

*Stay in title chase*

# Hawks ride herd on Broncos, 80-61

Cass City dominated the boards after the first period Friday night to defeat North Branch, 80-61, and stay in

the Thumb B Association title chase. The Hawks trail league leading Caro by a game and

are tied with previously undefeated North Branch. It was the same old story for Cass City. As Todd

Comment and Craig Tonti go, so go the Hawks. It was Comment scoring from close in and on rebounds that kept the Hawks on the heels of the Broncos in the first quarter. North Branch spurred with two baskets in the final four seconds to lead 18-14 at the end of the period.

In the second period Tonti took control of the offense. In the opening two minutes he scored a pair of buckets to tie the score at 20-20 with 6:10 left in the half. Then the Hawks scored 8 unanswered points to move ahead 30-24 with 3:07 left and never trailed again.

In the period Tonti whipped in 16 points on jumpers from 12 feet and fast breaks. The Cass City lead might have been greater if it hadn't been for Don Smeznik who whipped in 8 points in the second quarter to keep the Broncos in contention.

In the third quarter Tonti took over where he left off in the second and spearheaded a drive that saw the Cass City lead lengthen to 44-32 with 4 minutes left.

In the next three minutes the Hawks put the game out of reach as the Cass City press bothered the visitors and turnovers were numerous. With 1:22 left in the third quarter the Hawk lead had moved to 52-35 and it was merely a matter of playing out the string. Tonti posted his third 30-

point game in five starts with 34 points while Comment scored 22. Smeznik scored 25 and Kevin Withey, 14, for North Branch.

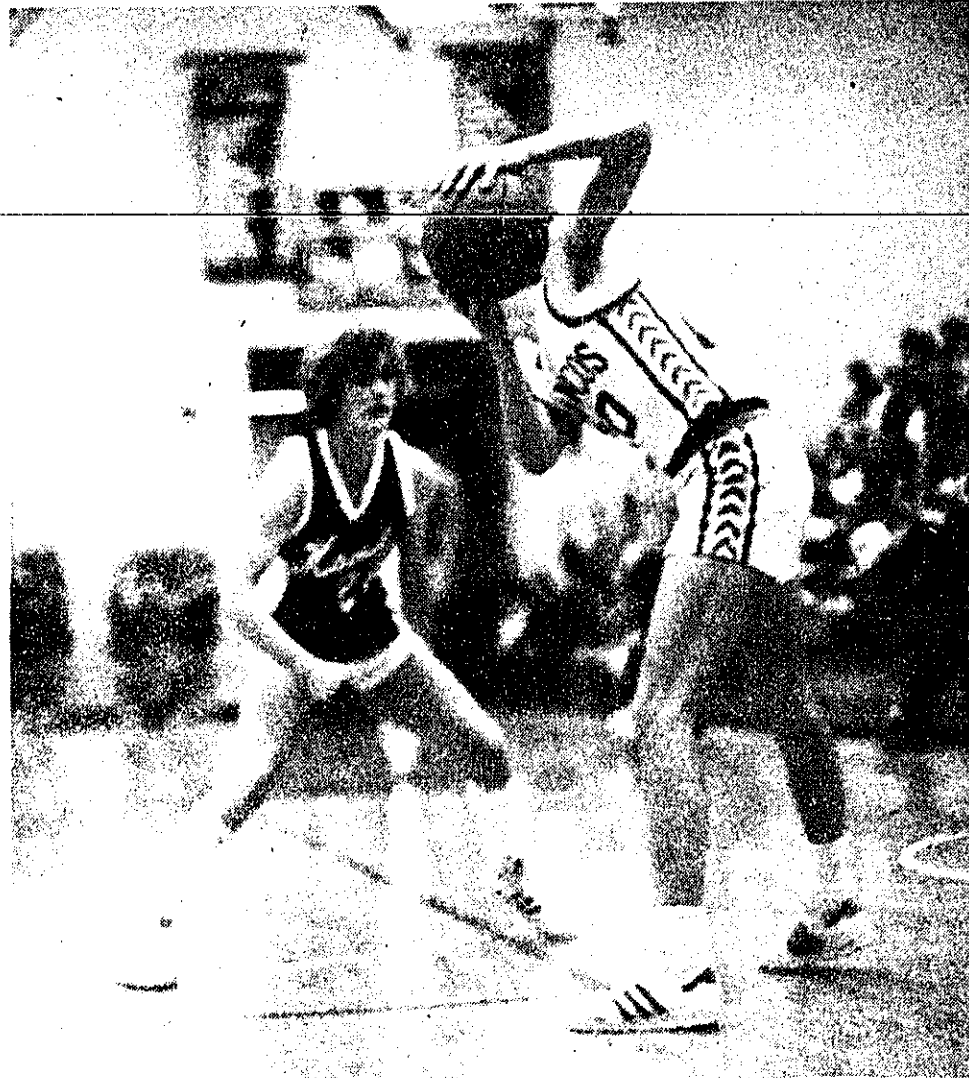
In the preliminary game, Cass City's JV lost another. It was a heartbreaker for the winless Hawks as the two teams went into overtime before North Branch won, 48-45.

