

HOOP

FROM PAGE C1
with 1:15 left to make it a one-point difference again, setting the stage for the final, dramatic minute.
"Good defensive teams are always in a position to win," Norgrove said. "Our guys played smart and put themselves in a position to win, and that's important in a championship game.
"All the pressure was on (the Eagles). They were playing in their gym; they were predicted to win the championship, and they did what they had to do to win the game.
Freston, who was strong on the boards, and teammate Jeff McCullough, who fired in three triples and 11 points in the first half, shared game-high scoring honors with 13 points apiece. Okopny added nine and Holman eight.
"I thought three of our seniors did an outstanding job - Freston, Okopny and McCullough," Norgrove said. "All three showed how valuable they are to the program, and efforts like that are what sustains a program."
Jamal Jackson led the Eagles with 12 points and Curry finished with 10; Steven Pitts and Harris added eight each.
Jackson made three threes and scored all of his points in the first quarter to help give Madison a 17-12. Farmington stayed within four at halftime, 31-27, and two at the end of three periods, 40-38.
Overall, the action was intense and impassioned if not always precise in its execution. The intensity and effort was befitting a championship game. It just so happened the two best teams in the division were playing in the final game.
"I thought we gave one heck of an effort tonight," Norgrove said. "We proved tonight we belong where we are at 11-3. I'm proud of our guys and the way they competed tonight.
"It's a test of character now. Do we throw the season away because we had a tough loss, or do we do what we need to do to win in the district?"
Farmington shot 44 percent (18-of-41) from



DELL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Farmington's Danny Freston is tripped up by Madison's Steven Pitts in an OAA showdown game Friday. Freston scored 13 points in an OAA showdown game Friday. Freston scored 13 points in the 48-47 loss.
the field, made seven threes and was 4-of-6 shooting free throws.
Madison was 15-of-26 at the line, made 40 percent (14-of-35) of its field goals and connected for five threes.
Overall, the Falcons had 19 turnovers and the Eagles 18.

donors@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2141

CLARENCEVILLE

FROM PAGE C1
als each in the final quarter.
Williams, a muscular 6-3 senior headed to Central Michigan University for football, still led the Knights with 14 points, while guard Maurice Taylor rebounded 12.
But 20-point per game scorer Greer was muted by Clarenceville sophomore guard Bruno Shkireli to a mere six points on three field goals.
"We win when we have three guys in double figures," Ristovski said. "Tonight we only had two."
Garratt, averaging nearly 24 points per game, never got into the scoring groove. But he lanky senior came up with two clutch rebound putbacks to give the Trojans a 44-40 advantage with just under two minutes to go. Shkireli then nailed a pair of free throws with 1:41 remaining to put Clarenceville ahead 46-40.
But Liggett refused to go away after Andrew Shaw hit a free throw with just 44 seconds remaining to put the Trojans on top, 48-42.
Taylor answered with a basket on a drive to the basket and Markie Barre nailed a triple from the wing following a Clarenceville turnover to slice the lead to 48-47 with 20.9 seconds remaining.
Clarenceville then missed a pair of free throws, but Liggett

gave it right back as Shkireli came up with a key steal. He was immediately fouled with 8.7 seconds to play.
The 6-11 sophomore calmly nailed his fifth and sixth straight free throws of the night to secure the victory.
For Shkireli, it capped a marvelous three-game Metro Conference tournament run where he had games of 20 points against Hamtramck, 15 versus Lutheran Westland and six of his eight points coming in the final period against Liggett.
And when he wasn't scoring, Shkireli was getting rebounds, grabbing loose balls or taking charges.
"Bruno is a great kid, he's been in the States' four years and played basketball only three," Murphy said of the Albanian native. "He's gone from five minutes a game to 32 minutes tonight.
"Defensively he's everywhere. He's a soccer player by nature. It's his scrappiness, his quickness and his nose for the ball. He always gets down lower than the other guy when he's on defense."
Garratt led a balanced Clarenceville scoring attack with 12 points. Senior Pete Shaw chipped in with 11, while senior Andrew Shaw and Shkireli contributed eight apiece. Senior point-guard Josh Silvernail finished with six and Jason Robinson came off the

bench to score five.
Clarenceville led by as many as eight in the first half, 23-15, but Liggett closed the gap to 33-28 after three quarters and was tied at 38-41 with 4:01 to go.
But the Trojans persevered down the stretch despite some shaky moments.
"During those timeouts I told our guys to calm down, run the offense, quit taking bad shots and quit turning it over," Murphy said. "I tried to stress getting the ball into the right people's hands.
"Within 30 seconds left I told our guys: 'This is fun. This is what basketball is all about.'"
Clarenceville won despite shooting only 20-of-55 (36.3 percent) from the floor and 9-of-18 from the foul line (50 percent).
Meanwhile, Liggett was 17-of-44 (38.6 percent) from the field and 11-of-20 (55 percent).
But the only number that mattered was the final score: 50-47.
"I wanted it for our five seniors, and that includes Aaron Allison, who didn't get a chance to play tonight," Murphy said. "And I have to give credit to my assistant coaches - Tom Martin, Cory McKendry and Rick Durack. We couldn't have done it without them!"
How sweet it is!
hometown@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2141

