

It's GC East Against Northwestern For Cage Regional Championship

By TOM DONOGHUE
Observer Sports Editor

The Bulldogs were on the cage tourney prowl but the Garden City East Panthers tightened the leash and ran Bentley out of the state tournament with a 58-51 regional victory.

This marks the third time in five years that East Coach Billy Joe Young has guided his cagers into the regional final, Saturday at Livonia Franklin, 8 p.m. (March 11).

East was upset last year in the championship by Livonia Stevenson, 74-62, and was toppled by Catholic Central in the state quarterfinals in 1968, 77-59.

Bentley was carrying an overall mark of 15-5 after tourney wins over North Farmington and Stevenson. East was 1-4 after a rather easy district romp over Franklin, Churchill, and Plymouth.

THE PANTHERS won the opening tip yet failed to score on three trips up and down the court with each team suffering from early momentum jitters.

After three minutes of fruitless shooting, East's Jeff DelFante popped in a two pointer. Bentley's Ron Bawulski responded and the two pumped in another round of buckets to notch it at four all.

With five minutes elapsed, Bentley's Tim Bollin provided the Bulldogs fans with a scene they weren't going to enjoy for long... the lead.

BOLLIN HIT from the corner and Bentley went up, 6-4. Dave Jackson tied it but again Bollin put the Bulldogs in front, 8-6. Jack Hayes rebounded for East with a tip-in. DelFante scored and John Grigal followed suit and the Panthers were on top, 12-8, and never fell behind again.

With four seconds remaining in the quarter, Jackson hit on a layup and East was up after one quarter, 14-10.

The second period saw each side pump in 14 points with Bentley working for the good shot in its attempt to slow the pace.

The Bulldogs were very much alive at this point, trailing by only four at the half, 28-24.

"I was satisfied at the half," said Bentley Coach John Farrar. "But I knew that we had to stick to our game plan. We weren't putting enough pressure on Jackson but it was still anyone's ball game."

EAST won the second half tip and Randy Mastako scored to put the Panthers up by six. Jackson popped in a 12 footer and Hayes scored on a drive and the Panthers were on the rampage, 34-24. Hayes hit from the line and Bollin finally opened the second half scoring for Bentley with a freethrow and it stood, 35-25. Jackson then outbatted Bollin for four points. Bollin was forced to leave after picking up his fourth foul and East was up by 14 points, 39-25.

DAN WEISS connected on the first field goal for the Bulldogs midway in the quarter, but without Bollin in the lineup, Jackson took control and East was up after three quarters, 48-31.

The Bulldogs didn't stay in the doghouse... they opened the fourth quarter with eight straight points by Al Stierlet, this only eight of the game, and the margin was sliced to 48-39.

Grigal fouled out for East and there was a Bentley rebounded for East with a tip-in. DelFante scored and John Grigal followed suit and the Panthers were on top, 12-8, and never fell behind again.

fifth foul and the twinkling appeared a little dimmer.

GATES sank two freethrows with 30 seconds remaining but Jackson broke in all alone for a Panther bucket and with 15 seconds remaining, East was in command, 58-51.

Gates came back with the final two pointer and the final buzzer sounded with Bentley packing up its gear for next season.

East outshot Bentley, 46 percent to 42 percent, with the Panthers hitting on 22 of 47 from the floor and the Bulldogs popping to 21 of 50. The Panthers held a commanding advantage on the boards, outbounding Bentley 33-20, with Grigal hauling in 12 and Jackson collecting 11.

"We have played better defensive games," said East Coach Young. "But our change from a 2-3 setup to a 1-3 proved to be the turning point in our favor."

Jackson led all scorers with 39 points, hitting on 13 of 20 from the floor and making good four of 10 at the line.

STEVENSON (54)
G F P
Mayberry 3 11 7
Jones 3 8 10
Wilson 3 2 8
Jones 3 1 1
Johnson 3 1 7
Tyler 1 0 2
Grandyberry 1 0 2
Totals 28 12 25 64

By quarters: 10 10 11 11
CENTRAL 13 18 20 12-54
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PANTHER DRIVE -- GC East's Jack Hayes (34) moves in against Bentley's Brian Gates (4). (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

Lathrup Swimmers Win 3rd Consecutive Title

Southfield Lathrup captured its third consecutive Inter-Lakes swim crown with 111 points. Livonia Stevenson placed second with 57, Farmington third at 54, and Pontiac Northern fourth with 52.

Six league records were broken in the league meet at Farmington High.

Falcon Doug Geersens stole the show with two in the preliminaries.

Geersens set a mark in the 200 individual medley with a time of 2:18 and in the 100 backstroke with 1:00.6.

