

# Ogrodnick leaves community he enjoys

BY MARTY TUNGATE

John Ogrodnick, 27, Red Wing of the year in 1985-86, ended his playing days in Detroit last week just one day after conducting his final interview with the local media.

During eight seasons with the Wings, he played in 239 games and produced 55 goals to top the team's scorers last season.

Ogrodnick is a resident of Plymouth Township. But the player who loves living and being a part of The Plymouth-Canton Community, bitterly packed his bags and moved to Quebec, to play for the Nordiques.

Ogrodnick, born in Ottawa, Canada, has always been a hockey fan.

"I love hockey," he said last Wednesday leaning back against his locker. "I started to play organized hockey at age six."

Mike Ogrodnick, his father, was a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force, and the athlete might have become a flyboy if he hadn't started playing hockey.

And he's got the look of someone with "the right stuff."

"I've always been interested in

## Rock cagers roll to 8th

BY MARTY TUNGATE

Salem's boys cagers rolled past North Farmington, 61-46, Friday night to up their already impressive record to 8-1.

"We played a real fine game," said head coach Bob Brodie.

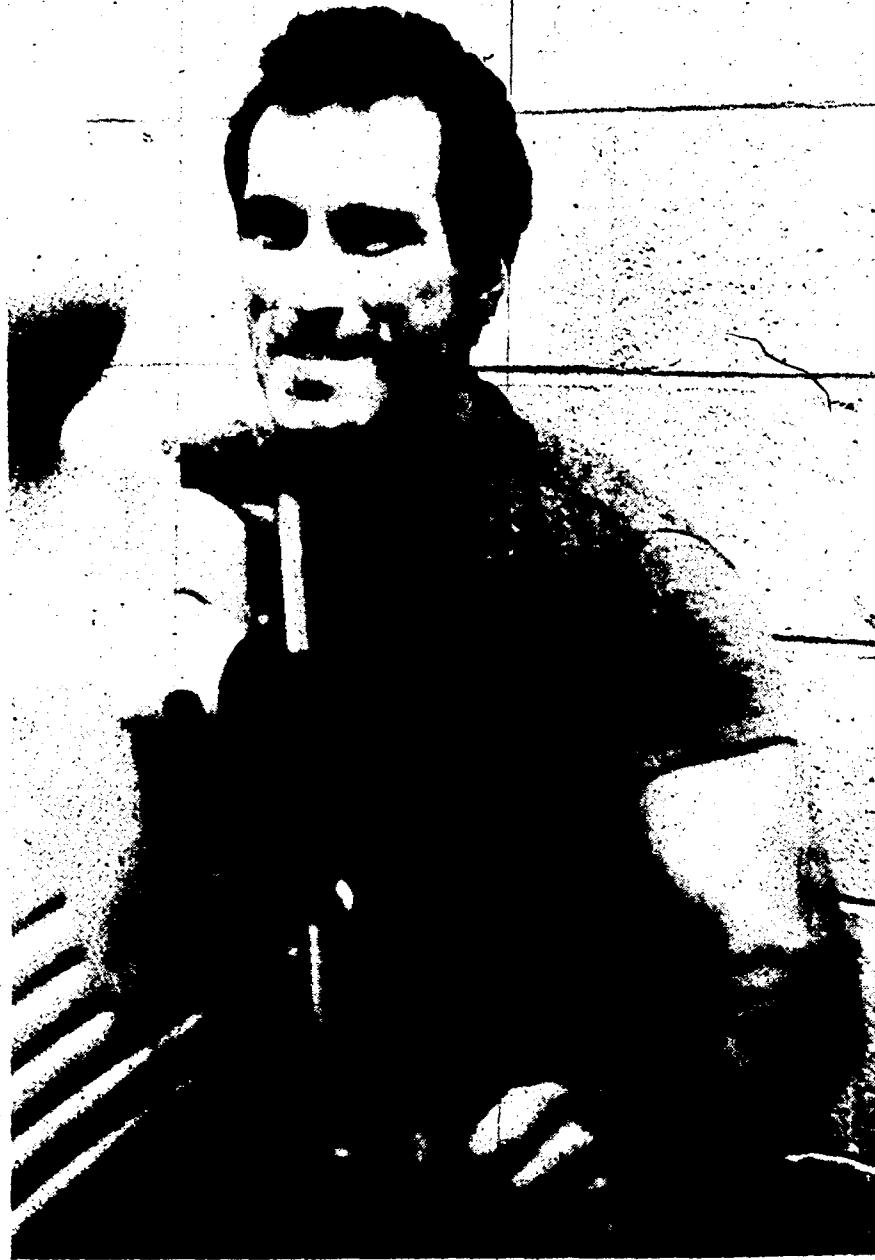
North Farmington shot well early, making it difficult for Salem to pull head.

