

East 'Slips' To First Cage Loss 57-54

By TOM DONOGHUE
Observer Sports Editor

The last of the undefeated basketball teams in Observerland has fallen. . . . Garden City East swept to seven straight victories before encountering Taylor Center and the Panthers "slipped" out of the ranks of the unbeaten, 57-54.

East fell into a second place tie with Robichaud in the Mid-Wayne conference. Inkster remained on top of the league with a 4-0 mark after an 87-58 win over Annapolis. Lutheran West invades East Friday with a 2-2 Mid-Wayne record.

An important factor in the

loss to Taylor was the change East was forced into because of the condition of the floor. . . . "Taylor Center refinishing its basketball floor over the holidays and just completed the sanding at 2 p.m. the day of the game," said East Coach Bill Joe Young. "The floor had a fine powder covering it and was extremely slick."

"Taylor had called us before the game and warned us of the circumstances and granted, each team had to play on it, but . . ."

"We (East) emphasize speed while Taylor plays a slow deliberate style. Early in the game, we had three walking calls where my kids just slipped."

"We (East) were forced to slow down our style and play a cautious game." EAST came back to outscore Taylor in the final two quarters but the first quarter margin proved to be the difference.

The Panthers outscored Taylor in the third, 18-11, and trailed 42-37, going into the second quarter. East hit only three of 12.

East was outscored in the second quarter, 13-12, and trailed at the half, 28-19. The Panthers were nine of 28 from the field and one of five from the line.

but the ball wasn't dropping," added Young.

"There was no question that we got beat by a team that played good ball, but there could have been a change of courts — all we had to do was switch the home games around."

TAYLOR jumped to a 15-7 first quarter edge with East's Dave Jackson collecting all of the Panther points. East hit only three of 12.

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TAYLOR'S 6-3 JUNIOR FORWARD, Gus Bentley, scored 17 points in only his second game with the Mid-Wayne squad. He transferred from Detroit Chasdey, and scored 34 in his first outing.

Dave Jackson paced East with 23 points, followed by Jack Hayes with 19.

East shot 40 per cent from the floor on 25 of 61 shots and Taylor hit on 20 of 43 for a 46 per cent. The Panthers scored on four of 13 at the line and Taylor hit on 17 of 28.

Each squad came up with 29 rebounds.

"They wanted it slow, and we couldn't run against them," concluded Young.

Chargers Lead Western 6

Churchill Tips Harrison

By TOM DONOGHUE
Observer Sports Editor

Churchill took a commanding step towards the Western Six basketball crown with a 62-51 victory over Farmington Harrison. The Chargers stand 3-0 in league play and boast a 7-2 overall record.

Harrison fell to third place at 2-2, and the Hawks stand 3-4

overall. Waterford Mott is second with a 2-1 mark.

Churchill hosts Walled Lake Western Friday in another Western Six clash and Harrison travels to Cranbrook in a non-league battle.

The Chargers jumped to a 11-9 first quarter edge and were in command the entire game.

Churchill blitzed for 25 points in the second quarter, to 18 by Harrison and the Chargers had a 36-27 halftime lead. Churchill improved on a 2 for 12 first quarter with an eight for 14 second quarter. Harrison shot 3 for 12 in the first eight minutes and went

cold in the second, hitting only three of 17.

HARRISON trailed 43-35 midway through the third, and ended up down by 12 going into the final quarter, 54-42.

With 3 1/2 minutes remaining, Hawk junior, Nick Nicolay, hit on a layup and Harrison was down, 56-19.

Nicolay scored two on a one-and-one situation and with 2:54 left on the clock, Churchill was on top 56-51 but the Hawks were making a run at it.

CHURCHILL went into a stall and at 1:56, Roy Henriksson scored two from the line giving the Chargers a 58-51 lead and the Harrison rally vanished into the cold air.

"Churchill stopped us cold on defense," said Harrison Coach Bob Sutter. "They stopped our 6-1 guard, Jim

Mason, who has been averaging 25 points a game. He got off only six shots in the second half and ended up with 12 points."

