

4th-quarter rally helps Hawks win

Farmington Harrison was a little sluggish Friday night but had just enough "clutz" at the end to defeat Walled Lake Central in both halves.

The two Hawks scored 15-4 in the fourth quarter to defeat the Vikings, 61-46.

Junior guard Whitaker Corbett hit a pair of three-point shots in the second half, the second a fourth-quarter shot that put Harrison ahead to stay, 40-41.

"We stepped up our defense in the second half," Harrison coach Dave Turquist said. "We need a half-court trap that we were pretty successful with."

Senior forward Brad Tucker, who scored seven points, "was very instrumental in that defensive effort with a couple of steals," Turquist said.

Junior center Jon Handley had all scores with 19 points for the Hawks and also added 12 rebounds.

Ryan Rabish paced the Vikings with 14 points.

Control and Harrison split the first two quarters, and the game was tied, 25-23, at the halfway point. The Vikings outscored the Hawks in the third quarter, 18-9.

"Matt Kney had his first straight great game off the bench," Turquist said. "He hit a big three in the fourth quarter to help us maintain our lead."

"That's the type of senior leadership you need to survive in the Western Lakes Activities Association; there's no doubt about that."

The victory let Harrison (6-1) square its WLLA mark at 2-1 while Central (1-6) lost for the second time in as many conference games.

The Vikings sank nine three-point shots to keep the game close.

Another factor in the closeness of the outcome was Harrison's 21-32 shooting from the free throw line.

"There's not much question about what the Hawks will be working on this week."

added 12 and Bescoe and Brandon Dastrey each scored nine each.

Salem got 22 points from Matt McCaffrey, 13 from Nick Tochman and nine apiece from Jeff Haar and Ryan Nimmerguth.

CLARENCEVILLE 48, HARPER WOODS 38: Tough defense and good free throw shooting are a tough combination to beat.

Clarenceville used that formula Friday night to defeat visiting Harper Woods in a non-conference meeting of the season between the Metro Conference foes.

The Metro Conference officially begins its revamped season Tuesday night when Clarenceville hosts Harper Woods Lutheran East.

Clarenceville's three-game winning streak has led the Trojans square their record at 4-4 while Harper Woods is now 6-3. The streak is the Trojans' longest in at least two seasons.

"We made a couple of steals and rebounds that helped make it a six-point game," coach Bill Oyer said. "And we shut them down the stretch. We made 7-of-9 free throws in the last quarter."

Sophomore forward Tim Shaw led Clarenceville with 13 points while junior center Scott Wion scored 13. The Trojans were 7-of-11 from the line in the game.

James Douglas led the Pioneers with 15 and Corey Moore contributed 13. Clarenceville clung to an 8-7 lead after the first quarter and was ahead, 17-11, at halftime. Each team scored 12 points in the third quarter.

"We just played great man-to-man defense at the end," Oyer said. "And we made our free throws down the stretch. Shaw was 3-of-3 from the line. And he hit a jumper from the corner when we were just up a couple."

W.L. WESTERN 60, JOHN GLENN 50: The host Warriors halted a three-game slide against the skidding Rockets.

Slugging John Glenn got a three-point play from Michael Franks with 6:04 left to give it a 42-40 lead but things deteriorated from there as the Rockets (2-4) dropped their second WLLA game in as many tries.

Center Yaku Moton scored Glenn with 21 points. Western (5-3) won its WLLA debut by getting 19 points from John Eagle, 12 from Chris Howder and 11 from Jenero Dawood.

John Glenn held a 10-9 lead after the first quarter and trailed by a point, 29-28, at the intermission.

Patriots clip rival Spartans in overtime

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BASKETBALL

It was an Alberta Clipper kind of basketball night for two Livonia basketball teams seeking their first victory in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Fortunately for host Franklin, things warmed up Friday in the second half.

But for rival Stevenson, it was severe frostbite as the Spartans shot a frigid 30 percent (10 of 33) in a 64-48 overtime loss.

Franklin, which outscored Stevenson 9-3 during the four-minute extra session, is 1-1 in the WLLA. The Spartans dropped to 0-2.

Both teams are 2-5 overall. The Patriots were just five of 19 shooting in the (26 percent) in the first half, but reversed their cold snap by going 14 of 28 during the final 20 minutes to finish 19 of 47 on the night (40 percent).

