

Transfers boost Falcon cagers

By Steve Kowalski
staff writer

Instead of just a shot in the arm, the Farmington High girls basketball team is expected to get a boost this fall from a pair of Cannon.

Farmington, 6-15 a year ago, will benefit from the arrival of Rachael Cannon and Mandy Cannon, a couple of transfers from Redford Temple Christian.

Rachael, a junior guard, already has earned a starting spot, and Mandy, a sophomore guard, will be one of Farmington's top reserves, coach Diana Fair said.

Rachael scored 24 points a game for Class D Temple and Mandy averaged 11. Neither sister attended Team Camp with Farmington earlier this month at Northwood Institute in Midland, but Fair said the two have adapted well to the higher level of play.

"BOTH CAN score," said Fair, the fifth-year coach. "I think they just need to learn the system — my defensive system. The Cannon girls make a big difference. They give us a lot of depth."

They help offset the loss of three Falcons to graduation, including center Marisa Ferrari, who scored 10 points and grabbed seven rebounds a game. Also gone are Kirsten Norman and Melissa Tisdale.

"That's a big loss," Fair said of Ferrari. "Marisa was a very strong rebounder and got the offensive boards and put it in the hoop. I'm not sure if we have that this year. She was very aggressive. You always miss that."

Five-foot-10 senior forward/guard Erika Hatcher is the leading scorer returning (7.0), and she also is the tallest player Fair can put on the court.

Fair said she might go to a five-guard offense (including Hatcher), with the other returning letter winners, including senior point guard Jennifer McGlinch and junior guard Kerri Finlayson. McGlinch scored five points a game last year and Finlayson averaged 2.7.

A PROMISING newcomer is junior guard Kim Owczyk, who spent last fall on the junior varsity.

"We will be smaller this year and, with that, much quicker," Fair said. "A fast-paced game should be the norm for us. I can run a five-guard offense. I'd like to put McGlinch (point guard) occasionally in scoring position."

Farmington was only 2-10 at the Northwood Team Camp, but Fair said there were some encouraging signs.

"When we played our top five we did well," she said. "We had a problem when we went to the bench, and I didn't have the Cannon girls then. Hatcher was hitting the outside shot more. She was doing real well in that and in rebounding."

Last year, the Falcons were 2-8 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association, placing them fifth, just ahead of last place Livonia Stevenson.

As for the '89 league race, Fair lists Plymouth Canton and Livonia Franklin as favorites from the Western Division and North Farmington in the Lakes.

"The third through 10th places have a lot of parity," Fair said. "This year's league competition will be the most interesting in years."

Depth feature of Mercy ballclub

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"She didn't want to step on any toes and had to learn her role" last season and sometimes shied away from shooting, Baker said. "But I'm counting on her to know she has my confidence in her scoring ability."

Albrecht, a 5-11 force in the middle, averaged 8 1/2 points and was the top rebounder with 7 1/2 a game, and Baker looks for improved play from her, too, after making the Sweet Sixteen list at WMU's inside camp.

"She's improved her foot work inside," Baker said. "She's always been an aggressive banger, but now she's acquired some finesse around the basket."

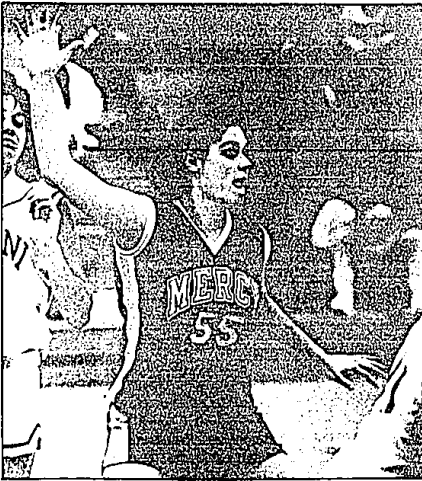
Albrecht has some competition at the post position and will get backup help from 6-foot sophomore Laure DeMattia, a cousin of the DeMattias who played for Baker in past years. She held her own against some of the best centers in the state this summer, Baker said.

