Franklin Nips NF Raiders At Buzzer, 52-51

THINGS GOT TIGHT in the closing seconds of the North Farmington-Franklin basketball clash with North Coach Ken Dean (left) and Franklin Coach Bob Visser (right) going through hand signals and Visser trying to signal his players to call a time-out. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor

Franklin High won the game at the free throw line when Kurt Caldwell popped one in with 10 seconds remaining.

North Farmington lost the game at the free throw line.

It was the first of many upcoming Northwest Suburban basketball showdowns and Franklin squeaked by the Raiders from North, 52-51.

Franklin, North Farmington and John Glenn all sported 2-0 records, but North quickly fell to 2-1 with Franklin and Glenn still undefeated at 3-0. Glenn bested Thurston, 56-53.

"We have a lot of evening up to do in the future," said North Coach Ken Dean who has never beaten Bob Visser's Patriots. "He beat me at the buzzer the first time we played, in overtime the second time around, and twice last year with a pretty good team. This one-pointer tops it all."

NORTH MEETS Franklin again in the Patriot gym on Feb. 16.

Franklin stands 6-2 overall and North, 6-3.

"I still think a 7-3 record is going to win this league," added Dean. "Garden City East, Thurston and Oak Park are going to figure in the race."

North Coach Dean figured

Northwest Suburban

his squad lost to Franklin at the free throw line, not by missed shots but by missed fouls.

"OUR HOME COURT advantage gave us a total of six foul shots," said Dean. "Franklin, meanwhile, hit eight of 14."

"We just weren't big enough to stay with Franklin on the boards and they kept us bottled up with that darn zone of theirs," said Dean.

North jumped to an early lead but Franklin fought back to tie it at 12-all after one quarter. Franklin took the lead in the second period and never gave it up.

Franklin enjoyed a 26-22 margin at the half, and 39-34 going into the last eight minutes. North had it to within two points on four occasions in the third but didn't have the punch to get over the hill.

Midway through the fourth, buckets by Kevin Kaseta and Jamie Knapp gave Franklin a six point, 44-38 advantage, and the Patriots moved into a semi-stall.

North hung in there and with one minute remaining had the ball and trailed only by two, 49-47. A Dave Ellsworth shot went astray and Kaseta was fouled for Franklin.

THE PATRIOT center put in the two from the line and with 33 seconds showing, Franklin was up 51-49 but Kim Parker came back with a two pointer on a play that saw him bounce a free throw shot off the rim, haul in the rebound and swish it home.

With 10 seconds remaining and down by two, Lou Doot fouled Franklin's Caldwell and he made one to put North down by three.

Parker popped in one at the buzzer but time had run out with the one point looking just as good as 20.

Franklin hit only 22 of 58 from the floor for 38 per cent while North scored 44 per cent, 24 of 55.

"Our defense made up for our lack of offense," said Franklin Coach Visser.

FRANKLIN also won the rebounding battle, 34-30, Tim Fisher collecting 11 and Knapp eight.

"We returned to pattern basketball," added Visser. "After that loss to Churchill, we decided we couldn't keep on playing free-lance."

Franklin hosts Oak Park Friday in its lone home game of January and it's then off to John Glenn the following week in what could be a battle of the unbeaten.

But Dean hopes this is not the case as his Raiders travel to the Glenn court this Friday with hopes of a rebound to the top.

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FRANKLIN (52)

	FG	FT	TP
Fisher	4	1-3	9
Knapp	4	0-4	8
Kaseta	9	4-4	22
Bakke	3	0-0	6
Waterstone	2	1-2	5
Caldwell	0	2-4	2
Totals	22	8-14	52

N. FARMINGTON (51)

	FG	FT	TP
Parker	9	0-0	18
Gaslor	4	0-0	8
Ellsworth	1	2-4	4
Fredericks	7	0-0	14
Doot	1	1-2	3
Totals	24	3-6	51

FRANKLIN	12	14	13	13-52
N.FARMINGTON	12	10	12	17-51

WHAT DO I DO NOW, COACH? -- Franklin High's Brad Caldwell (43) was knocked out of bounds and caught holding the ball with a puzzled look as to what happened. Franklin sneaked by the Raiders from North, 52-51. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

Sport 8-2 Mark

Rockets Topple Thurston, 56-53

Westland John Glenn ran into foul trouble at Thurston High and was forced to change its entire game plan, but the Rockets came through sniffing the Northwest Suburban cage championship.