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Another factor in the closeness of the outcome was Harrison's 21-32 shooting from the free throw line.

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with just 3.5 seconds left in the third quarter on Ian Reid's free throw, 30-29.

The Patriots then opened up an eight-point lead late in the fourth quarter on a pair of baskets by Ruggiero.

But the Spartans, despite their shooting woes, refused to fold. Consecutive triples by Mike Lenardon and Pota Pinto pulled Stevenson to within two, 41-39, with just under three minutes to go.

Franklin went back up by six, 45-39, on a pair of Reid free throws with 1:54 to go, but the Spartans forced overtime on baskets by Chris Severson, John Van Buren and Ryan Drotel.

Stevenson then made just one of five from the field, a three by Severson in the overtime. Meanwhile, Franklin put nine points on the board including a short banker by Ruggiero with 34 seconds remaining to put the game away.

Lenardon and Harland Bever-

ly each finished with 11 points to pace Stevenson. Severson added eight.

"I can't fault either team's effort," Stevenson coach Tim Newman said. "Both played hard and both teams respect each other."

"The difference is that they were more physical inside and they got more scoring inside."

The defender never activated for the ice-cold Spartans.

"We're capable of hitting; we just didn't tonight," Newman said. "We were getting good looks at the hoop. And in any offensive scheme that's more than you can ask for."

The teams meet again Tuesday at Stevenson, but the game won't count in the WLLA standings.

"It's going to be that much more difficult going over and playing in their gym," Babinski said. "We're going to have to play with even more desire and purpose."

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Churchill earns 1st win over Salem in 4 seasons

"Did" will beat "didn't" just about every time.

Livonia Churchill did hit its three-point shots Friday night while Plymouth Salem didn't. The result, a 70-66 victory for the Chargers.

The Rocks had two chances in the closing seconds to catch the Chargers but couldn't make the necessary three-pointers.

The end result was host Churchill's first win over Salem since the 1995-96 season.

The Chargers improved to 5-2 overall, 2-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Salem fell to 3-5 overall, 0-2 in the WLLA.

"This was a big win," said Churchill coach Rick Austin. "Our guys shot fabulously. We're a very good shooting ball club, and we needed it tonight to offset Salem's inside game."

"Our guys are very hard-working. They believe they can win."

What Salem coach Bob Brodie found hard to believe was that his Rocks could be within a basket at the half after the shooting display put on by the Chargers.

"They came out hot," Brodie said. "They had seven threes in the first half. I was surprised we were only down two at halftime."

"We kept waiting for them to trip and fall, and they never did."

Churchill's three-point shooting was certainly one big difference. The Chargers had nine of them; the Rocks made just three.

Another was turnover: Churchill forced 18 by Salem while committing just nine.

Still, the Rocks were within three with 20 seconds left after a three-point play by Ryan Cook. And yet, even after the Chargers missed two free throws, Salem couldn't close the gap. They got off two three-point shots in the last 10 seconds, but missed both.

Grand Bescoe's two free throws with three seconds remaining clinched it for Churchill.

Randall Boboige paced the Chargers with 19 points, including five triples. John Bennett

Falcons from page B1

Gilchrist had six each.

"We don't depend on any one or two people," Mikel said. "Any guy can do it on any given night."

David Gregor scored six points (all in the second half) to lead Northville. Aaron Redden had five, Justin Messer and Robbie Harner four apiece.

Northville's 30 points will do a lot to help Farmington's defensive average. The Mustangs didn't reach double figures until 18:04 into the game.

"We really have kids buying into the defensive theory," Mikel said. "They like to shut teams down. One of our goals, when we walk on the floor, is trying to hold teams to 40."

The Falcons extended their lead to 44-22 after three periods. The fourth quarter turned into a parade of free throws. The Falcons made 10 of 14 in the last quarter and 15 of 25 overall.

Farmington was consistent shooting field goals. It made six in each quarter while attempting 12, 13, 11 and 14, respectively.

The Falcons shot just under 50 percent (24-of-50) while the Mustangs were shot over 25 percent (9-of-36). Northville was 12-of-22 at the line.

"They're a great program to lose to," Baldwin said. "Denny Mikel is a spectacular coach, and he has a great bunch of kids, who were very gracious in thrashing us."

"Our future looks good (playing four sophomores, two of whom start), but this is a gauge of how far we have to go. Our kids will use it as a learning experience."