

Falcons succumb to Chiefs

Farmington allowed an early lead to slip away Monday, opening the door for Plymouth Canton to rally and win the volleyball match, 17-15, 15-3.

The Falcons had a 14-11 lead late in the first game. The Chiefs handled the serve for match point and returned the ball on a pass; however, the Falcons spiked it into the net and lost momentum after that.

"In the second game, we got down on ourselves," Farmington coach Alex Perrin said. "As long as things are going well, we play well. We're like a front-running team. A good team (such as Canton) is going to make a comeback, and we let it get to us mentally."

"That's been our trend. We did that against John Glenn and Saturday against Southgate Anderson in the tournament quarterfinals. We started thinking negatively, and it becomes a snowball effect."

"There's no reason for us to lose that badly to anybody. We're much too good to do that. It's sort of a mental block we have."

Lyndy Howard was 12-of-13 attacking with five kills, and Jessica Janowicz 8-of-8 with four kills and two blocks.

Julie Kimmel, who had two kills, had eight defensive digs and Megan Young seven. Randa Brown had 11 kill assists, and Howard served seven points in the first game, including three aces.

The Falcons, who are 4-6 in the Western Lakes Activities

VOLLEYBALL

Association, had a 2-1-2 record Saturday in a tournament at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Farmington defeated Dearborn Henry Ford Academy, 15-7, 15-5, and Ferndale, 15-10, 15-6. It split with Belleville, 15-5, 13-15, and Goodrich, 15-10, 4-16. The loss occurred in a quarterfinal match with Anderson, 6-15, 6-15.

"We did a lot more experimenting with alternative line-ups," Perrin said. "We put a lot of pressure on ourselves to perform last week. If we had played to win, it would've changed things a little bit."

"We wanted to get some playing time and work toward improving ourselves at the end of the season."

Perrin used so many different lineup combinations nobody had the opportunity to accumulate state except for Kelsey Guisbert, who served in every match. She was 24-of-27 on the day with four aces and 14 points.

Rocks defeat Raiders
North Farmington was dealt a 15-3, 15-10 setback Monday by host Plymouth Salem, dropping the Raiders' record to 2-7 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"They came out serving short on us, which is the strategy I try to teach us to use," North

coach Deb Calanchi said. "When we had a decent pass, we didn't get a good set; when we had a good pass and set, the hitters didn't keep it in play."

"Salem is scrappy. They're not big but athletic. They just don't give up on a play. They didn't make very many mistakes."

"I watched them warm up and they hit everything across court; so I placed our defense there. It's not so much they beat us on hitting. We would eventually make a mental mistake and lose a point on side-out."

"In the second game, we did much better. We started to hustle better and played more intense, but we struggled setting and that seemed to impact the rest of the team."

North's Amy Berke was 9-for-9 serving and Lisa St. Charles 4-for-4 with one ace. Meghan Callahan was 11-of-14 hitting with two kills and Elina Pilnits 8-of-8 with one kill.

"Nicole LeClere had another good night," Calanchi said. "She may just have won herself a starting spot."

"Callahan is an intense athlete. She played well on defense, and I give her credit for hustling and being there. The same with Nicole LeClere."

"Lisa St. Charles did a good job hustling. It's a tough night when the setter has to hustle a lot. We're still struggling to get the pass up to the setter."

Blazers try to make it 10 in row

The stage is set for the Livonia Ladywood girls volleyball team.

The Blazers will be gunning for their 10th straight Catholic League A-B Division title tonight when they face Birmingham Mariano. Game time is 7 p.m. at Madonna University.

The Blazers, co-Catholic Division champions with Marian, improved to 18-13-6 overall with a 15-7, 13-15, 15-7 semifinal win Saturday over Notre Dame Prep in a match played at Madison Heights Foley.

Erin Barteo was Ladywood's top attacker with 17 kills. Kristen Bachor added 13 and setter Melissa Buckshaw added nine. Laura Sirgedis chipped in with seven.

Megan Luntto had eight digs. Desiree Botta added seven digs and three aces.

Spartans sting Vikings
Katie Drews was a tower of power Monday, leading Livonia Stevenson to a 15-5, 15-6, 15-12 triumph over host Walled Lake Central.

Stevenson improved to 26-12-4 overall and 7-2 in the Western Lakes Activities Association. Central is 20-12-4 overall and 6-3 in the WLAA.

The 6-foot Drews, who helped neutralize Central's 6-1 middle hitter Heather Lippert, finished with seven kills, two solo blocks and seven aces.