OAA SWIMMING AND DIVING

DAKOTA ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
OAKLEY SWIMMING & DIVING MEET
Feb. 19-21 at Lake Orion High School
Team standings: 1. West Bloomfield, 244; 2. Birmingham Seaholm, 133; 3. Lake Orion, 295.50; 4. Troy Athens, 263; 5. Oakton, 253; 6. Royal Oak, 223; 7. Farmington-Harrison, 210; 8. Berkley, 165.50.
200-yard medley relay: 1. Athens, 144.50; 2. West Bloomfield, 144.80; 3. Seaholm, 140.00; 4. Oakton, 145.25; 5. Lake Orion, 145.50; 6. Royal Oak, 151.28; 7. Farmington-Harrison, 151.44.
200 freestyle: 1. Donald Matthews (West Bloomfield), 1:59.2; 2. Stephen Marzetta (Lake Orion), 1:54.47; 3. Arvin Lavatoli (West Bloomfield), 1:53.17; 4. Matt Pardy (Royal Oak), 1:57.52; 5. Mark Sheppell (Seaholm), 1:57.63; 6. Matt Bonner (West Bloomfield), 1:58.81; 7. Andrew Bayal (Athens), 2:00.47; 8. Matt Harle (Berkley), 2:00.65.
200 individual medley: 1. Matt Burke (Seaholm), 2:01.17; 2. Joe LaPalma (West Bloomfield), 2:05.79; 3. Sergey Korobov (Seaholm), 2:07.99; 4. Garrett Ruhland (Lake Orion), 2:08.70; 5. Dan Reed (Clarkston), 2:08.90; 6. Jeff Marshall (Berkley), 2:09.75; 7. Dale Mills (Athens), 2:09.86; 8. Ryan Danescu (Royal Oak), 2:10.03.
50 freestyle: 1. Dan Priestley (Seaholm), 21.24; 2. Mark Chrobak (Athens), 22.23; 3. Simon Bryn (West Bloomfield), 22.65; 4. Anthony

Spota (Seaholm), 23.34; 5. Charlie Dematita (Farmington-Harrison), 23.37; 6. Anthony Rosenblum (Berkley), 23.48; 7. Brian Desrochers (Lake Orion), 23.48; 8. Tom Watts (West Bloomfield), 28.45.
One-meter diving: 1. Kendall Rubin (Athens), 361.30; 2. Brandon Reiss (Lake Orion), 353.60; 3. Matt Poychich (Royal Oak), 295.95; 4. Brett Stawinski (Royal Oak), 277.50; 5. Brayson LaHouze (Clarkston), 270.15; 6. Rob Johnson (Clarkston), 269.70; 7. Scott Hegner (Royal Oak), 268.55; 8. Jeremy Cape (West Bloomfield), 266.35; 9. Adam Benington (Berkley), 251.30; 10. Steven Sloan (Lake Orion), 246.15; 11. Tom Doctor (Royal Oak), 240.95; 12. Kevin Ginsburg (West Bloomfield), 235.80; 13. Kellen Madison (Lake Orion), 225.15; 14. John Pfeiffer (West Bloomfield), 220.75; 15. Lim Wing (Berkley), 203.10; 16. Eric Schuler (Royal Oak), 200.50.
100 butterfly: 1. Matt Burke (Seaholm), 51.68; 2. Rob Pitzer (Seaholm), 55.92; 3. Joe LaPalma (West Bloomfield), 56.66; 4. Matt Harle (Berkley), 58.89; 5. Nick Ricci (Clarkston), 59.14; 6. Derek LaHouze (Clarkston), 59.25; 7. Jason Slutz (Royal Oak), 59.59; 8. Mark Piskorowski (Farmington-Harrison), 59.60.
100 freestyle: 1. Dan Priestley (Seaholm), 46.58; 2. Dan Reed (Clarkston), 50.27; 3. Simon Bryn (West Bloomfield), 50.38; 4. Craig Jacoby (Lake Orion), 52.32; 5. Anthony Spota (Seaholm), 52.05; 6. Garrett Ruhland (Lake Orion), 52.27; 7. Charlie DeMatita (Farmington-Harrison), 52.28; 8. Brian Brennan (Royal Oak),

