

Mercy tops Farmington at WB invite

Farmington Hills Mercy defeated Farmington in the semifinals of the West Bloomfield Invitational Thursday and was in turn eliminated by Plymouth Salem, the eventual champion, in the semifinals.

"We did not play particularly well on the day," Farmington volleyball coach Alex Perrin said. "Our defense early in the day was the worst we've played in quite a while."

"About mid day we started to play fairly well. We played well against West Bloomfield. We actually didn't play too badly in the first game against Mercy; Mercy just played tremendously well."

"In the second game, we raised our game a bit, and the first 17 points were very hotly contested. They hit a bad rotation for us and finished us off after almost four full rotations. The average match is around 2 1/2."

"The score was 15-8 but the game was closer than that. The intensity was very up. They really wanted it, and we didn't want to let them have it."

"I expect the rematch Thursday in the city tournament to be more like the second game. We were taken by surprise in the first game and they played really well."

Farmington's tournament leaders were Jessica Janowicz

with 22 kills and four blocks. Denna Gauer with 13 kills and six blocks and Randin Brown with five kills and 67 assists.

Meghan Young "played just about the best defense I've seen anyone play at Farmington since I've been there," Perrin added.

WEST BLOOMFIELD INVITATIONAL
Champion: Plymouth Salem defeated Mount Clemens Chippewa Valley, 15-7, 15-9; semifinalists: Plymouth Salem def. Farmington Hills Mercy, 7-15, 15-9, 15-12; Chippewa Valley def. Grosse Ile, 15-11, 15-12.

Quarterfinals: Plymouth Salem def. West Bloomfield, 15-2, 15-9; Mercy def. Farmington, 15-3, 15-8; Chippewa Valley def. Dearborn Fordson, 15-7, 15-2; Grosse Ile def. Troy, 15-1, 15-15, 15-12.

Pool A: Farmington def. Farmington Harrison, 15-13, 15-2; Salem def. Troy, 15-2, 15-14;

Salem def. Harrison, 15-7, 15-9; Troy def. Fordson, 15-4, 15-9; Salem def. Fordson, 15-4, 15-9; Troy def. Harrison, 15-14 (H), 15-6 (T).

Pool B: Farmington tied Hazel Park, 15-4 (F), 15-10 (HF); Grosse Ile def. West Bloomfield, 15-1, 15-2; Farmington tied Grosse Ile, 15-12 (F), 15-10 (H); West Bloomfield def. Hazel Park, 15-7, 15-9; Grosse Ile def. Hazel Park, 15-0, 15-7; Farmington def. West Bloomfield, 15-1, 15-9.

Pool C: North Farmington def. Southfield, 15-9, 15-9; Mercy tied Chippewa Valley, 15-13 (M), 15-4 (CV); Chippewa Valley def. North Farmington, 15-9, 15-2; Mercy def. Southfield, 15-5, 15-2; Chippewa Valley def. Southfield, 15-1, 15-4; Mercy def. North Farmington, 15-1, 15-1.

Consolation Round: North Farmington def. Hazel Park, 15-4, 15-9; Harrison def. Southfield, 15-4, 15-18, 15-10.

Tourney from page C1

For scheduling purposes, the coaches agreed Mercy will be the No. 1 seed. Based on their finish in the Farmington-Harrison tournament, Farmington is two, North three and Harrison four.

If needed the first tiebreaker will be head-to-head competition followed by point differential and, as a last resort, a 15-point rally.

An awards ceremony is planned for approximately 8:15 p.m. in which a trophy and medals will be presented to members of the winning team, two all-tournament teams will be announced and offensive and defensive MVPs will be named.

As its top seedling indicates, Mercy, which won the Silver Division of the Portage Northern tournament for the second year in a row, will be the pre-tourna-

ment favorite.

"I hate being the favorite," Mercy coach Ed Ruhl said, adding he thinks the Marlins "should do pretty well. It all depends which team shows up. We seem to be our own worst enemy. That's one of the things we're fighting right now."

The Marlins look to East Kentwood and Birmingham Marian in pool play at the Portage tournament. Mercy didn't play well against Marian, according to Ruhl, and the loss "was an eye opener for the work we have to do," he said.

"Nobody stood out and said, 'Mercy is my team; we're going to do well this year.' We're still looking for that leadership thing."

"I think we can throw four pretty good athletes in there about anybody. We have four

who have experience and, hopefully, will learn how to lead and win this year."

