Road ends for triumphant trio

ANY DeMATTIA was seated next to Mercy coach Larry Baker much of the final quarter. Amelte Rugglero Joined her on the Amelte Rugglero Joined her on the Comment of the State down, per a towel over head and beggan to cry.

DeMattia looked at her but managed to choke back the tears with a determined blink of the eyes.

Mary Rosowski was the last of the trio to leave the game. She, too, exploded into tears upon reaching the bench. That was the last straw for DeMattia, She, at last, broke down and the tears flooded her face.

Who among those associated with the Parmington Hills Mercy basketball program dight teel the hammer of grief for those three at that moment?

MERCY'S LOSS to Benton Harbor Friday night in the state Class A semi-finals marked the end of a very special three years, no just for Mercy, but for the sport of girls basketball as well. Three years ago, Mercy stunned the girls basketball world — and at the same time brought it lis first 'big-tlime' statewide exposure — by rally-ling from a 19-point deficit to defeat Film Northern for the state champion-ship.



brought Mercy every possible prize a basketball team could get and provided enough thrills and memories to last a lifetime.

enough thrills and memories to last a lifetime.
"Those three have meant so much to Mercy, this community and to the sport of girls basketball," Baker was saying Monday. "It's just remarkable how they have helped change girls basketball now exceeds, in terms of the size of the crowds, it's just been thrilling."

the sport of girls basketball as well.

Three years age, Mercy stunned the girls basketball on the state champions and at the same time brought it its first "big-time" statewide exposure — by ratifying from a 19-point deficit to defeat Flint Northern for the state champions that Merchant Statewide exposure — by ratifying from a 19-point deficit to defeat Flint Northern for the state champions abig.

Leading the charge for that Mercy cam was a tito of sophomeores, Amy DeMattia, Mary Rosowski and Annette Ruggiero.

The trio never again reached the pinnacle of a state championship, but it is synonymous with the synonymous

miracle Marlins.

miracle Marlins.

*** Annette Ruggiero: The floor leade**, the general. Baker's alter-ego on the
court. She was solid as a sophemore,
good as a junior and outstanding as a
senior. Who'll ever forget her heroles
throughout the 1984 state tournament?
Who'll forget that 17-fooler to beat
Murray-Wright? Her free throws to
beat Salem?
Who'll forget, in 1983, how she
helped Morcy hand Flint Northwestern
its only loss in two years by stealing an
inbounds pass and, in the same motion,
flipping a pass behind her back to Terri
Ford for the tying hoop?
Not me.

strength inside took a huge load off Ro-sowski. Baker often had DeMattia guarding the opponents' best inside player.

guarung the opponents best insue player.

DeMATTIA'S role was not glamorous these last two years, but very vitalling the second of the second

Bentley cagers' rally clips Churchill

Livonia Bentley broke open a tic game late in the fourth quarter Tuesday to capture its first basketball win of the season, 80-44, over host Livonia Churchill in Western Lakes league action.

Sup 16-44 with 39 seconds left and Benticy staved off the Chargers in the wanting seconds for the victory.

We've been in all three ball games, but we're having our problems.

We've been in all three ball games, but we're having our problems.

We've been in all three ball games, but we're having our problems.

Because of Churchill's height advanties of the winning cause with 10 and 9 mily and the winning cause with 10 and 9 mily and 10 mily and 1

The Bulldogs outscored the Charges
16-4 from the free throw line.
WAYNE MEMORIAL 67, GARDEN
CITY 69: The Wayne Memorial Zebras
showed their true stripes Tuesday
when they outlasted host Garden City,
67-80. Wayne (3-0) outscored Garden City,
Wayne (3-0) outscored Garden City
Wayne (3-0) in the decisive third quarter. The
points.

67-80.
Wayne (3-0) outscored Garden City
14-7 in the decisive third quarter. The
other three quarters were played to a
tie.
"It was a very well-played game,"
Cougar coach Bob Dropp said, "It was
nip and tuck the whole way, but we

FORDSON 64, JOHN GLENN 58: FORDSON 64, JOHN GLENN 58: Dearborn Fordson rebounded from a 6-point half-time defielt Tuesday for a come-from-behind win over host West-land John Glenn, 64-58.



