

Farmington Mercy Cagers Crush Stevenson, 64-29

By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor



Now there are four. The first Michigan girls state class A basketball tournament field has been narrowed to four teams and the Observerland area boasts one survivor in Farmington Our Lady of Mercy.

Mercy knocked off Livonia Stevenson in the state quarterfinals, 64-29, and will meet Detroit Dominican tonight (Friday) in the semifinals at Grand Blanc high school at 8 p.m.

The other semifinal sets East Lansing against Grand Rapids. Lansing nipped Trenton, 49-48, and Christian topped Flint Carman, 35-31.

The winners of the Mercy-Dominican and East Lansing-Christian contest will meet tomorrow (Saturday) at Grand Blanc for the first girls state championship. Tipoff is set for 2:30 p.m.

The Marlins, coached by Rose Swidzinska, jumped to a 24-7 first quarter lead, boosted it to 37-18 at the half, dipped to 46-25 after three

quarters and coasted home with an 18-4 fourth quarter margin.

"My girls just got the jitters," said Stevenson Coach Liz Embree whose Spartans finished off the season with a 14-2 mark. "We couldn't put anything in the bucket. We couldn't get any sort of an offense rolling.

"I really have to admit that Mercy put it to us," added the Stevenson coach. "They have to be the best team we have ever played. They have the advantage of playing CYO ball in the earlier grades and have been through all of this before. "It will take awhile for the public schools to get it all together but we'll be back."

Stevenson had one girl in double figure scoring in senior Eileen McMahon with 12 points. Her Spartans netted just nine field goals, Miss McMahon with five of those. Mercy, which hit 24 buck-

ets, and 16 of 32 from the line boasted high scorers in Diane Wink with 13 points and Lori Zessin with 11.

Three minutes into the contest, Mercy built an 8-0 margin. Lorraine Hyman finally got the Spartans on the board with a two - pointer but Farmington's Wink, Judcen Bartos and Donna Sass all hit and Mercy was up, 14-2.

Mary Anne Thompson then picked up a hot hand for Mercy, popped in six points and Farmington was up to a 24-7 first quarter advantage.

Mercy went three minutes without scoring in the second quarter. Stevenson missed on six one - and - one situations and trailed at the half, 37-18.

The Spartans stormed out in the third quarter but fell short of their charge.

Stevenson's defense thwarted Mercy as Farmington went the first five minutes of the quarter without a point. But Stevenson could muster only six points

on baskets by Hyman, McMahon and Sharon Solack and the closest Stevenson ever came was a 37-24 margin.

Hitting for five points in the last minute of the third stanza, Lori Zessin pushed Mercy's lead back up to 46-25 heading into the final eight minutes.

The rest was all warmup time for Mercy, popping in 18 points while Stevenson could muster only one field goal and two free - throws in the fourth.

Now it's Mercy against Dominican in the semifinals tonight, the Marlins hoping to make that trip again to Grand Blanc tomorrow.

Box score:

STEVENSON				MERCY			
	FG	FT	TP		FG	FT	TP
McMahon	5	2-3	12	Bartos	3	3-8	9
Solack	1	2-4	4	K. Bauer	3	1-2	7
Hyman	3	2-5	8	Hammel	0	0-1	0
Lang	0	1-2	1	Larges	0	1-2	1
Macy	0	1-2	1	Misko	1	0-1	2
Gavor	0	0-1	0	Otto	2	0-4	4
Ihalt	0	3-4	3	Sass	2	2-3	8
TOTALS	9	11-21	26	Steele	0	2-4	2
				Tipson	4	1-2	9
				Wink	5	1-2	13
				Zessin	3	5-7	11
				Ly. Z'sin	0	0-2	0
				TOTALS	24	16-32	64
STEVENSON	.....			24	13	9	4-29
FARM. MERCY	.....			24	13	9	18-44



DRIVING IN FOR TWO POINTS and a trip to Grand Blanc for the state semifinals tonight is Farmington Mercy's Donna Sass who paced her Marlins to a 64-29 victory over Livonia Stevenson. That's Stevenson's Lori Hyman on defense. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

Franklin Tops Southfield, 91-80

The basketball was not to be denied the hoop this week.

In one of the most point productive Tuesday evenings, Franklin battled to a 91-80 win over Southfield. North Farmington rattled off 74 points in a 74-47 triumph over Walled Lake Central, and at the opposite end, Garden City West was blitzed by Brother Rice, 97-59, and Plymouth Canton by Dearborn, 76-52.

Livonia Franklin and Southfield found themselves in a contest at the free-throw line. A total of 63 fouls were called. Franklin hit 35 of 49 at the line and the Blue Jays 24 of 38.

The field goal department found Franklin hitting 28 of 48 for 60 per cent and South-

field, 28 of 69 for 40 per cent.

The 91 point output by the now 2-2 Patriots broke the school scoring mark set last season against Thurston 86-64.

North Farmington pushed its unbeaten mark to 3-0 with a stunning triumph over Walled Lake Central. The Raiders ran off a 23-4 first quarter score.

North hit on 11 of 17 in that quarter. John Creighton collected all of his eight points in that span. Meanwhile, Central hit on one of eight. North wound up 31 of 65 from the field for 48 per cent.

After dropping their first three games, Thurston broke into the victory column over Dearborn Heights Annapolis, 65-54.

With 1 1/2 minutes remaining in the first stanza, the Eagles held onto a slim, 14-13 margin. The next 1 1/2 minutes told the story with Thurston reeling off 12 points to jump to a 26-13 first quarter lead.

