

North Branch Friday a 'must' game

Hawks fall to USA, Caro in 4th quarters

Cass City High School hasn't lost three games in a row in at least a half dozen years and if the Hawks expect to successfully defend their Thumb B Association crown they had better not break that record Friday.

Friday, North Branch comes to town and the Broncos are co-leaders of the league. The Hawks simply can't afford to drop two games out and remain in serious contention for the title.

With 1:15 left in the game Cass City had whittled away a 12-point Patriot lead to one point, 53-52, and had the ball.

But a costly turnover gave the ball to USA. A Patriot was fouled coming down the floor but missed the foul shot try and Cass City had a chance to go ahead again. This time a close-in shot bounced in and out and USA recovered the rebound.

Tonti led all scorers with 24 points. Comment netted 18. Dave Simmet, 23, and Tom Eisengruber, 13, led the Patriots.

Caro was moving the ball inside well but missed several easy shots from close in. But the Tigers got going in the second period and the two teams traded baskets. With 2:52 left in the half, Coach Cliff Crossett took out Larry Smith, the big, burly Tiger center, after he fouled. When he left the score was tied.

When the halftime whistle blew the Hawks had moved out in front 26-20. But Smith was back for the start of the third period and Caro bounced right back. Jeff Jones, 5-9 guard, broke loose for two quick layups and Cass City's margin was reduced to two points.

Cass City	FG	FT	PTS
Tonti	6	0-1	12
Comment	7	3-4	17
Sontag	3	3-4	9
Hobart	2	-	4
Goslin	1	-	2
Total	19	6-9	44



Another one and one followed and one shot was converted to make the lead two points. With 40 seconds left Cass City fouled again and this time both ends of the two-shot effort were converted and that was the ball game.

Cass City	FG	FT	PTS
Comment	7	4-4	18
Tonti	9	6-8	24
Sontag	1	3-4	5
Hobart	2	-	4
Zawilinski	1	-	2
Goslin	-	1-2	1
Total	20	14-18	54

While Cass City made an heroic attempt to get back in the game in the final period the game was really lost in the final two minutes of the first period.

USA	FG	FT	PTS
DeSimpelare	4	2	10
Simmet	10	3	23
Zimmer	4	1	9
Winter	2	1	5
Eisengruber	5	3	13
Total	25	10	60

Cass City was ahead 11-10 with two minutes left when the Patriots staged a game winning rally. Hitting on jump shots from the sides and beating the Hawks' defense down the floor consistently, USA scored 13 unanswered points and led 23-11 with a minute gone in the second period.

Cass City maintained a slight margin until 2:01 left in the period when Caro went ahead for the first time, 32-30.

After that the Hawks played on even terms with the Patriots until the rally in the final quarter that just missed pulling the game out of the fire.

With Smith hitting on close-in shots the Tigers stayed in front until midway in the final period. Comment suddenly caught fire and hit five shots from the corner and the score was knotted again, 42-42.

The Hawks' rally was paced by Todd Comment who moved into the low post and sank several turnaround jump shots and Craig Tonti who hit on jumpers and drives in the final four minutes of the game after being held in check much of the middle two quarters.

Caro took the ball and when a foul shot was converted with 25 seconds left it was all over and the Tigers moved into first place in the Thumb B Association with North Branch.

The Hawks were guilty of sloppy passing and sloppy defense until coming alive in the closing minutes. The rangy, muscular Patriot front line dominated the boards for the winners.

Comment scored 17 points and Tonti 12 for Cass City while Smith of Caro led all scorers with 18 and was a dominant figure on the boards. Sontag was credited with 8

CARO GAME

The high flying Cass City Red Hawks were shot down Friday by a determined Caro Tiger squad that played a tight zone defense and held Cass City to its lowest point total in several years. The score was 48-44.

The game turned when the Tigers were able to shut down one of Cass City's two potent scoring threats in each half.

In the first half, Todd Comment was held to six points. In the second, Craig Tonti scored just a single bucket. Both finished well below their totals in the first two games.

It looked as if Tonti was going to take up where he left off after averaging 31 points in the first two games. He scored six of the first eight points and the Hawks led 8-7 in the early going on a bucket by Scott Hobart.

The Caro Junior Varsity scored an easy decision over the Cass City JV in the preliminary, 74-44.

THUMB B ASSOCIATION	League	Over	all
	W	L	W/L
North Branch	3	0	3 0
Caro	3	0	3 1
Cass City	2	1	2 2
Laker High	2	1	3 1
Sandusky	1	2	2 2
Vassar	1	2	2 2
Bad Axe	0	3	0 4
Marlette	0	3	0 3

Caro	FG	FT	PTS
Jones	4	3-3	11
Cockerill	1	0-2	2
Hartman	1	-	2
Smith	8	2-3	18
Thompson	4	1-4	9
Lesoski	3	0-1	6
Total	21	6-13	48

Friday's Games — Sandusky at Caro; Laker at Marlette; Vassar at Bad Axe; North Branch at Cass City.

Schelke named coach of year

Don Schelke of Cass City has been named coach of the year in Region II of the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association.



Don Schelke

Schelke won the award for piloting Cass City to a co-championship in the Thumb B Association this fall.

It was Schelke's third year as head coach at Cass City. His record is 18-9. Schelke also served four years as an assistant at Cass City.

He and his wife, Bev, are natives of Bad Axe. He was a quarterback and defensive back on the Alma College football team and graduated from Alma in 1972. He also has a MA from Central Michigan.

Besides football, Schelke also has served four years as varsity baseball coach.

MARK GOSLIN took his only shot of the night on this play and it was good for two points. Defending are Andy Brissette, 12, Jeff Jones and Larry Smith.

Before Judge Kern

2 fined in district court

Lawrence J. Bulla, 22, of 6777 Kelly Road, Cass City, was fined \$97 and assessed \$53 court costs when he appeared Monday before District Judge Richard F. Kern for sentencing for attempted resisting and obstructing a police officer.

on a charge of conspiracy to receive and conceal stolen property under \$100, was Diana D. Zagorski, 39, of 4308 S. Leach Street, Cass City.

She was fined \$100 and assessed \$150 court costs. She pleaded guilty to the charge Nov. 21, in connection with the theft of two motorcycles April 5.

County budget

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But if the county has to use the revenue sharing money to fund its general operations in 1982, which appears likely, Kennedy said, the board will have to decide whether it should be health department nurses who lose

their jobs or other employees or whether making sure roads are plowed in winter is more important than some other county function.

"I think we'll have to cut back some people in the next budget," he predicted.



Duane Ertman looks over some new arrivals in the fine Jewelry Department at Old Wood Drug. It is easy to look like a million when you shop at the corner drug store in Cass City. Wood's has it all together for you. (Adv.)

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