

Strong start lifts Romeo

By **Rebekka Costanzo**

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By stealing a 14-point lead in the first-quarter of their MAC Red division boys basketball game at Ford on Tuesday night, the Romeo Bulldogs made their intentions clear: Win.

And ultimately they did, 58-43.

"I think it's just the kids came out and decided to play hard,"

Boys Basketball

Romeo coach Dale Teller said.

Seniors Spencer Szwejk and Jason Schirmer led the Bulldogs, now 3-0 in the MAC Red and 3-3 overall, with 13 points apiece.

Schirmer has reached or surpassed 10 points in his past four games. In addition, he and Steven Saliga added five rebounds each during Tuesday's victory.

At halftime, the Bulldogs were ahead 36-19.

"They were a lot better than us," Ford coach Mark Bray said.

"We're playing for first place and we had a nice win on Friday and ... we didn't show up."

He added, "Not that it was us. They beat us. They were better than us in every aspect of the game. They out-rebounded us. They were tougher than us. They wanted it more."

Despite his team's weak first half, junior Aaron Cox displayed offensive power for the Falcons. He was 6-for-6 at the free-throw line and scored a 3-point basket. Cox finished the game with 13 points and led the Falcons, who fell 1-1 in the Red and to 4-4 overall.

Ryan Thomas and Ryan Grzegorzewski added 12 and 11 points for Romeo, respectively. Thomas also contributed four assists, while Edwin Theut led the Bulldogs defensively with 14 rebounds and two blocks.

Romeo	18	18	14	8	-	58
Ford	6	13	11	13	-	43

ROMEO (3-0, 3-3): Ryan Thomas 12, Taylor Brynaert 4, Blake Laurain 1, Spencer Szwejk 13, Jason Schirmer 13, Ryan Grzegorzewski 11, Edwin Theut 4. Totals: 11(5) 21-32.

FORD (1-1, 4-4): Evan Crank 5, Josh Bitel 5, Nick Boguth 3, Marc Wouters 2, Eric Posavetz 2, Alan Ciochetto 2, Alben Djokaj 1, Aaron Cox 13, Ramon Johnson 6, Anton Marki 4. Totals: 10(3) 14-17.