## City championship eludes Brother Rice cagers

A sucker might have taken a bet that Birmingham Brother Rice would ever blow a 13 point halftime lead. And that sucker would have cleaned up Friday night as the Warriors did just that, losing the city championship to Detroit Murray-Wright, 70-69 before

a near capacity crowd at University of Detroit's Calihan Hall. The Pilots used a frantic zone press

The Pilots used a frantic zone press to literally claw their way back into the game. Brother Rice still had a 10 point lead at 5:22 of the fourth quarter but turnovers, including two 10 second violations, and missed free throws combined to give Murray-Wright all

the chances it needed.
Said Rice coach Bill Norton, "At the end we turned it over against their

end we turned it over against their pressure.
"We missed a couple of key free throws."
Kenneth Smith of Murray-Wright had no trouble with a crucial free throw hitting the front end of a one-and-one with the score tied 69-69 and five seconds showing on the clock to win it for the Pilots.

The Warriors came out in the first period as if they intended to settle the city championship then and there, blowing out to a 13-3 lead at 2:17. Brother Rice outscored the Pilots in the quarter, 17-8. Rice kept up tis hot pace in the second quarter, building a lead which at opoint totaled 15. The Warriors again outscored Murray-Wright in the quarter, 2:17. Tim Andree was the big man in the

scored in double figures with 16.

CENTRAL S2-ST. MARY'S 50

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CENTRAL, 157-17 MOI 3.0-4, 5, Master Dorsey
1.0-2, 2. Matter Brealp 1.0-4, 2. Mate Thomas 7.2-4, 13.

Phil Blevins 1.2-2, 1.4-pry Robinson 2, 4-7, 20. Rodrey Nealp 9.2-2, 7 Teals 20, 12-17, 22

ST. MANY Sight 2 mer May 2.5-3, Don Butcher 2.

ST. MANY Sight 2 mer May 2.5-3, Don Butcher 2.

Ashin Williams 2.5-3, 6, Evaratio Perez 2, 6-10, 16

Teals Fosic CENTRAL 20, ST MARY's 12

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# 13 17 14 -52 18 16 5 11 -50

McClain also sunk a free throw with just 44 seconds left, tying the game at 69-69 and setting up Smith's winner. McClain had 13 fourth-quarter points.

Murray-Wright actually outscored Rice in the third quarter, 18-16, but the Warriors still appeared to have the game under control.

Rice seemed to keep that control through the first part of the final period, matching baskets with the Pilots and maintaining a 10 point bulge. But Murray-Wright's play in the last, fine minutes was the difference.

The loss drops Brother Rice to 18-2 on the year. Murray-Wright, which came into the game the top ranked team in class A, keeps its perfect record at 19-0.

MURRAY.WRIGHT to ... BUT 48

George Duncan 3. Petrowski 0, 2-2. 2. Brian Brennan 1, 3-6. 118, 59
Total Powis MURRAY WRIGHT 16, RICE 23
Fooled Out Duncan (R)

8 17 18

MURRAY-WRIGHT RICE







"I told the kids that if we can't play with Central" said Orachard Lake St. Mary's coach Bob Shoemaker, "then we can't win the state title."

Class C teams should note the final score of Friday's game at Calinhan Hall: class A Detroit Central 52, class C Orchard Lake St. Mary's 50

50.

The Englets had a 13-point lead at the half. In the first quarter they were up by 10, 18-8.

"I have nothing but praise for them" said Shomaker. "I'm very proud of them."

A sticky, double-teaming press by Central was St. Mary's downfall in the second half. The Englets never really figured it out, hitting for just 16 points in the half.

St. Mary's offensive output in the

really figured it out, hitting for just 18 points in the half.
St. Mary's offensive output in the last two quarters of the game matched its total in the second quarter, and was two short of the 18 points the Eaglets scored in the first.
"It was such a ferocious double team," said Shoemaker, "that, thank God, the guy got out of it, much less score."

score. Mary's upset Central in the first quarter with its switching offense. The Eaglets went inside often on their way to 18 points. They scored two fewer points in the second quarter, but the Eaglets chose their shots well. St. Mary's took just six shots from the floor and hit all of them.

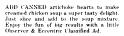
age.
Central did not allow a St. Mary's point in the first three minutes of the third quarter, cutting the Eaglets' lead to 34-30 on a steal and fast break bucket by Maurice Dor-

Abbin Williams put St. Mary's on the board at 4:55 with a slam dunk, giving the Eaglets a six-point cushion, 36-30. But that was the only field goal Central allowed in the hird quarter. St. Mary's added only three free throws to total five points.

points.
Central had 17 points in the third period, cutting the deficit to one, 49-48

period, cutting the deficit to one, 49-81. Mary's recovered in the fourth quarter to take a five-point lead, 47-42, with 5:12 remaining. But Central took the lead for good with 1:37 remaining on Mike Thornas's three-point play, 51-50. Thornas later sank the front end of a one-and-one to make the final socre, 52-50. St. Mary's had its chances to send the game into evertime when Evaristo Perez was fouled with five seconds remaining. But the 5-8 senior, who finished high for St. Mary's with 16, missed both free throws, and Tom Sikora missed a followup shot.

Larry Robinson was high for Central with 20 points. Thomas also





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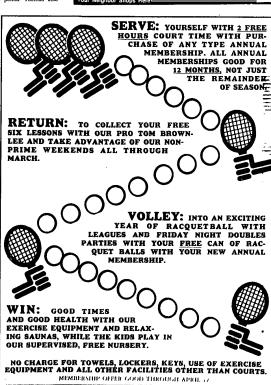
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Marlow McClain of Detroit Murray-Wright shoots a jumper over Brother Rice's Rob Manilla (32, dark jersey) as Warrior center Tim Andree looks on. Wright won the game, 70-69. (Staff photo by

CTTY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

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Sublish March 5, 1979 and March 12, 1979

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