Dan Spillard, Curt Beadle and Cory Rodriguez all contributed six points each in that spurt.

Brother Rice really stuck it to Garden City West in a non-league clash. The Warriors raced to a 22-10 first quarter advantage, popped in 24 points in the second, 26 in the third and 25 in the fourth.

West hit only 23 of 62 for 39 per cent with Rice 41 of 77 for 53 per cent.

Billy Joe Young's Garden City East cagers lost an

overtime match to Wayne Memorial, 70-66.

After trailing the entire contest, a free throw by Jim Peters tied it at 65-all in the closing seconds. Wayne went on to outscore East, 5-1, in the overtime. Both clubs shot 38 per cent from the floor.

Winless Plymouth Canton dropped its fourth game in a

Continued on Page 21

Hawks Quell Novi, 33-19

Harrison High evened its wrestling mark with a 33-19 triumph over Novi. Farmington chalked up three pins and four decisions to bounce back from a 43-18 setback against Walled Lake Central.

Results:

88 lbs - Mark McKenny (N) defeated Gary Morrison (FH), 2-1

105 lbs - Ken Prusker (FH) defeated Scott Spelman (N), 8-2

112 lbs - Jim Beltz (FH) won on forfeit

119 lbs - Matt Gully (FH) pinned Dwayne Pugsley (N), 0:26, Harrison school record.

126 lbs - Bob Sasena (N) defeated Kevin Hickey (FH), 6-1

132 lbs - Kevin Shepperd (N) defeated Mark Potocki (FH), 9-1

138 lbs - Brian Kiber (FH) defeated Al Jones (N), 6-1

145 lbs - Doug Maier (N) pinned Tim Harsha (FH)

155 lbs - Don Jackson (N) defeated Kerry Waldon (FH), 12-3

167 lbs - Mike Crudele (FH) defeated Mike Mulligan (N), 7-2

185 lbs - Jeff Hoehner (FH) pinned Tom Auten (N)

HWT - Scott Labo (FH) pinned Gill Spiers (N)

Rocks Dump Edsel Ford

Plymouth Salem moved to the front of the pack in the Suburban Eight Tuesday with an 83-71 victory over Edsel Ford, and now that the Rocks are alone at 2-0 in the league and 4-0 overall their assignment is clear.

It's simply to fend off the challengers for the next 2 1/2 months, which is easier said than done. First club to try and knock them off the top rung will be Belleville. Tigers tonight at Belleville.

Plymouth's run-and-shoot troops, paced by guard Dave Pruetter's 22 points, shot a

hair under 50 per cent from the floor in hitting on 34 of 70 attempts in their highest scoring night of the season.

For a while it looked as though the Rocks were going to run off and hide from the T-Birds as they rolled to 23-13 and 40-23 margins at the quarter and half. Then foul trouble caught up with them and in the fourth period and what had been a breeze became troublesome seas.

Eric Agardy and Bruce Johnson, the two leading scorers through the first three triumphs, both fouled

out with more than seven minutes left. A 19-point lead suddenly melted to six, 73-67, but the work of Rock guards and their bench strength met the challenge.

George Niedson led Edsel Ford scoring with 19 points.

Box Score:

	F	M	FG	FT	TP		F	M	FG	FT	TP
Prueter	11	5-5	27	Bledens	5	4-5	14				
Hsu	3	0-0	0	Anderson	0	5-7	5				
Agardy	3	3-5	9	Fazio	2	0-0	4				
Lamirand	4	0-1	8	Mauler	5	6-8	16				
Johnson	2	3-7	9	F. C. ...	7	5-8	14				
Johnson	3	3-7	9	S. Sack	1	0-1	2				
Mason	4	2-2	8	Schwartz	2	1-1	2				
Ziel	2	2-2	8	Niedson	7	5-10	19				
TOTALS	34	15-25	83	TOTALS	24	23-33	71				
Ply. Salem	.....			23	17	23	20-43			
Edsel Ford	.....			13	10	22	28-71			

Prep Schedule

BASKETBALL CARD TONIGHT (Dec. 14)

Mt. Carmel at **ST. AGATHA**
Edsel Ford at **BENTLEY**
SERVITE at Bishop Borgess
CHURCHILL at Walled Lake Western
Clarenceville at **WATERFORD KETTERING**
Farmington at **PONTIAC NORTHERN**
Plymouth Canton at **FARMINGTON HARRISON**
Garden City East at **FRANKLIN**
GARDEN CITY WEST at Taylor Kennedy
OAK PARK at John Glenn
Thurston at **NORTH FARMINGTON**
PLYMOUTH SALEM at Belleville
Redford Union at **ALLEN PARK**
SOUTHFIELD at Berkley
Birmingham Groves at **SOUTHFIELD LATHRUP**
STEVENSON at Walled Lake Central

TUESDAY (Dec. 18)

Clarenceville at **RIVERSIDE**
Garden City West at **FRANKLIN**
GARDEN CITY EAST at Taylor Kennedy
JOHN GLENN at Southgate
HOLIDAY TOURNAMENTS
Northwest
REDFORD UNION over Walled Lake Central
NORTH FARMINGTON over Walled Lake Western
BENTLEY over Birmingham Groves
BIRMINGHAM SEAHOLM over Farmington
Plymouth Salem
CHURCHILL over Thurston
PLYMOUTH SALEM over Stevenson

WEDNESDAY (Dec. 19)

SALINE at Plymouth Canton

THURSDAY (Dec. 20)

SOUTHFIELD LATHRUP at Southfield
*****Probable Winners in Bold-Face Caps
(Tuesday's Prediction Mark, 7-3; Overall, 40-12)