

Chargers Lose 70-69

Lathrup Baffled In Cage Opener

By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor

Southfield Lathrup lost its opening basketball clash to Warren by a narrow one-point margin 70-69 in a poorly officiated game.

"I don't consider the game a

loss," said Lathrup Coach Jim Kourtkis. "My boys outplayed Warren but you can't beat game officials in addition to five players."

Lathrup got the opening tip but started throwing the ball away and trailed at the end of the first quarter 24-16.

Warren increased its lead at the half to 42-31.

THE CHARGERS fought back in the third quarter and sliced the lead to 55-47 with Bob Malaby pacing the scoring.

Malaby took charge in the fourth quarter scoring six points and Lathrup was down 66-61 with three minutes to play.

Barry Brodsky popped in two quick baskets and Lathrup jumped in front 67-66. Warren recaptured the lead on two free-throws and with 1:10 remaining, had a 68-67 lead.

Brodsky was called for traveling and received a

technical foul on the play and Warren went up 69-67.

Warren's Steve Salminen, the game's high scorer with 27 points, drove into Brodsky, but a foul was called on Lathrup guard and another technical foul and Brodsky was out of the game while Warren spurred to a 70-67 lead.

BRUCE RUHL tipped in a rebound for Lathrup and the

Chargers were down by one with 25 seconds remaining.

The Chargers stole the ball in Warren's zone and with five seconds on the clock signaled for a timeout. The ref whistled a timeout but the clock ticked off and the final buzzer sounded.

Bedlam broke loose on the Warren court and the final score read 70-69. Lathrup's Kourtkis confronted the refs

and convinced them that there had been time on the clock.

A jump-ball was called and the refs allowed one second to remain on the clock. Lathrup took the jump but time had run out for the second time.

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over on our bench telling me how 'shotty' my players are. This is a technical foul but it wasn't called."

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Trojans Win 56-54 In See-Saw Clash

Basketballs will be bouncing differently this year at Clarencville.

The Trojans were 3-16 overall last year but opened the 1971-72 season with a 56-54 win over Detroit Cody.

"It was a seesaw battle all the way," said Clarencville Coach Ralph Weddie. "Our two-way rebounding kept us in the game."

Chip Meyrelles led the Trojan attack with 21 points while Phil Halstead enjoyed the number 16 - 16 points and 16 rebounds for the Clarencville five.

CODY had a seven point lead midway through the second quarter, but Clarencville closed the gap to two

points at the half and trailed 27-25. Clarencville jumped to a seven point bulge in the third quarter but had its edge sliced to one point with one minute remaining in the game.

Each team then missed two free throws, but Clarencville senior guard Jim Hover hit on one of two and the Trojans were up by two, 56-54, and the final buzzer sounded with Clarencville the victor.

Cody was 40 per cent from the floor while Clarencville could only muster a 31 per cent field goal percentage. The Trojans were 10 for 28 from the line and Cody popped in eight of 15 free-throws.

Clarencville is the only Class B team remaining in the Wayne - Oakland Conference.

"Six Class B schools have dropped out of the league, but we are sticking in there with the 'A' teams," said Weddie. "I think we have a good shot at winning the league crown this year, but Clarkson and Kettering will be tough."

CLARENCVILLE has four returning starters in Hover, Halstead, Meyrelles and Bob Tyler.

The Trojans open league play with Crestwood Tuesday on their home court and contend with Milford Friday. Clarencville is hosting a Christmas tournament on Dec. 23 and 25 with Cody and Farmington Harrison, and the Trojans are looking for a fourth team in the holiday match.



DOWN BY ONE -- Southfield Lathrup's Bob Malaby was caught down on this play and the Chargers were caught down by one point at

the final buzzer in their opening basketball clash with Warren, 70-69. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

Aggies Toppled 84-36

St. Alphonsus of Dearborn outscored the St. Agatha cagers 26-5 in the third quarter and easily handed the Aggies their first loss of the early high school season, 84-36.

"We just got stomped," said Agatha Coach Tom Sankovic.

"They never let up on us and had a full-court press the entire game."

The Aggies were down 22-11 at the end of the first quarter and trailed at the half 37-24. St. Alphonsus exploded for 26 points in the third while Agatha was held to only five.

"It was just a bad night where nothing went right," said Sankovic. St. Agatha won its opening contest over

Lourdes 54-48, but committed 24 turnovers against Alphonsus to turn the game into a walkaway.

St. Agatha shot 32 per cent from the floor and went six for 17 from the free-throw line. Alphonsus had three men in double figures with Mike Leginski collecting 24 points, Mark Klein 23 and Tim Cox 19.

TOM CHURCHES was the only player from Agatha to hit the double scoring figure with 10 points.

"They capitalized on every mistake we made," added Sankovic. "We had eight

turnovers in the third quarter and Alphonsus scored each time."

St. Agatha hosts St. Andrew Friday night in its third cage clash.

