

# Big 3rd quarter key to Salem win

BY C.J. RISK  
STAFF WRITER  
cjrisk@observer.com

The first half of Tuesday's Western Lakes Activities Association basketball showdown between Plymouth Salem and Farmington Harrison was exactly what one would expect: even.

The second half was not. The third quarter belonged to the Rocks, who expanded a two-point lead at halftime to a 17-point bulge eight minutes later, which was far too formidable for the host Hawks to overcome. The final: Salem 63, Harrison 41.

It was the second straight league loss for the defending WLAAC champion Hawks, who are 8-4 overall and 4-2 in the league. The Rocks, who shared last year's title, are 11-1 and 6-0.

"I was thinking to myself at halftime, if we just play good, solid defense and slow it down on offense a bit, we'll be all right," said Salem coach Fred Thomann. "What I said to them

## BASKETBALL

was, 'This is a great game. (Harrison) has to take us out to get into the second half.'"

"If anything, we said 'Let's not try and make all the plays. Let's let them try and make the plays.'"

It was a challenge the Hawks weren't up to. With 34 seconds left in the first half, Kelly Taylor sank two free throws to put Harrison ahead, 20-19. It was the last time the Hawks would lead.

Tiffany Grubaugh knocked down a three-pointer with eight seconds left in the half — one of six by the Rocks — to give Salem a 22-20 halftime lead.

In the first half, the Rocks had converted 10 of 17 floor shots, superb shooting by any standard. In the third quarter, they were even sharper, making eight of 11 (73 percent), including three triples.

"I thought, in the first few

minutes of the second half, we weren't real aggressive," said Harrison coach Pete Mantyla, referring to his team's 2-1-2 zone defense. "We know they're really skilled. We're not running our offensive rules right when someone has that much time to catch and shoot."

"I thought we were more aggressive (in the first half). In the second half, we were more passive, and they made us pay for it."

Certainly, Salem's offensive prowess took Harrison out of the game in the third quarter. But it wasn't just Salem's shooting that destroyed Harrison.

While the Rocks were hitting, the Hawks were missing. They connected on just two of 10 from the floor in the third quarter and missed both of their free-throw attempts.

They also committed six turnovers to Salem's two in the period. It all spiraled against them. Katie Kelly nailed a pair

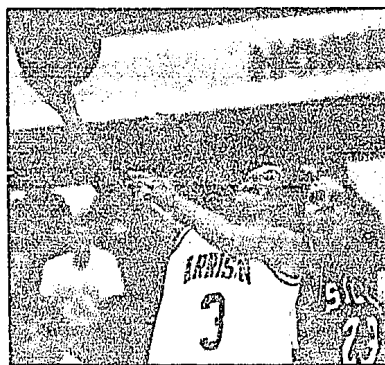
of threes in the final 1:56 of the third as the Rocks outscored Harrison 19-4 in the period.

When Grubaugh, who led all scorers with 20 points, hit another triple to start the final quarter, Salem had its largest lead at 44-24. The closest Harrison got after that was 12.

Kelly Jakot added 10 points for the Rocks, and Kelly and Dawn Allen finished with eight each. Taylor had 16 points, five rebounds and four steals. Becky Zak added 13 points.

"We've been in a lull the last couple of weeks," said Mantyla. "Against teams like Canton (which beat Harrison 41-23) and Salem, they're just too good to play that way."

"We need to get more from our second group, to challenge our first group."



Court action: Harrison's Gayle Ternes attempts a layup as Salem's Tiffany Grubaugh tries to disrupt the shot.

## Raiders earn Western Lakes win over Patriots

North Farmington improved its record to 5-1 in Western Lakes Activities Association girls basketball Tuesday with a 52-47 victory over host Livonia Franklin.

Franklin senior Tera Morrill outscored North junior Samantha McComb, 29-25, but McComb had better support from her teammates.

The Raiders led 28-26 at halftime and 39-35 after three quarters. The Patriots got within two in the final period, but the Raiders held on with a 15-12 scoring edge.

"We came out knowing it was another win we had to focus on and get this week," North coach Linda Perkins said. "The kids played hard. They managed to execute and get it done."

Jehan Hinds added eight points for North, 9-3 overall. She also had four rebounds and four steals.

McComb's stats included 10 rebounds, six assists, four steals and two blocks. Christina Colombo also had four rebounds and four steals.

Kerstin Marshall chipped in 11 points for Franklin, 3-3 in the WLAAC and 6-6 overall.

MARIAN 46, MERCY 23: Poor shooting led to Farmington's 46-23 overall as visiting Birmingham Marian avenged an earlier loss Tuesday.

The Warriors, 2-5 in the Catholic League Central Division and 24 percent (12-of-50) from the floor. "You can't win basketball games like that," Mercy coach Kevin Wright said. "We just can't seem to put the ball in the basket."

Mercy is averaging just 37 points per game. At the beginning of the season, it was

averaging 60 and winning. Wright added.

Kathy Ramsey was Mercy's leading scorer with 20 points. Susan Robles had five points and Carrie Brashers, who was double-teamed in the post, threw away the 24 rebounds and Ramsey four. Crystal Andrew scored 17 points to lead the Mustangs.

CANTON 63, FARMINGTON 18: Anne Morrill scored 20 points for the Chiefs as they won their 4-2 record. Kate Schaefer added 11 and Amanda Lantz 10 for Canton, which is 7-5 overall.

Sophomore Lisa Arnold had seven points and five rebounds for the Falcons. Sophomore Bardin Brown, who had four points and two steals, "played tough and really earned," according to Farmington coach Scott Lantz.

The Chiefs led 20-6 after one quarter and 43-11 at halftime. The Falcons fell to 1-5 in the league and 10-20 overall.

Coch Bob Brown had nothing but good things to say about the Falcons, however. "Farmington played hard and really worked at it," he said. "Take their first quarter. They played physically tough and they competed hard. Scott is doing a really good job with them."

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