SHAMROCKS

FROM PAGE C1
beat us." Only three penalties were called in the game (all against CC), a far cry from the penalty-filled meeting between the two teams Feb. 3 (won by CC-6).
"We came out and stressed discipline," said Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni, whose team finished 10-11 overall. "The first period I don't know if that we were scared or gave them too much respect, but they (CC) definitely had the jump.
"CC's Drew Kahle opened the scoring at 7:39 with an assist from David McGorty. Eric Reinhardt then scored from Jason Lewarne at 8:34.
The line of Brandon Naurato, Travis Hanway and Eric Giosa

then went to work, combining efforts on CC's final three goals.
Naurato notched his 31st of the year from Hanway and Giosa with 47 seconds left in the opening period. Churchill's Steve Varber cut the deficit to 3-1 on a goal from Brandon Hayes at 10:30 of the second period.
"The second period might have been our best all year," Mazzoni said.
CC put it away with a pair of third-period goals - Hanway from Naurato and Giosa, followed by Giosa from Hanway and Naurato.
"With those three guys it's a puck movement," Mazzoni said. "They do it so well. They're constantly moving their feet and that's tough to defend.
"They also have good special teams and depth. Year-to-year they change the names and the

faces, but they're still a dominant team. And they have the best goalie in the state and three top-notch defensemen."
Churchill netminder Justin Bolla made 26 saves, while CC counterpart Jimmy Blanchard made 21 stops.
ROYAL OAK 2, STEVENSON 1 (OJ): Ryan Nuttard's goal early at 3:24 of the first over-time enabled Royal Oak to speak past Livonia Stevenson (5-10) in a regional semifinal Thursday at Redford Arena.
Stevenson's Jared Gaudet opened the scoring at 8:26 of the opening period on assists from Mike McCray and Matt Foster.
But Royal Oak United, which defeated the Spartans 3-2 earlier this season, tallied the equalizer on Scott Brown's assisted goal at 14:12 of the same period.
The game remained 1-1 through 45 minutes before Nuttard's quick shot beat Rob Thomas nearly four minutes into the first OJ. Russ Aulio and Brian Drew assists on the game winner.
Royal Oak defender Mike Tetera made 21 saves while Thomas stopped 19.

HUGE INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE
Save Thousands this Week During Our Biggest Sale of the Year.
\*Over 100 Vehicles on Sale!
2001 Dodge 1500 4x4's
17 TO CHOOSE FROM \$16,995
2000-01 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE'S
17 TO CHOOSE FROM \$14,995
2000-01 DODGE GRAND CARMAYN'S
17 TO CHOOSE FROM \$7,995
CARS (248) 853-9090
TRUCKS (248) 853-9090
SUVS (248) 853-9090
1998 CHEVROLET IMPALA \$2,595
1998 BUICK STRATFORD LE \$3,895
1998 DODGE NEON \$4,595
1998 FORD BARRAGE \$5,595
1998 PLYMOUTH NEON \$5,995
1998 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX \$7,595
1998 CHEVROLET EXTENSA \$10,995
1997 PONTIAC TRILBY \$10,995
1998 CHEVROLET 2000 \$12,995
2000 DODGE STRATFORD \$7,995
1998 DODGE STRATFORD \$7,895
1998 DODGE NEON \$8,995
2001 FORD BARRAGE \$11,995
2000 DODGE BARRAGE \$11,995
1997 DODGE NEON \$12,995
2001 FORD BARRAGE \$13,995
1998 FORD F150 \$14,995
1998 DODGE NEON \$16,995
2001 DODGE NEON \$20,995
1998 JEEP CHEROKEE SP \$9,995
1998 DODGE DURANGE \$9,995
1998 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT \$12,995
1998 JEEP WRANGLER LUNAR \$14,995
1998 DODGE DURANGE \$14,995
1998 FORD EXPLORER \$15,995
1998 CHEVY TRAIL \$16,995
1998 DODGE DURANGE \$18,995
2001 DODGE DURANGE \$21,995
Meadowbrook Dodge
3050 S. Rochester Rd. • 3 Blocks N. of M-59, Rochester Hills
(248) 853-9090

Would you believe they've just found their dream home?
On a Sunday morning. Without leaving the house. For just the right price. They're meeting with their Realtor® on Monday afternoon. If you are looking for a new home, check out your hometown newspaper. Then, for even more valuable information, go to hometownlife.com and click on REAL ESTATE
hometownlife.com
Brought to you by The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers