

# Marlin upset bid foiled by official's call

Farmington Hills Mercy girls basketball coach Larry Baker has endured tough losses before. Few, however, have been tougher to swallow than the 52-51 setback at Birmingham Marian Thursday.

Consider:

"We tried for three points with just under five minutes left to play. A foul call was made directly in front of the Marlin's bench. Mercy assistant coach Jim McKay reacted in anger to the call and was assessed a technical foul.

Hazel Olden hit two free throws, then Mary Rogers drained both technical foul shots to put Marian ahead.

Later, Rogers hit two more free throws with 35 seconds left to give Marian a three-point lead, 52-49. Mercy's Jan Herberholz scored a quick basket, and the Marlin's forced

a turnover with 12 seconds left.

With the final seconds ticking away, Herberholz drove to the basket. She was knocked to the floor before she could release a shot. No foul was called.

"This really hurts," Baker said. "We told the kids that if we could play them tough in a 32-minute game we would win it. We figured we would have more poise in the end.

"When my kid is on the floor, entangled with one of their kids, there has to be a call. Even if the call was against us, I would accept that

## girls basketball

rather than no call at all. It's just real hard to explain to the team. They played well enough to win."

On the night, Marian hit 17 of 18 free throws to Mercy's five of 13.

Mercy, now 4-4 on the season and 1-1 in the Catholic League, got a 19-point effort from Herberholz. Jennifer Sloss added 15 and Patty Chapp scored 10.

Marian (7-1, 2-0) got 12 points each from Kathy Phillips, Olden and Jennifer Shasky. Rogers scored 10 points, hitting all eight of her free throws.

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Farmington was led by Stacy Swanderski with a game-high 15 points, and Kelli Koss and Carrie Maier chipped in with nine apiece.

The Falcons, who played with a depleted roster due to continued illness and disciplinary suspensions, dropped to 0-3 in the Lakes Division and 3-5 overall. Stevenson is 1-2 and 4-4.

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Fair said. "We tried to make the big comeback, but learned that (approach) doesn't work."

**CANTON 63, HARRISON 15:** Plymouth Canton won its fourth straight Thursday at the expense of the Hawks, who fell to 0-3 in the Western Division and 0-8 overall.

The Chiefs, who improved to 3-0 and 5-4 overall, were led by Karen Buluch with 15 points and 15 rebounds.

Sophomore Susan Ferko added 11 points and 12 rebounds for the Chiefs, and Heather Miller tossed in 10 points.

Darcy Pinzl and Lesley Devine had six points apiece to lead the Hawks, who have now lost 90 consecutive games.

# Eyeing possible career as sports-strike planner

IT'S TIME. No one's life is complete without a few career changes. Some are riskier than others — switching from BobLo boat captain to piloting an oil tanker in the Persian Gulf, for example.

I'm seriously considering embarking on just such a move. No, I'm not moving to Iran, so don't get your hopes up. Sports are my life, and the Iranians' idea of sport — the children's 200-meter sprints dash with the Iraqi army serving as the finish line — doesn't appeal to me.

But there are other ways to make a living. What I'm thinking about is an entirely new field: sports strike organizer.

I know I could make a go of it. The pro football players have proved that there's a living to be made in this field.



C.J. Risak

\$20,000 a year picketing for guys who make \$200,000.

**WHY? NOT** because of free agency. The public could care less about it.

What the public is concerned with is Sunday afternoons. Without football, guys will have to wash the car, rake leaves, walk the dog.

What kind of a choice is that? I'd rather walk a picket line.

So you see, organizing strikes in sports is important. Not with the pros. Those guys do a pretty decent job already. They've convinced people football is an essential commodity. Watch — the government will be asked to intercede soon.

But there's lots that could be accomplished at other levels. College and high school players, for example, have no one to guide them.

TAKE A CLOSE look at the football strike and you'll see what I mean. First, list the issues.

C'mon. I'm still waiting. There's a time limit here. You got one — free agency. Now, what is the debate on free agency? Give up? It's really fairly simple. The players want more money. The owners don't want to give it to them.