Glenn bested Thurston, 56-53, for its eighth victory in 10 outings and finds itself in a tie for first with Livonia Franklin in the Northwest race at 3-0.

THREE STARTERS fouled out for Glenn in the fourth quarter and high scorer Dave Carlington played almost the entire second half with four fouls.

The Rockets led after one quarter, 12-7, and 30-19 at the half.

Thurston cut it down to 42-32 going into the fourth stanza and that's when the Rockets almost upended themselves.

Jeff Brittain, Jim Khollman and Henry Pfeiffer fouled out for Glenn and Carlington was nursing foul No. 4.

"We had to change our game plan," said Glenn Coach Gordie Davis. "Instead of going at Thurston, we had to play conservative and work out of a zone."

Thurston made a run at Glenn in the closing minute.

THE EAGLES had sliced the margin to 54-53, 21 seconds remaining.

Thurston had control of the ball and an opportunity to take the lead for the first time. But the Eagles couldn't get a shot off and another Rocket bucket put the game out of reach.

Glenn hit 23 of 50 from the floor for 46 per cent. Thurston came up with 40 per cent, 19 of 47.

It was Thurston's seventh loss in nine games, and third in the Northwest.

GLENN WON the contest of the boards, 34-20, Carlington hauling in 14 and Brittain, 10.

The Rockets now have five straight league games on tap.

North Farmington invades Glenn territory Friday night, with Franklin and Oak Park in the following two weeks.

"This Friday's game with North Farmington will be a big one for us," added Davis. "I still believe that any team in the Northwest can knock off any other team. These next two weeks are crucial in our race for the title."

Thurston travels to Garden City East Friday night.

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JOHN GLENN (56)

	FG	FT	TP
Brittain	4	1-2	9
Aro	10	3-4	23
Khollman	0	1-2	1
McBride	1	0-0	2
Carlington	7	2-3	16
Kalunzy	0	1-2	1
Pfeiffer	1	2-2	4
Totals	23	10-15	56

THURSTON (53)

	FG	FT	TP
Hunter	4	1-4	9
Beadle	5	3-4	13
Stein	4	2-4	10
Keenan	3	5-8	11
Falvo	1	0-2	2
Dowdy	1	1-5	3
Roy	1	3-4	5
Totals	19	15-31	53

JOHN GLENN	12	18	12	14-56
THURSTON	7	12	13	21-53

Prep Schedule

BASKETBALL

FRIDAY
OL Lourdes at St. Agatha
Redford Union at Bentley
Borgess at Divine Child
Waterford Mott at Churchill
Andover at Clarenceville
WL Central at Farmington
WL Western at Harrison
Oak Park at Franklin
Thurston at GC East
GC West at Riverside
N. Farmington at John Glenn
Plymouth at Trenton
Southfield at Seaholm
BH Lahser at Lathrup
Waterford at Stevenson

TUESDAY
St. Agatha at St. Alphonsus
Bentley at Churchill
Sacred Heart at Borgess
Northville at Clarenceville
GC East at Melvindale
Bentley at Southfield
Dearborn at Lathrup
Stevenson at Lincoln Park

HOCKEY
WEDNESDAY
Stevenson at Cranbrook, 4 p.m.
Southgate vs Franklin (Ford), 3:30 p.m.

THURSDAY
Lathrup at Southfield, 3 p.m.

FRIDAY
Stevenson vs Franklin (Ford), 7 p.m.
Bentley vs Churchill (Ford), 9 p.m.

MONDAY
Franklin at Austin, 3 p.m.

SWIMMING
WEDNESDAY
Pontiac Central at Farmington, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY
Redford Union at Edsel Ford, 7:30 p.m.
Churchill at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Dearborn at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Allen Park at Bentley, 7 p.m.
Harrison at N. Farmington, 7:30 p.m.
Southgate at GC West, 4 p.m.
Lamphere at Southfield, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY
Churchill at Franklin, 7 p.m.
RO Kimball at Lathrup, 7:30 p.m.
GC East at Crestwood, 4 p.m.
Hazel Park at Thurston, 7:30 p.m.
Southgate at GC West, 4 p.m.

