

Rice eliminates W. Bloomfield, 70-44

By Marty Budner
staff writer

As expected, Brother Rice won the Birmingham Groves district championship Friday night.

The Warriors, who cruised through their three playoff games by an average point spread of 24 points, defeated West Bloomfield Friday night, 70-44. It was Rice's fourth straight district title and the 11th in the school's stellar 19-year history.

Brother Rice now advances to the Southfield-Lathrup regional where it will play Southfield High School Tuesday evening. The Blue Jays, 22-1 overall (their only loss to Highland Park), defeated Detroit Henry Ford Friday to claim the Southfield district title.

"Southfield is a very talented ball club," said Rice coach Nick Conti, whose team enters regional action with an 18-5 overall record. "They not only have basketball talents, but they have a lot of physical talents. They run and

jump very well.

"It will be a meat grinder. But, at this point in the season, we're glad we played the kind of schedule we did. By playing all those pressure games we did, it will only pay dividends for us now."

THE BIGGEST surprise Friday night was that West Bloomfield didn't use a stall game to try and confuse the much-taller Warriors.

Instead, Laker coach Frank Plecas

attempted to draw Rice's towering forwards John Shasky (8-foot-10½) and Paul Jokisch (6-8) away from the basket. West Bloomfield spread its offense, hoping its guards could penetrate inside while Jokisch and Shasky guarded the Laker forwards who were stationed way beyond the free-throw line.

The strategy failed, however, as West Bloomfield committed six first-quarter turnovers. Rice turned the Laker miscues into baskets, and thanks

to the hot shooting of Dennis Kozak and Roderick Brown, marched to a commanding 20-5 lead.

The Lakers could never recover from that deficit.

"You have to have the right temperament to play (a stall game), and we don't have that kind of team," said Plecas, whose team also lost the district title game last year to Rice.

"We tried to get their two tall people (Jokisch and Shasky) away from the basket and attack with our other three players. We just turned the ball over too many times, and we were our own worst enemies."

The key to the game was Brown and Kozak hitting their perimeter shots," he said. "We weren't going to contest them as much on defense, hoping that they

were going to have kind of a dead night."

CONTI SAID he expected the Lakers to play a slow-down game.

"We were prepared to play in a slow game," said Conti. "So, we realized it was important for us to get a fast start out of the blocks."

"I fully thought that they would hold the ball. But, in retrospect, it's hard to do. They probably thought if they could keep it close, or get an early lead, then they would freeze it."

West Bloomfield, which had 12 turnovers in the first half, fell behind 36-16 at halftime. Rice outscored the out-manned Lakers 34-28 in the second half.

Troy overcomes Athens in district final

By Jim Hughes
staff writer

Who said lightning never strikes twice in the same place?

The Troy Colts, who opened the 1981-82 basketball season with a 63-45 victory over Troy Athens at Athens, clinched the Class A district championship with a 54-48 win over the Red Hawks Friday before a large and enthusiastic crowd in the Hawks' gym.

But, unlike the first game of the sea-

son, this one didn't come easily. The Red Hawks, who won the first two games of tournament play, gave the Colts all they could handle for four quarters.

But the clock struck 12 on the Athens' Cinderella basketball story. Coach Bill Gerb's Red Hawks, 3-17 going into the tournament, defeated Troy, 55-42, in the opener, and then overcame Rochester, 65-43, Wednesday night.

The Colts, who defeated Rochester

Adams to earn a shot at the district title, hit five of seven free throws in the last minute to ice the victory. Darin Morse, who connected on five of six in the fourth quarter, clicked on three in the last 71 seconds for Troy.

Troy advances to the Southfield-Lathrup regional Wednesday, where they will take on the hosts at 7:30 p.m. The winner will face the Southfield-Brother Rice survivor Friday night.

"If we win one game in the regional, that'll be OK," Troy coach Jim Clary said. "To get in the regional final would be a dream for us."

In order for Troy to win the right to go to the regionals, it had to withstand a fierce challenge from the Red Hawks. In the first quarter, Troy jumped to a 14-8 lead before the Red Hawks turned it in their favor in the last two minutes.

Athens forward Mike Alfano scored to make it 14-10. Troy's John Fox, who scored eight first-half points, found the center to make it 16-10. But Athens' 6-6 center Denis Corcoran drilled a slam dunk which sent the Red Hawk fans into hysterics. Dominic Mandella followed in a shot at the buzzer, as Athens closed the gap to 16-14 at the end of the period.

The Colts opened up a 32-26 lead by halftime, with guard Jim Kozimor netting seven points to lead the attack.

But Athens stormed out in the third quarter. Alfano hit two baskets in succession, and Larry Davison added another, and the Red Hawks were on top, 33-32. But the rest of the quarter belonged to Colt forward Jeff Cousins, who scored eight unanswered points to give Troy a 40-33 advantage.

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CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 8, 1982
7:30 P.M.

Farmington Hills City Council held a regular meeting March 8, 1982. Mayor Burwell opened the meeting at 7:30 P.M. Members present were Dolan, Williams, Soronen, Burwell, Hughes, Lange and Wolf. Others present: City Manager Savage, Assistant City Manager Costick, City Clerk Cairns, Director of Public Services Biase and City Attorney Billewicz.

The minutes of February 22nd were approved as corrected.

Council requested administration to report back on the possibility of a traffic light at Nine Mile and Shawwassee.

Vacation 3-1981, to vacate alley between Colgate and Purdue and part of Colgate Street was adjourned to April 12, 1982.

Farmington Youth Assistance Committee presented their quarterly report.

Council enacted Ordinance C-6-82, edition of National Electrical Code and approved the summary for publication.

City Council approved the Resolution to appeal loss of suite with City of Detroit regarding 39% increase in water rates in cooperation with the Suburban Association of water customers.

Council approved Resolutions 1, 2 and 4 for 1982 Dust Control Program, setting Public Hearing for March 22, 1982.

City Council directed staff to contact State of Michigan to seek further information on energy conservation program for City's participation.

The request of Mersey High School for the Fair permit was denied.

Council directed City Attorney and Staff to establish guide lines which would stipulate minimum standards for the issuance for any new liquor licenses.

Council authorized staff to prepare a H.A.P. Plan for Community Development funds.

City Assessor Robert Romer presented a report on 1982 tax assessments and the state equalized value.

Council approved Resolutions 1 and 2 for road improvement and set date of April 5, 1982, for Gill Road (Colfax to Nine Mile), Westhill Woods, Hollywood and Tarabul-Grand River Gardens Subdivision in Section 26, and Pleasant Valley Farms Subdivision in Section 18.

Council adopted resolution requiring all inside water meters to be converted to outside remote read water meters, in a timely manner.

Progress report was received on repair of City Hall and Council authorized changes.

City Council adopted a resolution requesting the legislature to consider substituting House Bill 4879 requiring Probate Judges to order reimbursement from parents when their child is placed in foster care homes or institutions that require the courts to be responsible for collecting reimbursements.

Upon motion meeting adjourned at 10:44 P.M.

JACK G. BURWELL, Mayor
FLOYD A. CAIRNS, City Clerk

Published March 15, 1982

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