Two matches will be played simultaneously Thursday, and the Farmington-Mercy contest in the third and final round will be a rematch of last season's district championship match, which the Falcons won.

"I think this might be the best team since I've been here," Farmington coach Alex Perrin said, "but I know Mercy is really loaded. We scrimmaged this year, and they did really well."

"I know they're out for revenge after last year's district. If the match goes as that scrimmage did, it will be a very fast match, but I don't think it will. I think my kids will be looking forward to it."

"I thought we played well in

(the Farmington tournament); I'm eager to see how we do (Thursday) in the West Bloomfield tournament, and we'll see how it carries over to the city tournament. It will be a heck of an event."

The Raiders played well in a tournament at Saginaw Valley State University and have the ability to compete with everybody in the city tournament, Calanchi said.

"We're not as big as Farmington, but we should be faster and serving tougher," he said. "We should do well if we show up to play. Hopefully, they'll get up for every game."

"Because we lack in height, we have to go with a little more strategy. We have to do our thing and not worry about what the other team has to offer."

Tom Jakacki led CC with 15 points, while Cash added 14 (including 4-of-5 3-point attempts). Wroblewski added 10.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL
Friday, Jan. 4
Flat Rock at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.
Farmington at Lakeland, 7:30 p.m.
Redford CC at H.W. Notre Dame, 7:30 p.m.
Borgess at N.D. Prep, 7:30 p.m.
St. Agnes at St. Carmel, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Thursday, Jan. 3
Farmington City Tourney, 4 p.m. at North Farmington, Benedictine at St. Agnes, 7 p.m.
Borgess at Del. DePere, 7 p.m.
C'ville at Harper Woods, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 6
Sainte Invitational, 8 a.m.
Canton Invitational, 8 a.m.
Flushing Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
Walled Lake Inv., 9 a.m.
PCA Eagle Tourney, 2 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Jan. 2
Churchill vs. Northville, Salem vs. Stevenson, Thursday, Jan. 3
Ladywood at Port Huron, 4 p.m.
Farm. United vs. W. Bloomfield at Farm. Hills Arena, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 4
Salem vs. W.L. Central at Lakeland Arena, 8:20 p.m.
Marquette Tourney, 11 a.m., 8:1 p.m.
Red. Unified vs. Dn. Unified at Redford Ice Arena, 1:15 p.m.
Franklin at Novi, 3 p.m.
Redford CC vs. Clarkston at Redford Ice Arena, 8 p.m.
Ladywood vs. Bloomfield at Del. Skating Club, 8 p.m.
Farm. Unified vs. W.L. Central

at Lakeland Arena, 8:20 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING
Wednesday, Jan. 2
C'ville, Lutheran North at Harper Woods, 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 3
Redford CC at Forest Hills, 1 p.m.
Luth. Westland, Airport at Flat Rock, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 6
C'ville, Farm. at Avondale, 9 a.m.
Harrison at W. Bloomfield, 10 a.m.
Farm. at Wyandotte, 10:30 a.m.
Redford CC at Toledo St. John, 10 a.m.
Funston Invitational, 10 a.m.
South Lyon Tournament, 10 a.m.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS
Saturday, Jan. 6
Salem Invitational, 9:40 a.m.
BOYS SWIMMING
Saturday, Jan. 6
5 Field Laps Relays, 1 p.m.
PREP ISUING
Thursday, Jan. 3
Redford CC vs. South Lyon at Mount Brighton, 4:30 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Sunday, Dec. 30
Schoolcraft Tourney, 1:43 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 3
Spring Arbor at Madonna, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 6
Oakland CC at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m.
Siena Hts. at Madonna, 3 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Thursday, Jan. 3
Spring Arbor at Madonna, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 6
Siena Hts. at Madonna, 3 p.m.
Oakland CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 29
ONTARIO HOCCY LEAGUE
Tuesday, Jan. 1
Whitakers at Owen Sound, 2 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 4
Whitakers at Guelph, 7:30 p.m.
TBA — time to be announced.

Hoops from page C1

Frechette scored eight points each. Mark Garza netted 16 and Matt Geyer 11 for Notre Dame (3-1).

"Chatman was very solid in both games," Korpusek added. "He doesn't have huge numbers, but he is applying what we teach probably better than anybody right now. He does his best to execute what we want done."

Farmington was 2-of-3 at the line, Notre Dame 12-of-17.