Cass City	FG	FT	PTS
Ferris	2	-	4
Tonti	16	2-2	34
Comment	11	-	22
Zawilinski	2	-	4
Sontag	3	0-1	6
Hobart	2	-	4
Goslin	1	4-4	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>6-9</b>	<b>80</b>

North Branch	FG	FT	PTS
Smeznik	9	7-7	25
MacNaughton	1	-	2
Snoblen	4	4-8	12
Ruhlman	2	0-1	4
Filkins	1	-	2
Thibideau	-	2-2	2
Withey	6	2-4	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>15-22</b>	<b>61</b>

**THUMB B ASSOCIATION**

League	Over	all
	W	L
Caro	4	0
Lakers	3	1
North Branch	3	1
Cass City	3	1
Vassar	2	3
Sandusky	1	3
Marlette	0	4
Bad Axe	0	4



**FULL COURT PRESSING** defense caused several turnovers in the North Branch game Friday. Phil "Buck" Zawilinski applies the pressure.



**TOP PLAYERS** honored at the Owen-Gage fall sports banquet last Wednesday were, from left, back row, all football; Dan Glidden, most improved, and Scott Gaeth and Jim Glidden, most valuable. Front row, basketball, Becky Howard, left, and Julie Andrakowicz, most valuable. Absent was Joan Mosack, most improved.

## Cass City wrestlers continue to impress with victories over Caro and Lakers

Cass City's wrestling team scored a decisive victory over highly regarded Caro last Wednesday in a clash between Thumb B Association rivals. The score was 48-21.

The Hawks won six matches by pins and Caro

recorded three pins. One of the Tigers' pins was the result of an injury to Jeff Papp.

185 pounds. Shawn Papp, CC, won by forfeit.

198 pounds. Doug Sowden, CC, pinned Kevin Bechler.

L., 31 seconds. Heavyweight, Jim Jensen, CC, won by forfeit.

The match was close through the 155 pound class with the Hawks ahead 24-21 but the next four matches were won by pins by Cass

City to push the Hawks into a decisive win.

98-pounds. Siego, pinned Papp, CC. (Injury).

105-pounds. Webster, C, forfeit.

112-pounds. Harmer, CC, outpointed Muska, C.

119-pounds. Brown, CC, pinned Benton, C.

125 pounds. Dolecki, CC, outpointed Hodges, C.

132 pounds. Harmer, CC, pinned Pratt, C.

138 pounds. Fisher, CC, pinned Smith, C. (Injury).

145 pounds. Charmley, C, pinned Steeley, CC.

155 pounds. Blakley, C, outpointed Sawdon, CC.

165 pounds. Warju, CC, pinned Greg Tomlinson, C.

185 pounds. Papp, CC, pinned McQueen, C.

198 pounds. Sowden, CC, pinned Wilson, C.

Heavyweight, Jensen, CC, pinned Schreiber, C.

**DEFEAT LAKERS**

In a match held Monday.

Dec. 15, the Hawks rolled past host Lakers, 51-21.

98 pounds. Tony Olivo, L, won forfeit.

105 pounds. Jeff Papp, CC, pinned Raul Olivo, 3:08.

112 pounds. Phil Harmer, CC, pinned Mark Champion, L, 1:01.

119 pounds. Paul Brown, CC, pinned Dave Peck, L, 1:33.

126 pounds. Troy King, L, decision, Mark Dolecki, CC, 7-6.

132 pounds. Clayton Harmer, CC, pinned Jerry Petty, L, 1:32.

138 pounds. Blake Fisher, CC, decision, Jim Clabuesch, L, 5-3.

145 pounds. Darrin Kohl, L, won by forfeit.

155 pounds. Bob Sawdon, CC, pinned John Peyer, L, 47 seconds.

167 pounds. Leo McArdle, L, pinned John Warju, CC, 3:58.

## Set O-G tourney

The second annual Owen-Gage Christmas basketball tournament starts Monday in the Owendale gym.

Junior varsity games start at 6:30 p.m., followed by the varsity contest.

In the opener, the Bulldogs tackle Caseville. The Tues-

day night contest features Michigan Lutheran Seminary and Port Hope.

