-time leading tacklers.

Only Blazo Sarcevic (1988-90) had more tackles. He holds the record with 299, but Hoad is close behind with 295.

"They want taller guys to play tight end, and my first love was always linebacker," Hoad said. "I don't see myself as anything other than a linebacker, because I've never really played anything else (on defense)."

"Their linebackers are around my height but a little beefier up top. They

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