DeMattia is part of the excellent depth the Marlins have this year. The JV and freshman teams were undefeated last fall, and many of those JV players got varsity playing time in the rotation system Baker used.

JV COACH MIKE King, who begins his 11th season in that position, has played a large role in molding the Mercy talent over the years, boasts a career record of 156-22.

"Fortunately, this team is already blessed by its depth," Baker said.

Carrie Walton, a 5-9 junior who played in 17 varsity games a year ago and started several, is expected to start at the off-guard position.



Leo Albrecht gives the Marlins a sturdy, experienced player in the post, having started at that position last year.

Kathleen Geriok, a 5-3 junior, was the point guard on the JV team and will be the first guard off the bench in relief of Stephens or Walton.

Kathleen Berrigan, a 5-4 sophomore,

played the same position on the freshman squad and back up Clinton.

Susie Atchinson, a 5-6 junior, may be the team's best shooting guard

and scored 16 points in one of the two district tournament games she started. Heroin Smith was 5-6 and for is a defensive specialist who appeared in 15 varsity games.

Baker pondered the idea of playing Albrecht and DeMattia simultaneously but has opted for a smaller, quicker lineup, and the power forward will be one of three 5-8 juniors — Maureen Paulin, Kim Reichard or Judi Rosowski. Paulin had the edge on the starting job, but an injury has set her back, Baker said.

"(THE THREE players) are not exactly interchangeable parts," Baker said. "They have different strengths and weaknesses, but I'm telling all 12 kids they have something to contribute."

"And, if I can coach at all, I should be able to take advantage of their strengths in game situations. We're blessed with some genuine athletes."

The Marlins, who were 5-5 and tied for third place in the Central Division, open the season tonight at home against Saginaw Nouvel and expect to contend with Birmingham Marian and Livonia Ladywood in the Catholic League.

Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher has been dropped from the Central Division, however, and Mercy has added non-league opponents Flint Southwestern and Marysville in its place.

"This is definitely a traditional Mercy team in terms of what we're going to try and do on the court," Baker said. "I think we're going to be a little stronger and competitive for having taken some hard knocks last season."

Bear controversy resurfaces

CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING black bear hunting in Michigan heated up again this week as Ingham County Circuit Court Judge Thomas Brown issued an injunction against new regulations approved recently by the Natural Resource Commission.

With the September 10th deadline to purchase a bear license just around the corner, bear hunters are now left wondering if the NRC's regulations will be enforced for the upcoming season — beginning Sept. 10 in the Upper Peninsula and Sept. 22 in the northern Lower Peninsula — or if things will remain as they have been in past years.

"The main reason (the NRC approved the regulations) is to eliminate hunter conflicts and also to address some of the concerns of hunters and land owners," explained Rochester's Bill Walker, vice presi-



dent of the Michigan Bear Hunters Association. "The real problem is that the popularity of the sport has increased 50 percent since 1985. In '85 there were 8,000 bear hunters in Michigan. Last year there were 12,000. With so many hunters, they are even starting to put quotas (on the number of licenses issued) in some areas."

EARLIER THIS YEAR, the NRC approved several new regulations, many aimed at regulating the commercialization of the sport through professional guide services.

Some of those new regulations include: limiting the number of bait piles a guide can put out to three per hunter and no more than six on land open to public hunting; prohibiting guides from starting business until Sept. 25 in the Upper Peninsula and Sept. 20 in the Lower Peninsula; forcing guides to register before Sept. 10, the deadline to purchase a license; prohibiting those who are not Michigan residents to become guides.

Bear hunting guides were outraged about the new regulations and sued the state, forcing Brown to issue the injunction. Now hunters must wait for the outcome while the courts gather and examine all the "bear" facts.

THE NRC also passed new regulations on the use of dogs while bear

hunting. Some of those regulations include: no night training of dogs; no non-resident dog training; no dog training five days before the season; limiting the number of dogs used in training to eight; and requiring those people training dogs to possess a bear hunting license.