Pontiac Northern's 200 medley relay squad composed of Gary Lavinger, Steve Drake, Don Barefoot and Bob Pizzala, established a record time of 1:50.8. Lathrup's free relay recorded a time of 3:37.8 for a record. The quartet included: Greg Hamilton, Rick Smith, Dick Knapp and Doug Gunn.

Lathrup also had two other swimmers break records with Bob Friedman clocked at 1:54.5 in the 200 freestyle and Dave Dorer winning the 400 freestyle at 4:09.2.

The Chargers had three other first place finishers in Jim Krebs (50 freestyle), Mike Stern (100 breaststroke), and Friedman in the 100 freestyle.

The meet results:
100 FREESTYLE: 1-Friedman (L), 1:51.8; 2-Lavinger (P), 1:51.8; 3-Krebs (L), 1:52.3; 4-Smith (L), 1:52.8; 5-Aiken (P), 1:58.8; 6-Sanders (L), 1:58.3
400 FREESTYLE: 1-Dorer (L), 4:09.2; 2-Crosthwaite (L), 4:11.3; 3-Barefoot (P), 4:16.2; 4-Knapp (L), 4:27.2; 5-Bushman (P), 4:30.7; 6-Highley (L), 4:48.8
100 BACKSTROKE: 1-Geersens (P), 1:01.8; 2-Lavinger (P), 1:01.8; 3-Krebs (L), 1:02.3; 4-Torn (L), 1:02.8; 5-Puckey (P), 1:04.8; 6-Schwartz (P), 1:05.0
200 BREASTSTROKE: 1-Stern (L),

team. One might say that Central was the best long-haired team on the court... but the short-haired Colts were far and away the better quintet this time.

For the opening period, it appeared as if Central would make things interesting but then the full press took its toll and resulted in numerous turnovers and quick baskets for the Detroiters.

Sanson had his Delilah, who sold him down the river by cutting his long hair and taking all of his strength... Central didn't need a Delilah, they had the long-hair but it was their own mistakes that caused them to fall behind in the early moments and a superior Northwestern that did the remainder of the job.

THE COLTS tied the Lakers in knots with their tight, harassing defense and more than once a wild pass was converted into a fast break and an easy basket.

Central tallied 10 points in the opening period and trailed, 13-10. It had 10 points in the second frame and walked off the court at the intermission, on the short end of a 31-20 count.

Steven Serra, Central's sharpshooting guard, dropped in four field goals and two free throws for all of his team's

WL CENTRAL (42)
G F P
Hyatt 1 0 0 2
Serra 4 3 8 11
Conrad 1 1 0 3
Ewood 3 2 9 9
Shaw 1 1 0 3
Inoff 1 0 0 2
Totals 14 14 32 42

Hyatt Serra Conrad Ewood Shaw Inoff Totals

Score by quarters: 10 14 7 20 51
BENTLEY 14 14 20 10-58
GC EAST

Using the same full court press that annihilated Redford Union two nights earlier, Northwestern manhandled Walled Lake Central, 64-42, to advance into Saturday's finals.

Matter of fact, the Colts showed so much power and defensive skill that they will go into the championship favored to handle Garden City East just as it did its other two foes.

Walled Lake, which won 16 in a row before being upset by Livonia Stevenson, looked like anything but a championship

109.1; 2-Drake (P), 1:11.1; 3-McCoy (L), 1:11.8; 4-Jenks (P), 1:11.8; 5-Murphy (L), 1:12.5; 6-Schlabach (L), 1:13.1
400 FREESTYLE RELAY: 1-Lathrup (Hamilton, Smith, Knapp, Dunn), 3:37.8; 2-Farmington, 3:43.7; 3-Pontiac Northern, 3:48.8; 4-Stevenson, 3:53.8
200 MEDLEY RELAY: 1-Pontiac Northern (Lavinger, Drake, Pizzala, Barefoot), 1:50.9; 2-Stevenson, 1:52.8; 3-Lathrup, 1:53.1; 4-Farmington, 1:54.4
500 FREESTYLE: 1-Friedman (L), 1:54.5; 2-Dorer (L), 1:54.6; 3-Lawless (L), 2:02.2; 4-Bushman (P), 2:04.1; 5-McDonald (P), 2:16.7; 6-Krout (L), 2:18.7
200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY: 1-Geersens (P), 2:13.4; 2-Stevenson (L), 2:13.8; 3-Norberg (P), 2:17.4; 4-Crosthwaite (L), 2:18.1; 5-Maurice (L), 2:19.6; 6-Holt (L), 2:28.0
50 FREESTYLE: 1-Krebs (L), 24.0; 2-Dunn (L), 24.2; 3-Jenkins (P), 25.2; 4-Craig (L), 25.5; 5-Torn (L), 26.6; 6-Johnston (L), 26.8
DIVING: 1-St. Amour (P), 320.0; 2-Hurd (L), 310.35; 3-Krebs (L),

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points up to the final minute when Kevin Elwood hit from the foul line.

