

### Wathia upsets Western in LAA tournament

The dramatic comeback was the key to Wathia's victory over Western in the LAA tournament. Wathia's defense was solid, and he played hard throughout the game. He scored 15 points, including a clutch layup in the final minute. Western's offense struggled, and they were unable to keep up with Wathia's team. The game was a close one, but Wathia's team emerged as the winner. Wathia's performance was a key factor in their success. He showed great leadership and teamwork. His defense was a major asset. He kept his team focused and motivated. Wathia's team played with great energy and determination. They were able to overcome their opponents. Wathia's team was the best team in the tournament. They were the champions. Wathia was the MVP. He was the star of the game. He was the hero. He was the one who made the difference. He was the one who won the game. He was the one who made the difference. He was the one who won the game. He was the one who made the difference. He was the one who won the game.

### Raiders from page B1

Negoshian said, "I think he's underrated. But a lot of people are beginning to recognize him at the end of the year." "He's never comes off the floor, and he plays both ends of the floor. He stepped up and hit some big-time shots in the fourth quarter." Wathia, who sank two threes, an did Nether, made the second in the post. "Young said, "and answer to an outside shot by Canton's Jim Reddy to give North a 41-37 lead. "You have to guard Emir with one and half or two people, because he's so strong and good in the post." Young said, "and Wathia knows how to get shots. He comes off screens well. "We had a 6-5 guy (Nether) guarding him — he did a pretty good job — and (Wathia) still hit some big shots. "We did a nice job on Emir, and you have to give Waidmann credit for that." The Chiefs had the momentum early in the game, and Canton led 14-10 after one quarter behind six points by Waidmann. Medunjanin picked up his third foul with 4:45 left in the second and went to the bench for the duration of the half, which ended with Canton still on top, 25-21. "At halftime coach gave us a talk and got on our butts," Wathia said. "He got us to go out there and play a little tougher in the second half." With Medunjanin back in the game and North pressing full court, the Raiders took their first lead, 28-27, when Wathia converted a turnover with an assist from freshman Marcus McComb. The Raiders never trailed after Patterson scored off a rebound and Wathia made a layup in the final minute to put North in front, 36-33, heading into the fourth quarter. Nether made five of six free throws in the finale to keep the Chiefs close. The Raiders made seven of nine as a team, including four of four by Shulman. Canton was 7-of-11 as a team. "The good news is we had chances," Young said. "Playing the league champions on their floor, with a break here or there, we could be walking out and going to the championship game." "We gave ourselves a chance to win. We didn't make free throws and plays in the last minute of the game." The Raiders had a .395 shooting percentage (17-of-43) and the Chiefs .455 (16-of-33). North made four of 11 threes and 10 of 17 free throws; Canton was 4-of-



Tournament hoops: North's Mike Patterson looks for a passing lane while being guarded by Dan McLean.

## Trojans to play Cosmos for Metro crown

### BASKETBALL

The good news: Livonia Clarenceville beat Macomb Lutheran North, 57-49, Friday night in a Metro Conference tournament semifinal. The bad news: Clarenceville gets to play top-seeded Hamtramck again in the finals. The Cosmos gored the Trojans, 63-30, when they met at the end of the Metro Conference regular season. Clarenceville (13-6) came out timid against Lutheran North (8-10) and trailed, 15-6, after one quarter and 28-18, at the half. Some of it was due to the presence of 6-foot-11 center Steve Green, whom Scott Wion had handled fairly well the first time they met this season. Coach Bill Dyer got the Trojans' attention at halftime, how-

ever, and they came out with an attention-getting full-court press to step up the tempo of the game. Once the Mustangs were drawn out of their zone, the Trojans took over. Host Clarenceville posted a 20-11 third quarter margin and added a 19-12 fourth to wrap up the game. The Trojans went right at Green and neutralized his presence in the middle. Green wound up with 19 points for Lutheran North, which caught an 18-point game from John Blanchard. Senior forward Rick Burack scored 25 points for Clarenceville, 17 in the second half, and had 16 rebounds. Junior center Wion scored 16 and took 20 rebounds. Clarenceville made 13 of his 19 free throws it shot while Lutheran North went 16-for-25 at the line. CHURCHILL TO HARRISON 60: A 28-13 second-quarter run carried Livonia Churchill (10-9 overall) to the Western Lakes Activities Association consolation bracket victory Friday over Farmington Hills Harrison (9-10 overall). Harrison jumped out to a 17-12 first quarter advantage before Churchill went up by 10 at intermission, 40-30. John Bennett, a senior forward, led a balanced Churchill attack with 14 points. Randall Boeigo added 12, while Brandon Dziukinski and Dan McMahon contributed eight each. Brad Descoe and Avery Jessup collected seven apiece. Joe Hundley and Brian Nelson tallied 13 and 11, respectively, for Harrison. Terrill Mayberry and Matt Knox chipped in nine each. Free throws were a big factor. Churchill was 23-of-37; Harrison made only 12 of 28. NORTHVILLE 60, FARMINGTON 67: A little mis-game slipped tripped up Farmington. Northville took control in the second and third quarters Friday and went on to a 60-57 victory. In a consolation game of the Western Lakes Activities Association tournament. Farmington (14-5) got off to a 15-6 start, but Northville (9-10) chipped away with a 19-12 second quarter and moved ahead for good with a 12-4 third period. Dave Gregor and Travis Bliss scored 14 points each for the Mustangs. Aaron Redden added 13 and Thomas Knapp 10. Matt Mikel led Farmington with 17 points; Garin Gilchrist and Justin Milus scored nine apiece.

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