"There is almost a natural conflict between bait and dog hunters in that sometimes incidents that happen where one (style of hunting) interferes with the other," Walker said. "For instance, dogs may pick up (a bear scent) and run right through someone's (bait) pile after that person has been sitting (at the pile) for hours. On the other hand, dogs may run a bear and the bear runs into a bait pile and that hunter shoots him. Either way, someone gets upset."

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Pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, the following described property is offered for sale:

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Commonly known as 1084 Beneville, Birmingham, Michigan;
Legally described as:
Lot 1177, Leimbach-Humphrey's Woodward Avenue Subdivision, Birmingham, Oakland County, Michigan;
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This property is offered for sale subject to all government regulations, statutes, ordinances, building and use restrictions and easements, if any, affecting the premises. The County of Oakland makes no warranties or representations as to the property. This property is offered on an "as is" basis. The property shall be open and available for inspection on the following dates and times:
Thursday, 9-7-89: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Friday, 9-8-89: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, 9-13-89: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The minimum acceptable offer is \$45,000.00; with no less than 10% down (certified check) at the time of offer. The County of Oakland reserves the right to reject any and all offers. No offer shall be accepted until approved by the Board of Commissioners.

Sealed offers to purchase must be submitted to the Department of Corporation Counsel — Real Estate Section, 1209 North Telegraph Road, Pontiac, Michigan. Offers will be accepted until September 29, 1989, 4:00 p.m. Information is available by calling 859-5350.

DANIEL T. MURPHY
County Executive, County of Oakland

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Salem starts out 0-3

The schedule-maker gave Plymouth Salem a head start on most of the teams in Michigan, but the Rocks have taken three steps backward. Salem fell to 0-3 Tuesday, losing at home to Flint Powers Catholic, 44-27.

The Rocks opened the season last weekend (a week earlier than most teams) losing a pair of games at the Traverse City Invitational. Sarah Ruete has been the early-season scoring star for the Rocks. On Tuesday, Ruete led Salem with 11 points, but Sarah Willyerd and Julie Angle combined for 28 to lead Powers to the non-conference win.

POWERS MADE 13 of 24 free throws, and Salem went to the line only 11 times, converting two. Willyerd's 15 points led Powers and Angle poured in 13.

The Rocks are trying to adjust to playing without all-state point guard Jill Estey, now playing for the University of Illinois.

"We're going to cut white I'm ahead," joked Opiari, who was a coach. Fred Thomann said, "We're making progress, though."

Salem opened the season Friday in Traverse City, dropping a 57-35 game to Ludington. Ruete led all Rocks scorers with nine points, and freshman Yolanda Jackson, an all-tournament selection, scored six. Sophomore Emily Giuliani also scored six for the Rocks.

SALEM CAME up with a gutsy performance Saturday against Traverse City, losing to the host Trojans 38-34.

Aggies debut with win

Redford St. Agatha won only one game the last two years, so it's easy to see why coach Pat Opiari was so excited about winning the season opener Tuesday at Grosse Pointe Star of the Sea.

The Aggies defeated Star of the Sea, 44-40 in a non-conference girls basketball game, and Opiari was full of enthusiasm.

"I'm going to quit while I'm ahead," joked Opiari, who was a combined 1-36 in his two previous seasons at Agatha. "Letting them get a win under their belt in the beginning is important for their frame of mind. I know we're going to lose our share but we got off on the right track."

The Aggies' starting lineup includes two freshmen, one sophomore, one junior and a senior. Forward Kelly Gannon, the senior starter, scored 18 points to lead all scorers. Freshman center Patricia Rice made an impressive debut, scoring 10 points and grabbing 14 rebounds.

St. Agatha led 10-9 after one quarter and took a 25-18 lead at halftime. The Aggies built a 33-21 lead heading into the fourth quarter, but a flurry of 3-point shots and poor free throw shooting by St. Agatha helped the home team climb back into the game. The Aggies shot 33 percent (14-42) at the line.

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