Meanwhile, Mike Wilson, Ron Bonas and Reggie Tyler had hot hands for the Colts and boosted the lead to 49-30.

That was the end for Central and the once-beaten Vikings felt completely apart in the fourth quarter, especially after losing Lou Hysni and Serra on five personals.

Wilson and Bonas also sat out the closing minutes via the same route.

When the final buzzer sounded, the Colts were still pressing, the Vikings were still trying to score but couldn't dent the 22 point deficit.

McLean, who was the top scorer in Oakland County during the regular season, was checked with 15 this time - four from the field and seven of 10 from the foul line.

Bonas was high for the Colts with 15.

Neither team was effective from the line where Walled Lake converted on 14 of 32 and the Colts on 12 of 25.

The box score:

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G F P
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Conrad 1 1 0 3
Ewood 3 2 9 9
Shaw 1 1 0 3
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VOICING HIS OPINION -- GC East basketball Coach Billy Joe Young was in action against Bentley and maneuvered his Panthers into the regional finale with Northwestern. (Observer photo)

Stevenson Thunders Past Southfield, 6-1

By TOM DONOGHUE
Observer Sports Editor

Stevenson High extended its unbeaten streak to 15 games with a 6-1 bombardment of Southfield High. The Spartan pucksters chalked up win No. 11 against four ties, in toppling Southfield for the fourth time this season.

In the four Spartan-Blue Jay matches... Stevenson has outscored Southfield, 26-7.

It was Spartan center Steve Hillman's chance to sparkle as he flipped in four goals to raise his season output to 16 along with 12 assists.

Hillman opened the scoring at 2:11 and Dale Marek slapped in a power play shot at 6:55 with Southfield's Steve Feldman in the penalty box.

Stevenson increased its lead to 4-0 after two periods with Hillman blasting in two, the second while a man short. Hillman opened the scoring in the third period while each

side was a man short. Frank Geluso concluded the Spartan attack with his 11th score at 9:32.

DAVE SWIERPEL'S SHUTOUT went by the way with less than two minutes remaining on a goal by Bob Manchell with Spartan Mike Himm in the penalty box.

Franklin concluded its season on a dismal note with a 3-0 loss to Catholic Central. The Patriots outshot Catholic Central, 36-21, but just couldn't get the puck past goalie Jeff Rank.

There was no scoring in the first period with Franklin picking up five penalties and Catholic Central three. With a little over a minute to play in the second period, Catholic Central broke into the score column with Bob Finn taking a pass from Craig O'Donnell and pushing it past Dave Morrison.

STEVENSOK SOUTHFIELD
Scoring: Stevenson-Hillman (Goal), 2:41; Stevenson-Hillman (Goal), 6:55; Stevenson-Hillman (Goal), 14:43
Penalties: Feldman (L), 5:28; Palkanga (S), 10:05; Himm (S), 14:43
SECOND PERIOD
Scoring: Stevenson-Hillman (Goal), 12:08
Penalties: Eggers (S), 5:28; Bell (S), 5:28; Finn (L), 5:25
THIRD PERIOD
Scoring: Stevenson-Hillman (Goal), 9:32; Stevenson-Geluso (Goal), 9:32; Southfield-Manchell (Goal), 13:01
Penalties: Finn (S), 3:18; Feldman (S), 3:18; Ship (S), 6:21; Himm (S), 8:21; Himm (S), 11:04
Score by periods: 2 2 2
STEVENSOK 6-1
SOUTHFIELD

FRANKLIN-CC
No Scoring
Penalties: Longway (P), 4:28; Canelli (P), 7:25; Sullivan (P), 8:08; Chisard (C), 8:55; Canelli (P), 13:44; Medigan (P), 14:27; Gregory (C), 14:27; Chisard (C), 14:27
SECOND PERIOD
Scoring: Catholic Central-Finn (O'Donnell), 13:18
Penalties: Allen (P), 4:38; Canike (P), 13:15
THIRD PERIOD
Scoring: Catholic Central-Rewers (Bareback), 10:11; Catholic Central-Finn (O'Donnell), 10:18
Penalties: Allen (P), 1:33; Huhn (C), 04: Field (P), 11:04
Score by periods: 13 10 38
CC 35-0
FRANKLIN 0 0 0 0
Scoring by Period: FRANKLIN 0 0 0 0
CC 13 10 38

ONE OF FOUR GOALS -- Stevenson's Steve Hillman raises his stick high after faking out Southfield goalie Craig Soubliere for a score. Hillman slapped in three more to lead the Spartans to a 6-1 win. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