Sure, money is always the key issue behind any strike. But money — or any other issue, for that matter — isn't the key element in a strike.

What makes a strike a success is publicity. And the pro football strike has gotten its share. Some of it even favors the players!

It's amazing. Can you imagine — Teamsters are walking the picket line with players. Guys who make

of striking is to convince people your industry is a necessity. Issues are secondary.

High school athletes aren't beyond organizing. Two teams in perfect bargaining position are Livonia Stevenson's and Troy Athens' soccer teams. They're No. 1 and 2 in the state. Their communities would rally to their support if they thought they were being mistreated.

They could strike for better school lunches than average students get. For chauffeur service to and from games. For pizza parties after wins.

**BIRMINGHAM BROTHER** Rice's football squad is also ranked first in the state. Now's their chance — strike! Get better footballs, better locker rooms... how about moving to the Silverdome? Now that the Pope's gone, no one's using it anyway. At least the Warriors should make sure they get everything Stevenson's and Athens' soccer teams get.

See how this occupation could blossom? Soon, players at every school would want what their pals at Rice or Stevenson or Athens have. Business would boom.

Sure, taxes would rise to cover the increase in luxuries. But that's life in the fast-lane of sports. You think the pro football strike won't result in increased ticket prices? What? Face it: Athletes are prima donnas we gloriously created to fill our leisure hours. They deserve a better lot in life than us average folk. And if the mental midgies in control of sports don't want to recognize that, then they deserve whatever happens.

My advice, players, is organize and then strike. Without delay. And if you need help putting it together, well, my number's in the book.

# North Farmington swimmers dunk traditional league power

North Farmington has won all four of its swimming meets to date, but Thursday may have been the Raiders' biggest and most satisfying victory.

The Raiders opened Lakes Division competition by thrashing defending Western Lakes champion and perennial power Livonia Stevenson, 108-64, in the North pool.

"I was real surprised to have won by that margin," North coach Pat Duhie said. "I figured it would be 12-15 points, but nothing like it was." (Stevenson coach Greg Phill's) kids didn't swim as well as they wanted, but they're down a bit as far as numbers and don't have as many good swimmers as they've had."

Kerry Doran and Cindy Cramer won two events each and also were cap winning relay teams as they paced the Raiders, 1-0 and 4-0.

Doran won the individual medley (2:16.44) and butterfly (1:01.64), and Cramer was first in the 50 and 100 freestyles with 25.93 and 55.99 times.

Cramer also teamed up with Liz Worthen, Marcy Mulbarger and Kym Valentine to win the 200 medley relay (2:00.52), and Doran, Jossie Komer, Laurie Oswa and Amy Menellew won the freestyle relay (4:01.53).

Worthen and Mulbarger also had North's remaining two individual freests. Worthen topped the field in the backstroke (1:06.7), and Mul-

**swimming**

The Raiders swept two events and won the medley relay to easily dispose of Rochester.

Mercy's Cindy Grush won the 500-yard freestyle in 5:29.8 and Becky Wiglust the backstroke in 1:08.5 to lead the sweeps. Wiglust also topped the field in the 200 freestyle, posting a 2:04.4 time.

Karen Meyer, Roberta Orr, Liz DeMattia and Mary Quinn captured the medley relay in 2:02.9, and DeMattia had individual victories, too.

DeMattia won the 200 medley (2:26.6) and Orr the butterfly (1:06.7). Other Mercy swimmers with first places were Erica Campbell in diving with 223.05 points and Anne Lang in the breaststroke (1:18.5).

**HARRISON 85, FERNDALE 80:** The Hawks won only three events but still managed to defeat the Eagles, with superior depth bringing in enough seconds and thirds to pull it off.

Danielle King, Elizabeth Tucker, Julie Farabee and Kelly Murany won the medley relay for Harrison, Danielle King, Lisa Skibinski, Farabee and Almee Katz were winners in the 200 medley relay (2:17.01).

Harrison is 1-0 in Western Lakes dual meets and 2-3 overall. The swim Nov at home Tuesday.

**MERCY 101, ROCHESTER 68:**

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