Mike Hale came alive in the second half offensively, and defensively. Hale scored 21 points to lead the Rock cagers, while grabbing nine rebounds on the night.

Bryan Kearis added 15 points, while senior Rick Taylor had 14 points in the winning effort.

flying, ever since I can remember," he said. "I loved to watch the jets fly overhead."

Although he loves the game of hockey, Ogrodnick feels professional hockey isn't for everyone.



## Working out

John Ogrodnick shows the strain as he works out in the Wings locker room last week. (Crier photo by Ken Voyles)

"It's not all fun and glory," Ogrodnick said. One could plainly see the stitches holding part of his chin together. He wasn't practicing with the Wings Wednesday thanks to a charley horse in his leg.

Ogrodnick finds life pleasurable in the township (four years now) and he enjoys the community a great deal.

"It's a great town. A good location," he said. "It's near I-96 to Detroit, and I-275 to the airport."

He is married, also four years, to his wife BettyAnne Ogrodnick. They have one child, a two-year-old daughter, KelseyAnne Ogrodnick.

"My family life is great. I love my wife and daughter very much and they are very supportive of me in my business," Ogrodnick added. "BettyAnne never misses a home game, and it's always nice to know your wife is up in the stands rooting for you."

Ogrodnick, who likes to consider himself a family man, still enjoys going out and being with the guys.

"We (team mates) go out after practice for lunch, or have a drink after a game once in a while. I like that, it lets me become more familiar with the guys," Ogrodnick said as he adjusted his jersey hanging on his locker.

Although Ogrodnick enjoys his family and going out with the guys, he also said that during the season there is not a lot of time for him to spend time with his family or even in the community.

And now may have to find a new home.

The former left-winger was so upset with this sudden trade he would not speak to any reporters, thus his plans are unknown.

A fine athlete and pleasant man, who liked Michigan, Detroit, and Plymouth is now gone to play in Quebec. And bitter feelings probably remain over the sudden trade.

# Canton grapplers 4th at Civitan invite Saturday

BY KEN VOYLES

Canton's young wrestling squad finished fourth at the Civitan Wrestling Invitational hosted by the Chiefs at Phase III on Saturday.

The Chiefs finished behind Stevensville Lakeshore, which won it for the third straight year, Livonia Stevenson and Belleville. Also at the competition were Southgate Anderson, Birmingham Seaholm, Oxford, and

Livonia Franklin.

Canton produced three invitational champions in Tom Flores, Dan Dwyer and Jim Crews. Flores, a junior, won the 98-pound division, while Dwyer, a senior, captured the 155-pound class. Crews, also a junior, pinned all three of his opponents on his way to winning the 198-pound competition.

All three wrestlers went 3-0 during

the day long event.

Canton heavyweight Tony Callaway finished second at the invitational, while Matt Keeler, at 105 pounds, was third overall. Craig Rinke, at 132 pounds, was fourth overall.

"We only have two seniors," said Canton coach Rich Menoch. "I'm pretty satisfied. I'd love for us to do better but I'm being realistic. This is a

young team and we're doing pretty good with our line-up."

The Chiefs are currently 5-2 overall in the Western Lakes Activities Association (WLAA) and unbeaten in the Lakes division of the WLAA with three wins.

"We just need one more win to take the division," Menoch said.

The Chiefs will go for that title when they host Farmington Harrison Thursday (Jan. 22) at 6:30 p.m.

# Chief hoop team gets on track with wins

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Harrison fought to close the gap early in the third quarter after Canton went up 32-18. Through the final five minutes of the quarter, the Hawks moved closer and closer before getting to within five points of the Chiefs 36-31.

Harrison closed to 38-35 two minutes into the fourth quarter before

a couple of decisive fastbreaks by Chiefs put the momentum back into their hands.

Canton, in fact, scored the next five baskets and led 46-35 before Harrison could regroup. But by then it was too late.

Even with Reeves, Trice and Jim Anulewicz fouling out, the Chiefs were able to hold on to their margin and

gain the victory.

Trice and Littleton led the Chiefs offensively in the second half. Trice produced eight points, while Littleton, coming off the bench, sank 11, all in the second half.

Earlier in the week, Canton defeated Dearborn, 64-59, behind 17 points from Reeves and 15 from Trice. Littleton notched seven and Anulewicz hit for eight points.

## Coach sought

Canton High is searching for a cheerleading coach for the rest of the 1986-87 school year. Any persons in the community with cheerleading background may apply by writing a letter of application to Mr. Thomas J. Tattan, c/o Plymouth Canton High School, 8415 Canton Center, Canton, MI 48187.