

Riverside Streak Ends

By JOHN WALTER

Dearborn Lowrey ended Riverside's three-year basketball domination of the Tri-River League with an 80-70 victory on the winner's home court last night.

It was the first league defeat in 24 games for Riverside since Dennis Wilke became basketball coach three years ago.

Lowrey coach Bill Lee isn't celebrating yet, however. Riverside, champion the last two years, isn't out of it yet and still could finish as co-champion with Riverside.

They are tied with 6-1 won-lost records. Lowrey goes to Romulus Tuesday for a non-league encounter, then hosts last place Southgate in its final league game next Friday.

Riverside plays at home against Cherry Hill in its remaining game next Friday. Cherry Hill clinched third place in the five-team league last night by edging Haston, 55-54. Southgate, the other member of the league, hosts Schafer in a non-league game tonight.

Jerry Wood, 6-foot-4, 220 pound senior, was the star of

Lowrey's victory last night. He was the game's scoring leader with 24 points. He counted six of his 10 baskets in the fourth quarter as Lowrey came from behind to outscore Riverside, 25-13, for the victory.

STRONG OFF BOARDS

In addition to his scoring efforts, Wood's command of the backboards, with a big assist from teammate Joe Gary, offset Riverside's fast break and proved decisive.

Wood had 25 rebounds, 20 on defense, five on offense.



Gary, a 6-foot-5 junior, pulled in 18 rebounds, besides being runner-up in scoring with 19 points. Sophomore Gene Ellefson contributed 11 points and Bob Fox 10.

Lowrey dominated the early stages of the game, opening a 9-2 lead in the first two and a half minutes. Low-

rey led 21-14 after the first quarter. Riverside whittled it to 39-35 at half time. Riverside led at the end of the third period, 57-55, on Dan Yasenchak's jump shot at the buzzer.

Wood tied the score with a layup after 28 seconds. Then Ellefson, scored on a tip-in 15 seconds later to put Lowrey ahead to stay.

Yasenchak was Riverside's top scorer with 19 points. Dennis Feirabend counted 17 and Mike Lorente 14. Rick Anderson and Dennis Mishihski each had 8 points. David Dyer, who was Riverside's top scorer with 30 points in its first meeting with Lowrey, counted only three points this time.

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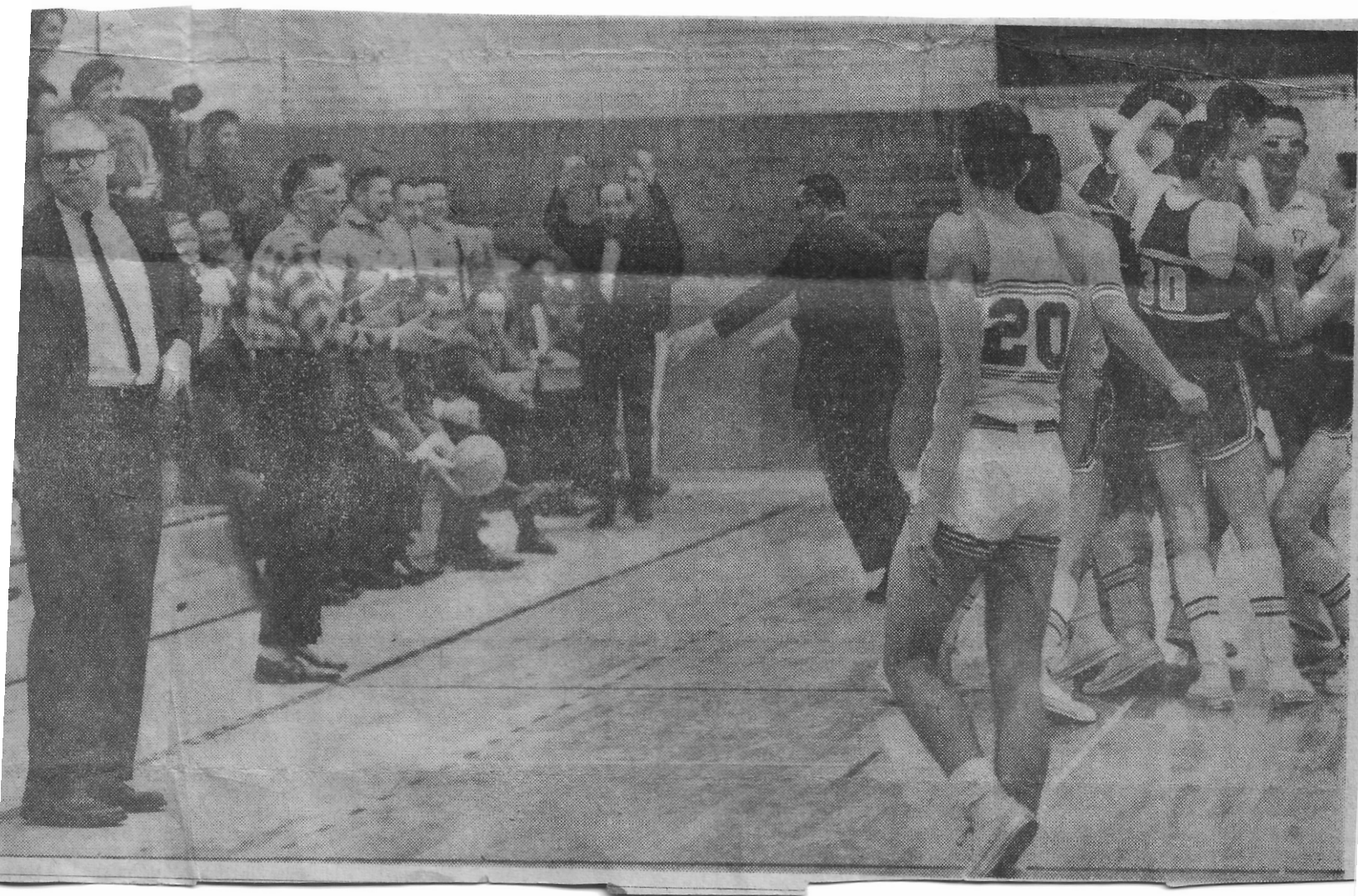
Three Riverside players, Anderson, Mushihski and Gary Baumdraher fouled out in the last quarter, compared to only one Lowrey player, Ed Wigley.

Rice probably will have his squad concentrating on its free throw shooting this week. Lowrey counted only 20 of 46 free throws, a 43 percent average, compared to Riverside's 65 percent average, as it converted 18 of 28.

Rich Young was high for Cherry Hill with 24 points in its victory over Haston.



Frank Presti and Jim Sliva led Haston with 12 each. Trailing 47-38 going into the fourth quarter, Haston rallied to outscore Cherry Hill, 16-8 and lost a chance for victory when Dave Gilliken's shot from the foul line with one second to go bounced away.





NIGHT OF RECKONING FOR PREP POWER

It took Tri-River League basketball teams three seasons to prove that perennial champion Riverside is not really unbeatable. It just seemed that way until Dearborn Lowrey did the "impossible" last night, 80-70, on the Lowrey court. The loss cut a 24-game winning streak and left the Tri-River rivals locked in first place with one game remaining. The enthusiasm of the Riverside players and Coach Dennis Wilkie in the picture above shows that the game didn't belong entirely to Lowrey. They jumped, shouted and clapped as Riverside pulled close. But at the buzzer (picture at right), the expression on Wilkie's face and the dejection apparent in the walk of player Dennis Feirabend (20) is in marked contrast to the excited huddle of the winners—News Photos by James H. Kilpatrick.

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