Amy DeMattia, the hero of the 1982 state championship game, almost became the forgotten Marlin this year. Her contributions,

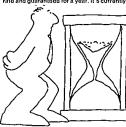
-----Christmas CHIMNEYS Roofs Cleaned Screened Repaired Repaired Re-roofed Built New Leaks Stopped CROWN CONTRACTING, INC. **OVER 33 YEARS** LICENSED . INSURED . GUARANTEED \$5.00 OFF ON CHIMNEY CLEANING WITH THIS AD COUPON • • • Expires Jan. 31, 1985 • • COUPON

Now is the best time to take out an IRA!

Anytime is a good time but not the best time. Tax deductions (up to \$2,000 per wage earner) are not retreactive from year to year. If you don't take advantage of tax-deferring your contributions for this year, you've lost the IRA tax shelter on that money forever. Also, further delays in getting started could cause you to lose significant compounding interest. You'll be surprised they quickly you'll RA can mount up. For example, if our libe of the property of the country to the cou

you'll have nearly \$245,000 in exchange for a total investment of only \$60,000.

Our interest rate for IRA fixed annulities is higher than this assumed rate and guaranteed for a year. It's currently:



11.75%*

Craig J. Snyder

General Agent

(313) 357-3550

State Mutual Life Assurance Company 25711 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 202 Southfield, Michigan 48034

SMA Life Assurance Company State Mutual of America TOTALIVING FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR LIFETHEAUTH/ANNUITIES



*85 OLIN 730 SKIS 1245.00 PACKAGE PRICE
TYROLIA 290 DIAGONAL or
LOOK 89 BINDINGS ... 119.95
TOTAL 384.95

PHE RECEIVE OUR 1100 "LET'S GO SKIING" BONUS, EREE WITH ALL AIPINE SKIS PURCHASED THIS WEEK WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

ROSSI BLUE EAGLE SKIS 1290.00 PACKAGE PRICE 100K 89 SENSOR BINDINGS W/BRAKE ... 114.95 TOTAL 404.85

*85 LANGE COMP. SLALOWS 00.00 PACKAGE PRICE TYROLIA 290 DIAGONAL or LOOK 89 RX BINDINGS... 119.95 \$284

*85 OLIN 770 SKIS '265.00 PACKAGE PRICE TYROLIA 290 DIAGONAL or LOOK 89 BINDINGS ... 119.95 \$289

'85 LANGE SLS SKIS 1275.00 PACKAGE PRICE SALOMON S-747 or:

LOOK 99 H.P. BINDINGS 134.95 \$297

NEW K-2 715 SL '295.00 PACKAGE PRICE TYROLIA 290 DIAGONAL or LOOK 89 RX BINDINGS... 119.95 \$303

'85 OLIN 830 SKIS 1290.00 PACKAGE PRICE TYROLIA 390 DIAGONAL of SALOMON 747 BINDINGS 139.95 \$349

3 Now 179

CHOOSE FROM MICHIGAN'S LARGEST SKI

SKI BOOT VALUES LANGE THERMOFIT Z PRO . \$199 SALOMON SX-80 \$199 235 HEIERLING CENTURY \$179 HEIERLING CENTURY SALOMON SX-50 \$159 REAR ENTRY \$180 NORDICA METEOR ... \$129 REG. \$235 \$120 NORDICA \$79

TOP BRAND

BEGINNER SKI PACKAGE SET FOR ADULTS • SKIS • BOOTS • 188 • POLES • BINDINGS • KERNA POLES • SX-7 SKIS • ALPINA BOOTS • LOOK 39 BINDINGS • KERNA POLES

Choose from Michigan's

LARGEST SKIWEAR,

FULL LINE — FULL SERVICE SKI SHOPS

*BLOOMFIELD HILLS:2540 WOODWARD at Square Lake Rd 338-0801

*BIRMINGHAM:101 TOWNSEND correr of Pierce — 644-5950

*MT.CLEMENS:1216 S.GRATIOT : mile notit of 16 Mi. 453-3620

*MT.CLEMENS:1216 S.GRATIOT : mile notit of 16 Mi. 453-3620

*MT.CLEMENS:1216 S.GRATIOT : mile notit of 16 Mi. 453-3620 REDFORD: 14211 TELEGRAPH at the Jettries Fwy 534-8200

*LIVONIA/REDFORD:14211 TELEGRAPH at the Jeffres Fwy 534-8200 PRICES GOOD THU MONDAY DECEMBER 24, 1884

*VISA *MASTER CARD *DINERS *AMERICAN EXPRESS WELCOME OPEN DAILY 10-9, SAT. 10-5:30, SUN. 12-5. DEC.24 9-40.m