Churchill shot 44 per cent from the floor on 19 of 43 while Harrison scored 16 of 52 for a 37 per cent. Harrison outscored Churchill, 31-29. "The second quarter was the turning point," said Churchill Coach Pat Montagnone. "We scored 25 to their 18."

Jeff Sieloff paced the Harrison attack with 19 points, followed by Mason with 12.

BRUCE VANWAGONER led Churchill with a 15 point output. Henriksson followed with 14 and Phil Damaska came up with 10 points.

"Churchill has a commanding lead in the Western Six," added Sutter. "We have

to play both Waterford Mott and Churchill again, but Mott has to beat Churchill to allow us a shot at the title."

CHURCHILL (182)			
	FG	FT	TP
VanWagoner	5-8	5-7	15
Henriksson	4-9	6-8	14
Read	3-3	2-4	9
Neid	1-3	2-5	4
Keller	1-7	1-2	7
Fox	0-1	1-2	1
Damaska	3-6	4-4	10
Brown	0-1	2-2	2
Totals	19-44	24-34	82

HARRISON (51)			
	FG	FT	TP
Mason	6-13	2-4	12
Hickey	0-5	1-4	1
Sieloff	5-17	9-14	19
McGrath	0-1	1-2	1
Doa	4-10	2-3	10
Nicolay	2-3	2-2	6
Collins	0-2	0-0	0
Frankel	0-1	2-2	2
Totals	18-52	19-31	51

Score by quarters: CHURCHILL 11 25 18 6 82 HARRISON 0 18 16 9 51

Patriots Hand Glenn 52-41 Cage Thrashing

Livonia Franklin led all the way in what coach Bob Visser called "by far our biggest game," a 51-41 thrashing of John Glenn.

The Glenn-Franklin rivalry has something of a cross-town flavor since Franklin and Glenn both have many students from Westland. In this game, Franklin's tough zone defense forced Glenn into only a 30 per cent shooting night from the floor. Franklin's Patriots led by two at the end of the first quarter and pulled away steadily. The margins were four points at half-time and nine at the end of the third quarter.

Visser said the zone was aimed to stop Glenn's "very aggressive, driving" team. The Franklin coach said Glenn built a winning record,

now 7-2 after the Franklin loss, on a fast-break driving style.

"WE FORCED them outside," Visser commented. He added that his bigger, slower team went to more set patterns.

Visser praised his team's defensive effort, which resulted in the lowest point total by an opponent since a 1964 game with Glenn. He said three or four of the Glenn players were averaging in double figures coming into the game.

After a couple of drives early in the game ended up in blocked shots, Visser said, Glenn began to shoot from the outside. Some left offensive rebounds in the first half, however, helped keep the

game close. The Franklin coach said Glenn got seven second shots during the first half but only three in the second half.

Guards Mark Neuman and Karney Dederian had hawked out front, and center Tim Dietz took care of anyone penetrating the lane. "They knew they have to hit from outside when they play us," Visser said.

DIETZ, The Patriot's 6'6" center, held opposing center Jim Williams to one basket and five free throws for seven points, compared to Williams' more than 17 points per game average.

When matched against Dietz's game high 25 points, Visser commented, "that's the big difference right there."

A stall iced the game from Franklin after it carried its nine-point lead into the fourth quarter. Visser said his team wants to score, but only on almost automatic shots. "We don't lay up or nothing," he said.