A.A. PIONEER 63, N. FARMINGTON 48: Junior guard Brian Acourt scored 18 points Thursday to lead Ann Arbor Pioneer past North Farmington in the Motor City Classic at the University of Detroit-Jesuit.

A 19-11 advantage in the second quarter gave Pioneer a 27-21 halftime lead. The Pioneers built a 14-point lead after three with a 19-10 margin in the third period.

Marcus McComb scored 13 points and Mike Leach 12 for the Raiders (1-2), who made 10 of 17 free throws and had 25 turnovers.

Senior guard Chris Wellinger added eight points and junior forward Ben Johnson seven for Pioneer (3-1), which was 20-of-33 at the line.

"Defensively, we started strong," North assistant coach Pete Mantyla said. "We forced them to turn it over the first six times they had the ball and eight of the first 10."

"But, on several of those possessions, we didn't get shots, because we came down and turned it over."

"After the first 10 minutes, we just weren't there, mentally and physically. It was a real disappointing effort on our part for the last three quarters."

"I don't think we played as hard as we need to play to be competitive. We didn't rebound all right. They had a lot of second shot opportunities. It was one shot and out for us."

RIVER ROUGE 66, REDFORD CC 66: Redford Catholic Central let one slip away Thursday in the final of the River Rouge Christmas tournament.

The Shamrocks couldn't hold a 59-49 lead with 3:30 left as the host Panthers stormed back for a 66-65 victory.

Rouge, led by Lewis Hamilton's game-high 23 points, is 5-1 overall.

"We rebounded well against their big front line and I thought it was a fairly well-played game for so early in the season," CC coach Rick Coratti said. "We were just one play from putting the game away."

Dominique Crawford, who added 17 points for Rouge, banked in a three-pointer with only 16 seconds left to pull the Panthers to within one, 65-64.

CC (4-1) then missed the front end of a one-and-one free throw attempt and Crawford followed by hit a pair of foul shots with only eight seconds to play. The Shamrocks did not get off a final attempt.

Ryan Wroblewski led a balanced CC scoring attack with 15 points. Ryan Clark and Steve West added 14 and 13, respectively, while 6-8 sophomore Dan Waters added 10.

On Wednesday, CC advanced to the championship game with a come-from-behind 65-50 victory over Harper Woods.

CC, down 35-27 at the half, pulled to within three in the third quarter and

then went on a fourth-quarter closing 25-7 run keyed by a pair of three-pointers apiece from Jim Cash and Wroblewski.

"We started sluggish, but we picked up our intensity and rebounded better in the second half," Coratti said.

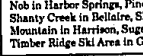
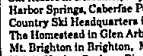
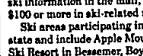
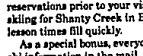
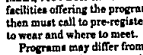
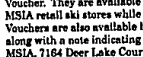
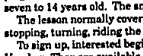
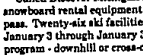
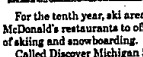
Tom Jakacki led CC with 15 points, while Cash added 14 (including 4-of-5 3-point attempts). Wroblewski added 10.

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Program may differ from ski area to ski area. It is important to call for reservations prior to your visit. Steve Kerschner, MSIA president and director of skiing for Shanty Creek in Bellaire, suggests calling as early as possible, since lesson times fill quickly.

As a special bonus, everyone who completes the program will receive a packet of ski information in the mail, including a coupon valid for \$20 off the purchase of \$100 or more in ski-related merchandise at participating MSIA retail ski shops.

Ski areas participating in Discover Michigan Skiing are located throughout the state and include Apple Mountain in Freeland, Butterworth in Oshtemo, Blackjack Ski Resort in Bessemer, Boyne Mountain in Boyne Falls, Boyne Highlands in Harbor Springs, Caberfee Peaks in Cadillac, Cannonsburg in Cannonsburg, Cross Country Ski Headquarters in Roscommon, Crystal Mountain in Thompsonville, The Homestead in Glen Arbor, Indianhead in Wakefield, Marsh Ridge in Gaylord, Mt. Brighton in Brighton, Mt. Holly in Holly, Norway Mountain in Norway, Nubs Nob in Harbor Springs, Pine Knob in Clarkston, Pine Mountain in Iron Mountain, Shanty Creek in Bellaire, Ski Brule in Iron River, Skyline in Grayling, Snow Snake Mountain in Harrison, Sugar Loaf Resort in Cedar, Swiss Valley Ski Area in Jones, Timber Ridge Ski Area in Gobles, and Treetops Resort in Gaylord.

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