WRESTLING
THURSDAY
Schafer at GC West, 7 p.m.
Oak Park at Franklin, 7:30 p.m.
Harrison at Waterford Mott, 6 p.m.
N. Farmington at John Glenn, 6:30 p.m.
Waterford at Farmington, 6:30 p.m.
Thurston at GC East, 6:30 p.m.
Allen Park at Bentley, 6:30 p.m.
Dearborn at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.
Kimball at Southfield, 6:30 p.m.
Redford Union at Edsel Ford, 7:30 p.m.
RO Dondero at Lathrup, 6:30 p.m.
Stevenson at WL Western, 6:30 p.m.
Milford at Clarenceville, 6:30 p.m.
Northville at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY
Redford Union Invitational
Stevenson Quad, 2 p.m.

TUESDAY
GC East at Fordson, 4 p.m.
John Glenn at Walled Lake
Highland Park at Redford Union, 6:30 p.m.
Clarenceville at Novi, 6:30 p.m.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL
WEDNESDAY
Bentley at Ferndale, 3 p.m.
Groves at Lathrup, 4 p.m.
WL Central at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY
GC East at Bentley, 3:30 p.m.

SUNDAY
Marian High at St. Agatha, 3:30 p.m.
Borgess at Redford St. Mary, 3:45 p.m.

GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL
WEDNESDAY
N. Farmington at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Oak Park at Thurston, 4 p.m.

TUESDAY
John Glenn at Franklin, 3 p.m.

BOYS' GYMNASTICS
WEDNESDAY
Clarenceville at AA Huron, 7:30 p.m.
N. Farmington at Farmington, 7:30 p.m.
AA Pioneer at Harrison, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY
Farmington at Taylor Center, 1:30 p.m.
Taylor Kennedy at N. Farmington, 1:30 p.m.

GIRLS' GYMNASTICS
WEDNESDAY
Harrison at Clarenceville, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY
N. Farmington at Farmington, 1:30 p.m.

GC East Captures 1st League Win, 70-52

Garden City East basketball Coach Billy Joe Young knew that his Panthers had to do two things to beat Oak Park.

"We knew we had to stop their fast break and keep them off the boards," said Young.

EAST STOPPED Oak Park's fast break and kept the Redskins off the boards.

The result - a 70-52 Northwest Suburban victory, the first ever for East, after dropping its first two in its first year of Northwest competition.

"I think we are starting to come around now," said Young, whose cagers stand 2-0 for '73, 4-4 overall and 1-2 in the Northwest. "I feel we are starting to jell."

THE PANTHERS were 2-4 before the holiday break but exploded into '73 with a city rival triumph over Garden City West. Now, after the Oak Park win, Young sees his team in the running for the Northwest crown.

"Some people have counted us out already," said Young. "But I think three losses could at least get you a tie for it."

The Panthers led the entire route against Oak Park, 18-11 after one quarter, 34-21 at the half and 50-32 going into the final stanza.

East outrebounded the Redskins, 43-37, with John Grigal hauling in 19 and Paul Haydon 11. Grigal also came through with 12 field goals and two free-throws to pace allscorers with 26 points.

East hit 33 of 60 from the floor for 55 per cent, but sputtered to a four for 13 showing at the line. Oak Park shot 31 per cent from the field on 22 of 71 and made good eight of 13 from the line.

Thurston High invades Panther territory Friday with East traveling to Melvindale Tuesday and North Farmington the following Friday.

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GC EAST (70)

	FG	FT	TP
Haydon	6	2-3	14
Taylor	2	0-1	4
Grigal	12	2-5	26
Arner	3	0-0	6
Soya	5	0-2	10
Anleitner	1	0-2	2
Bills	1	0-0	2
Gilligan	1	0-0	2
Lajza	2	0-0	4
Totals	33	4-13	70

OAK PARK (52)

	FG	FT	TP
Rankins	6	0-1	12
M.Craighead	1	0-0	2
Mims	1	3-6	5
Miles	4	4-4	12
Ford	9	1-2	19
R. Craighead	1	0-0	2
Totals	22	8-13	52

GC EAST	18	16	16	20-70
OAK PARK	11	10	11	20-52

N. Farmington Hosting 4th Invitational

North Farmington High School will be hosting its fourth annual wrestling invitational meet on Jan. 27, preliminaries starting at noon and finals beginning at 7 p.m.

Tourney Director Dick Wilson announced eight teams in the competition. They include Farmington High, Edsel Ford, West Bloomfield, Ferndale, Southfield, Southfield Lathrup, Redford Union and North Farmington.

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