Instead of nothing, Franklin got seven of 10 free throws

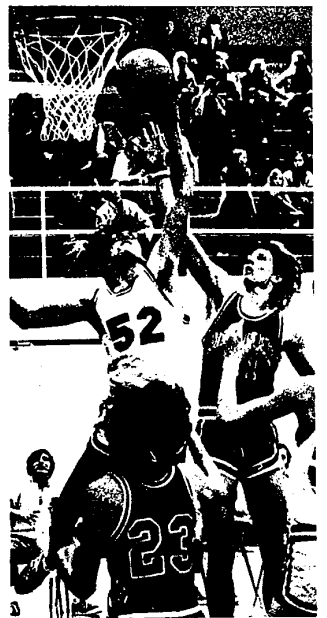
during the fourth quarter while holding its margin. The Franklin coach added that the win put his team right back in the Northwest Suburban League race. Glenn and Oak Park are tied 3-1, not including Tuesday's games, at the top of the pack with Franklin and Thurston trailing at 2-2. Franklin's losses have been to Oak Park and Thurston. Franklin's overall record is 5-3.

The Franklin Glenn box score: FRANKLIN (51)

	FG	FT	TP
R. Graham	1	0-2	2
Luch	4	1-3	9
Dietz	11	3-5	25
Deideman	4	0-0	11
Neuman	1	2-5	4
M. Graham	0	0-0	0
Cass	0	0-0	0
Waterston	0	0-0	0
Totals	20	11-22	51

JOHN GLENN (41)

	FG	FT	TP
McBride	1	2-2	4
Law	4	0-0	8
Williams	1	5-7	7
Carlington	7	1-4	15
Hoed	2	2-2	7
Reis	0	0-0	0
Brettman	0	0-0	0
Totals	16	9-15	41



UNDER THE BOARDS — Franklin's Tom Luch (52) goes high in the air with Dave Carlington (41) of John Glenn. Franklin won the Northwest Suburban contest, 51-41. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

Cage Results

- St. Agathe 41, Mt. Carmel 39
- Belknap 70, Gabriel Richard 64
- Brother Rice 49, Catholic Central 47
- Churchill 62, Harrison 51
- Clarencville 88, Clarkston 77
- Country Day 65, Cranbrook 55
- Franklin 51, John Glenn 41
- Franklin 57, Farmington 54
- GC West 76, Chevy Hill 51
- N. Farmington 71, Groves 47
- Lyonsville 87, Traction 55
- Redford Union 82, Bentley 61
- Barker 65, Southfield 57
- LeRoy 71, Farmington 63
- Stevenson 83, Pontiac N. 52
- Oak Park 74, Thurston 64

Top Coach

Michigan football coach Bo Schembechler has been voted District 5 (Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio) coach of the year twice in the last three years.

Observerland Cage Ratings

The Panthers from Garden City East lost their first battle to Taylor Center, 57-54, but remain in the No. 1 position with a 7-1 record.

Redford Union made the biggest jump . . . from the No. 7 spot to No. 2 in Observerland. The Panthers toppled Bentley, 62-61, and boast an overall 6-2 mark. The two losses have been an 84-83 defeat to Trenton and a 77-70 lashing against state ranked Walled Lake Central.

John Glenn slipped into the No. 3 berth by virtue of a 51-41 loss to Franklin. The Rockets stand 7-2.

It's No. 4 for Brother Rice which lost to Detroit Pershing, 70-58, but came back to defeat Catholic Central, 49-47 for a 6-2 record.

COUNTRY DAY split in its contests, with a 64-63 loss to Lutheran East and a 69-55 win over Cranbrook and the Yellow jackets hold No. 5 with a 6-1 mark.

The Churchill Chargers tipped Harrison, 62-51, and moved up to the No. 6 position.

Clarencville captured the No. 7 berth with a 6-1 mark after an 88-78 win over Clarkston. Franklin moved from No. 9 to No. 8 after a win over John Glenn and Bentley fell from No. 5 to No. 9 after a loss to RU.

STEVENSON climbed into the No. 10 position with an impressive 63-52 win over Pontiac Northern making the Spartans, 5-4 overall.

The ratings:

	W	L
1 - Garden City East	7	1
2 - Redford Union	6	2
3 - John Glenn	7	2
4 - Brother Rice	6	2
5 - Country Day	6	1
6 - Churchill	7	2
7 - Clarencville	6	1
8 - Franklin	5	3
9 - Bentley	6	4
10 - Stevenson	5	4

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