Losers play Friday evening, Jan. 2, with the first round winners competing for the championship trophies Saturday.



**CROSS COUNTRY -- Top Red Hawks** in running were, from left, Mark Mozdzen, most improved, Kristy Deering, most valuable girl, and Greg Bliss, most valuable. Mozdzen and Bliss both qualified for the state Class C meet. Deering was named to the all-conference first team.



**GIRLS' BASKETBALL -- Honored** as most valuable member of the team was Padgett Randall, holding her team's Thumb B Association first place trophy. She is flanked by Michelle Fahrner (left) and Carrie Lautner, both most improved.



**FOOTBALL -- Honored** at the Cass City High School fall sports awards night last Thursday were Buck Zawilinski, most improved, and Rob Sawdon, most valuable. They are holding their team's Thumb B Association first place trophy. Coach Don Schelke was presented with the Saginaw News trophy designating his team as the area Class C football champion.



**CLARENCE GAETH** (right) of Owendale received a plaque from football coach Arnie Besonen for his many years of service to the football program. Guest speaker was Jean Francois Duquesne of Belgium, an exchange student living with Besonen and his family in Port Austin.

## Announce all-state honors for area girls

Padgett Randall and Becky Howard have been named to the Detroit Free Press all-state second teams for their respective divisions.

Randall of the Cass City Red Hawks made the Class C second team; Howard of Owen-Gage was named to the Class D second team.

The Bulldog was earlier named to the Associated Press Class D all-state first team.

Julie Andrakowicz of Owen-Gage was designated by the Free Press as an honorable mention.

## People's only undefeated team in recreation loop

After just three weeks there is only one team, People's State Bank, still undefeated in the Cass City Recreational Basketball League.

People's kept its record clean with a 73-42 decision over McMahan's last Wednesday. The winners tucked the game away in the first quarter with a 20-8 margin on some fine outside shooting.

McMahan's closed the gap in the second period to 30-25 but People's came on strong with a 43-17 last half margin to post the win.

Chuck Smith, 15, Norm Stephens, 12, Tim Bates, 10, and Paul Strecker, 10, were in double figures for People's while Larry Bruce with 8 topped the losers.

In the nightcap Shetler's handed Stevenson's Insurance its first loss, 76-66. Shetler's jumped out to a 19-16 first quarter margin only to see Stevenson's come back strong and tie it at the half.

The winners tucked the game away in the third quarter with a 22-10 margin. Paul Beachy, 19, Doug Powers, 11, and Kent Shetler, 10, paced the winners. The losers had four players, Rick Tuckey, 18, Mark Green, 11, Bill Stevenson, 12, and Jeff McKenzie, 17, in double figures.

Thursday night Hillaker Auctioneering won a close one from Charmont, 62-60.

The winner got off to a fast start behind Roy Calahan, the league's leading scorer, who netted 10 points in the first period.

Charmont tied it at 30-all at the half and the two teams fought to the wire in the last half.

With the score tied and 15 seconds left, Dave Zawilinski

stole the ball from Charmont and dribbled to the top of the key and sank the shot to win it.

Calahan scored 27 for the winners. Marty Zawilinski netted 14 and Dave Zawilinski added 10. Dennis Dunkel with 15, Dave Doerr, 12, and Tim Severance, 12, led the losers.

In the nightcap Thursday, Caro Plumbing had little trouble topping Erla's for its first win of the season, 57-43.

Erla's charged to a 10-6 lead at the end of the first period but after that it was all Caro. The Plumbers went in front 20-16 at the half and used a big final period to win comfortably.

C. Miles, 15, B. Fox, 15, and G. Hagen, 12, were top scorers from Caro while Chuck Hendrick and Tom Prich each scored 10 for Erla's.

In a pair of make-up games Monday, Dec. 15, Stevenson's topped Caro Plumbing, 98-28, while Char-

mont bested McMahan's, 68-61.

Stevenson's coast to victory behind the shooting of Bill Stevenson, 24, Mark Green, 22, and Jeff McKensie, 20, while B. Hagen and Bitzer, scored 8 each for the losers.

Charmont overcame a 20-13 first quarter McMahan lead to roll to the victory. It wasn't the fault of Leon Kaniszewski who was McMahan's big rebounder and big scorer with 33 points.

Tim Severance had his best night of the year with 25 points. Doerr, 13, Weir, 12, and Hartel, 10, helped out.

The standings:

	W	L
People's State Bank	3	0
Charmont	2	1
Stevenson's Ins.	2	1
Hillaker's Auction	2	1
Shetler's P & H	2	1
Caro P & H	1	2
Erla's Food Center	0	3
McMahan's Auto	0	3

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