Stevenson reached the semifinals of the University of Michigan-Dearborn Invitational Saturday. The Spartans were ousted by Southgate Anderson, 14-16, 15-9, 17-19.

BOYS BEST SWIM TIMES

Following are the best Observerland boys swim times and diving scores. Coaches can report updates to Don O'Meara by fax (734-591-7278), phone (734-953-2141) or email (domeara@home.com.net).

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY
(state cuts: A = 1:43.09, B = 1:49.59)
Plymouth Salem 1:42.47
Redford Catholic Central 1:42.75
Plymouth Canton 1:44.29
North Farmington 1:44.32
Livonia Stevenson 1:44.41

50-YARD FREESTYLE
(state cuts: A = 1:49.39, B = 1:58.59)
Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 1:47.03
Eric Lynn (Salem) 1:48.10
Brett Meconis (Redford CC) 1:48.81
Nick Markou (Redford CC) 1:49.48
Matt Wisniewski (Canton) 1:49.91
Ben Dzialo (Salem) 1:50.22
Jim Ross (Salem) 1:52.10
Mike Johnson (Salem) 1:53.54
Ed Lesnau (Redford CC) 1:53.92
Joe La (Canton) 1:54.45

200-YARD INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY
(state cuts: A = 2:03.99, B = 2:11.99)
Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 1:57.41
Eric Lynn (Salem) 2:00.91
Andrew Carlin (Redford CC) 2:04.25
Adam Farber (H. Farmington) 2:04.35
Ben Dzialo (Salem) 2:05.04
Mike Kruszewski (Redford CC) 2:07.85
Rob Cambridge (Stevenson) 2:08.70
Brad Nelson (Canton) 2:09.00
Aaron Shelton (Salem) 2:09.04
Aaron Shelton (Salem) 2:09.83

50-YARD FREESTYLE
(state cuts: A = 22.69, B = 23.69)
Ed Lesnau (Redford CC) 21.21
Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 22.28
Aaron Shelton (Salem) 22.54
Mike Johnson (Salem) 22.55
Adam Farber (H. Farmington) 22.74
Bryant Steele (Redford CC) 22.98
Brett Meconis (Redford CC) 23.23

Kevin Ryan (Redford CC) 23.29
Nick Markou (Redford CC) 23.57
Mike Gries (Redford CC) 23.62
Ryan Ahern (Canton) 23.62

DIVING
Chris McFarland (John Glenn) 259.50
Joe Rohde (Redford CC) 230.20
Greg Kudlak (Salem) 224.05
Eric Bell (John Glenn) 214.05
Blake Brunner (Canton) 212.30
Tyler Flood (Redford CC) 208.55
Mike Marotta (Redford CC) 203.00
Andrew Brissette (Stevenson) 194.40
Ken Douglas (Franklin) 190.20
Chris Derring (Redford CC) 185.55

100-YARD BUTTERFLY
(state cuts: A = 88.99, B = 98.99)
Brett Meconis (Redford CC) 93.26
Eric Lynn (Salem) 93.35
Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 93.51
Adam Farber (H. Farmington) 93.75
Ben Dzialo (Salem) 93.86
Bryant Steele (Redford CC) 94.88
Matt Wisniewski (Canton) 95.24
Robert Cambridge (Stevenson) 98.39
Brandon Truitt (Stevenson) 98.82
Andrew Carlin (Redford CC) 99.07

100-YARD FREESTYLE
(state cuts: A = 48.49, B = 53.99)
Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 48.47
Eric Lynn (Salem) 48.74
Ed Lesnau (Redford CC) 48.85
Mike Johnson (Salem) 49.70
Matt Wisniewski (Canton) 49.93
Aaron Shelton (Salem) 50.35
Ben Dzialo (Salem) 50.39
Nick Markou (Redford CC) 50.65
Brett Meconis (Redford CC) 51.06
Adam Farber (H. Farmington) 51.21

500-YARD FREESTYLE
(state cuts: A = 6:57.99, B = 7:18.99)
Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 4:55.57
Ben Dzialo (Salem) 4:56.22
Brian Mertens (Salem) 5:00.44
Nick Markou (Redford CC) 6:03.18

Brett Meconis (Redford CC) 5:06.94
Jim Ross (Salem) 5:08.17
Ryan Ahern (Canton) 5:08.25
Matt Wisniewski (Canton) 5:09.25
Andrew Carlin (Redford CC) 5:10.03
Brad Nelson (Canton) 5:12.54

200-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY
(state cuts: A = 3:29.99, B = 3:38.48)
Plymouth Salem 3:30.12
Redford Catholic Central 3:30.85
Plymouth Canton 3:32.49
Livonia Stevenson 3:35.95
North Farmington 3:37.91

