

Raiders

His defense from last season, and his offensive from last season, led the Phoenix with 18 points, and Lloyd Cowles added 12.

"Farmington did a good job of keeping [Farmington] out of his comfort area," Cowles said. "He was a few things, because he wasn't getting the ball where he's used to getting it."

"He has to get used to that, because teams are going to try to deny him the ball. But he brings a lot to the team; he rebounds and plays defense well."

Consecutive lookouts by Sanders gave the Phoenix its first lead, 44-42, about midway in the opening quarter with 5:44 remaining in the game.

Renaissance went to a delay game, which worked to North's advantage when the Raiders fouled Joseph Clark with 58.3 seconds left.

Clark missed the free throw, and Wetha grabbed the rebound. The Raiders worked the ball until Shulman penetrated and shot a leaping one-hander that bounced off

the back of the rim.

"I couldn't be more pleased," Negushian said, adding the Raiders had a good look at the basket and a chance at the end. "I think we played hard and played well."

North scored 10 unanswered points in the first quarter to lead 14-8 at the end. Shulman had six points in the opening period.

The Phoenix got within three at half-time, 24-21, but Wetha made two triples and Shulman one in the third quarter to keep the Raiders on top, 37-35.

"I thought Farmington played real well; they played together," White said. "They seemed very prepared for the first game."

"On the other hand, we played hard in spurts. We didn't get what we expected from our bench players. But it's a win and I'm happy with that."

The Phoenix, which tied the score at 14-14 with 32 seconds finally going ahead of the Raiders, into 19 turnovers. The Phoenix committed 17 as a result of the hard work and hustle by the Raiders.

"If we play the way we did tonight, I'd

hate to see that team with their two best players," White said. "If we play the way we're capable, I think it would be a good game."

It's a credit to the (North) kids who played tonight. They have to be proud of their effort."

North made 16 of 40 field goals overall, including three of 10 threes. Renaissance was 14-of-49 from the floor, which included 2-of-13 shooting behind the arc. The Phoenix made 14 of 21 free throws, the Raiders seven of 13.

Davies' four-point lead the Raiders played without Medunjanin and Bridges; Negushian didn't want to speculate how good they will be with them back in the lineup.

"I don't think you do that," he said. "The kids who played know how good they are and the kids who weren't here aren't as good as we were in with."

"We added (D'Andre) DeForrest and Renaissance, because we need to see how good a team we can be... and I think we learned a lot in this game."



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Falcons

better than six points per game.

"Matt is going to be our perimeter scorer," Mikel said. "He probably shoots the ball as well as anybody on our team."

"When you have to do ball-handling duties, you don't always get the good shots you'd like. But he can also handle the ball and take it to the basket."

Starting in the post will be 6-6 senior Brian Davies and 6-3 senior Chad Seaborn. Both are returning varsity players. Seaborn was third in scoring with 6.8 points per game and second in rebounding with 4.5. Davies averaged 3.8 each.

"We planned on playing Justin and Brian together, so when Justin gets healthy we'll have two good-size post players," Mikel said. "Brian is going to have to take care of the heavy-load stuff until Justin gets better."

"He put in a full summer of basketball and was in the weight room. He had a good football season and got a little more aggressive, and it has carried over to the basketball court."

"Chad is a solid athlete; he runs the floor well and is a good rebounder. His outside shot has improved tremendously. We're looking for Chad to have a good senior year."

The fifth starter could be 6-6 senior Garlin Gilchrist, who has grown three inches since last season. He was known for com-

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