Prep Schedule

BASKETBALL
SATURDAY
Stevenson at Thurston

TUESDAY
Bentley at Stevenson
Dearborn at Churchill
Oak Park at Farmington Harrison
Franklin at Plymouth
Bishop Borgess at Garden City East
John Glenn at Cherry Hill
Southfield Lathrup at Southfield

IN THE POCKET

By W.W. EDGAR

The Michigan Youth Bowling Association, organized only 10 years ago, is well on the way to becoming the largest junior group in America.

With the season only three months old there are indications, according to Mrs. Ethel Heenan, YBA director, that the membership will approach 30,000 within the next several months.

The growth has been so steady that the state has been divided into eight areas instead of the six that have been involved since the inception of the teen-agers competition. Addition of the two areas was made to reduce travel for sectional tournaments and to increase the number of individuals and teams that now will be eligible to compete for championships.

Entry blanks are to be distributed now for the holiday doubles and the other major competitions with prospects of record fields in all divisions.

THE YOUNG bowlers continue to show their elders a few tricks on the lanes.

One of them, Robin Kolb, a 16-year-old, turned in a 279 at Westland Bowl, to set a high mark for the season in his league. And Bryan Head, a 12 year old, had a 239-555 at Bel-Aire.

WHILE THE Garden Classic recessed for the Thanksgiving holidays, the women moved into the spotlight.

Stella Seiker set the pace with a 262 in 583 and Darlene Varley fashioned a 221 in 551. The girls also stole the show at Merri-Bowl when Georgia Tomillo, bowling in the Lyndon Meadows League, posted a 221 and Sandy Newton, in the Coffee and Cake circuit had a 215.

CONTINUING the momentum he gained in winning the Michigan Majors monthly tournament at Westland Bowl, John Wodarski came right back to top the Classic.

He put together games of 246, 202 and 229 for a 677 to beat out Tony Llocoino by four pins. Tony opened with a 245 and followed with counts of 228 and 205 for his 673. Ron Sharples landed third with a 669 that included a 246 opener.

ELLIE WILKINS walked away with top honors in the ladies classic at Livonia Lanes.

She contributed a 530-47-617 series that included a high single of 214-29-243. Other single games winners included Lois Merriman with 231-29-229 and Lee Schuyler with 214-23-277.

SCORING honors in the Friday Noon Classic at Farmington Lanes went to Gladys Siekas.

She posted a 665 that included a 235 game and became the lady of the week.

THIS WAS a week of firsts at Mayflower Lanes.

Jessie Blodin, bowling in the Matinee Girls League, had her first 500 series and hit that figure right on the dot. Linda Pratt, a 117 average bowler, finally reached double century figures with a 209.

Jan Morse was high scorer with a 204 in 547.

PETE HAYES and Wayne Morgan shared scoring honors at Country Lanes.

Morgan put together games of 236, 243 and 171 for 650 for high series and Hayes took high single with a 269.

THOUGH HE couldn't keep up the pace after opening with a 162, Greg Hatter took scoring honors in the Businessmen's League at Bel-Aire.

For the past two weeks, right winger Bill Collins has been the loneliest and "loneliest" Red Wing in town. Collins has been recovering from a torn cartilage in his right rib cage which was injured in the Wings' last encounter with the Boston Bruins.

The Wings have been on an extended road trip in order to make way for the Ice Follies and returned to Olympia on Saturday to meet the New York Rangers.

While the Wings have been on the road, Collins has been a daily occupant in the whirlpool at Olympia in hopes of a quick recovery in order to be ready for action.

When asked what a player on the mend has on his mind, Bill was quick to reply, "Total frustration. It means I have to get in condition all over again

Aire with a 674. After his big opener he fell to 212 in the middle and closed with 200.

In the Kings and Queens Bow Oakes showed the way with 634 that included games of 240 and 216. To aid the cause his wife, Jean, came through with a 218 game.

Other high scores included Gary Thompson's 247 and Ann Hallgren's 246 in the Old Homestead League.

TOM SOKOMOWSKI fashioned a 289 at Oak Park Lanes, but ended with a 573 series.

Four bowlers bettered double century figures in the Senior House League. They were: Larry Slutsky 663, Tom Czarniecki 659, Joe Bell 646, and Mike Bengals 643.

BILL COLLETT was the lone bowler to crack the 700 barrier in the Wonderland Classic.

He put together games of 235, 247 and 220 for a 702.

Meanwhile, Bryon Perry still is taking bows for the perfect game he bowled in the Senior House League last week. His big game was the opener of a 737 series.

It was the second 300 bowled at Wonderland this year. Larry Russas contributed the other one.

As for the teams' attitude in general, Bill commented, "The team spirit is a great and the Wings have an excellent chance to make the playoffs. As far as I'm concerned, I'll be in there adding my contribution to our team's effort. I'd like to top my 29-goal-high that I had with Minnesota during the 1969-70 campaign."

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