100-YARD BACKSTROKE
(state cuts: A = 88.99, B = 98.99)
Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 94.32
Eric Lynn (Salem) 94.71
Brad Nelson (Canton) 97.09
Aaron Shelton (Salem) 97.56
Zach Fairath (Redford CC) 97.56
Nick Markou (Redford CC) 98.31
Brian Clayson (H. Farmington) 99.50
Andrew Carlin (Redford CC) 99.51
Bryant Steele (Redford CC) 1:00.10
Bryant Steele (Redford CC) 1:00.34

100-YARD BREASTSTROKE
(state cuts: A = 1:02.99, B = 1:07.99)
Adam Farber (H. Farmington) 59.82
Nick Markou (Redford CC) 1:04.28
Mike Nemer (Stevenson) 1:04.68
Aaron Shelton (Salem) 1:05.96
Ed Lesnau (Canton) 1:05.74
Jon Heiss (Canton) 1:06.72
Mike Kruszewski (Redford CC) 1:06.77
Matt Showalter (Salem) 1:06.86
Matt Newman (H. Farmington) 1:07.17
Tim Ryan (Redford CC) 1:08.50

400-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY
(state cuts: A = 5:22.99, B = 5:35.99)
Plymouth Salem 3:19.07
Redford Catholic Central 3:20.86
Livonia Stevenson 3:28.13
Plymouth Canton 3:28.35
North Farmington 3:28.48

CC swimmers down Churchill in dual

Redford Catholic Central won every event but one as the Shamrocks swamped Livonia Churchill in boys swimming and diving Saturday, 129-56.

"It was a fun meet for us, because it gave us an opportunity to swim kids who don't normally get a chance to swim," CC coach Jeff Baker said.

CC, 9-1 overall, scattered individual wins around the board as Andrew Carlin took the 200 freestyle (1:54.65), Dan Dziekan the 200 individual medley (2:19.40), Ed Lesnau the 50 freestyle (22.74), Joe Rohde diving (200.4), Zach Fellrath the 100 freestyle (1:24.41), Mike Kruszewski the 500 freestyle (6:20.18), Joe McGlynn the backstroke (1:03.00) and Tim Ryan the breaststroke (1:08.50).

The Shamrocks also won the 200 medley relay (Fellrath, Dziekan, Brett Meconis, Lesnau) in a state-cut time of 1:42.76, the 200 relay in 1:32.09 (Meconis, Bryant Steele, Kevin Ryan, Lesnau) and the 400 freestyle relay in 3:37.17 (Kruszewski, Dziekan, Mike Gries, Jeff Andonian).

Dziekan, Brett Meconis, Lesnau) in a state-cut time of 1:42.76, the 200 relay in 1:32.09 (Meconis, Bryant Steele, Kevin Ryan, Lesnau) and the 400 freestyle relay in 3:37.17 (Kruszewski, Dziekan, Mike Gries, Jeff Andonian).

NORTH FARMINGTON 122
WESTLAK JOHN GLENN 62
Feb. 13 at John Glenn

200-yard medley relay: 1. N. Farmington (Brian Clayson, Adam Farber, Sermat Aher, Dan Goshorn), 1:48.86; 200 freestyle: 1. Jeff Meconis (NF), 2:04.33; 3. Glenn Legachi (NF); 200 IM: 1. Farber (NF), 2:11.35; 2. Matt Newman (NF), 2:27.83; 3. Tom Naughton (NF), 2:31.55; 400 freestyle: 1. Aher (NF), 2:39.42; 2. Goshorn (NF), 2:51.18; diving: 1. Chris McFarland (JO), 255.40; 2. Derek Bell (JO), 207.05; 3. Steve Denard (NF), 151.60; 300 butterfly: 1. Farber (NF), 3:10.64; 2. Matvey (NF), 3:36.12; 200 freestyle relay: 1. N. Farmington (Glenn Legachi, Digila, Steve Pearce, Goshorn), 1:42.16; 300 backstroke: 1.

Clayson (NF), 1:01.40; 3. Naughton (NF), 1:09.42; 150 breaststroke: 1. Newman (NF), 1:09.56; 2. Ben Ivey (NF), 1:12.41; 400 freestyle relay: 1. Glenn (Salem, Gold, Anderson, Dashi), 3:54.84; 2. N. Farmington (Pearse, Matvey, Legachi, Newman), 3:55.97. North dual-meet record: 3-4 overall, 3-4 WLAA.

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