# Mercy tops Berkley in regional contest

By Mike Rosenbaum staff writer

As Farmington Hills Mercy coach Larry Baker admitted after the con-test, the Marlins didn't play a pretty game in their regional opener Mon-day, but they did lead all the way to beat Berkley 41-35 at Southfield-Lathrin.

beat Berkley 41-55 at Southrieto-Lithrup.
The victory raised Mercy's record to 15-8 and sent the Marlins to the regional Jinal against Birmingham Marian for the second straight sea-son. Berkley Jinished 16-8. With team leader Laure DeMattia on the bench due to foul trouble for much of the game, point guard Kath-leen Berrigan took charge for Mer-cy.

cy.
"Berrigan was definitely our lead-er — an emotional leader and an of-fensive and tempo-setting leader,"

BERRIGAN RAN Mercy's fast reak and handled the ball well in the half-court offense despite strong efensive pressure from Berkley's

teams traded baskets for

The teams traded baskets for much of the game, except for the second quarter.

Mercy took a 12-8 lead after eight minutes, then opened the second period with a pair of fast-break baskets. Bertigan set up freshman Julie Angell for a basket and a foul, giving

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Mercy a 19-8 lead after Angell fin-ished the three-point play. Berkley didn't score until the midway point of the period as Mercy took a 22-12 lead into halfdme. One key to the Marilin' first-half access was Baker's strategy of fre-ent defensive shifts. I'We showed them a little man, we shwed them a little rone, and we ke't them off balance," Baker sald.

shwed them a intue zone, and we kee them off balance, "Baker said.

"E'RE DEFINITELY a defenseoriented tearn. I thought we did a real tood job keeping them out of 
their hystim."

In the second half, however, the 
Marline-gouldn't maintain that strategy because Mercy's shooting went 
collecting Baker to the period 
the ball upcome of the period 
was movily the ball upcome. The ball 
was movily the ball upcome pull within 
25-21 late light the hird quarter, but 
Mary Blendelyez scored three baskets in the final 2:25 of the period to 
help Mercy task a 31-23 lead into the 
linal quarter.

The teams resumed their previous 
pattern of trading scores in the 
fourth period. Beatley trimmed the 
lead to six points thee times, only to 
have Mercy counter-qiter each hoop. 
A Berrigan basket with 1:56 lett 
made it 39-30. The Marlins then 
played ball-control log the remainder of the context.



Kathleen Berrigan ran the show at point guard for the Marlins.



JOHN STORMZAND/staff photographe

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# Marlins claim title with 57-45 victory

Continued from Page 1

icen commanded the tempo in this game the majority of the time."

Storen scored 15 points to lead the Mustangs (15-7) before fouling out with 3-42 remaining in the game and Mercy leading 47-39. Michele Coughlan and Tara Walsh added 10 points apiece for Marian.

"WHENEVER YOU have a onemore challenge, you play up a
level," said Berrigan, who also had
five assists and five steals. "It
makes you get your head focused."
The play of 6-foot freshman Julie
Angell gave the Marilins a new look,
one Marian hadn't seen previously.
She was a big factor, hitting seven of
12 field goals, oscring 19 points and
complementing the play of senior
Laure DeMattia, who had it points
and led Mercy with 13 rebounds.
"It gave them two legitumate post
players," Marian ceach Mary LillicCicerone said, "You have to put two
people on Laure when she gets the
ball down low, and we couldn't afford to do that tonight.
"(Angell) played very, very well
for them, and we didn't do a good job
of stopping Berrigan. She's not much
of a threat from outside, but when
she takes the ball to the hole she's
hard to stop."
Marian led 30-28 midway in the

she takes the ball to the hole she's hard to stop."

Marian led 30-28 mildway in the third quarter, but the Mariins fin-ished strong. Merey scored the last 10 points and had control of the

game after that.

Angell scored 10 points in the third quarter, and Berrigan kept stoking the fire with her driving layups.

Turnovers plagued the Mustangs; who committed 23 in the second half, after making its first three shots of the third quarter, Marian made one of its last 10, missing the last seven.

"MERCY PUT great pressure on us and made us panle," Lillie-Cl: cerone said. "They set the tempo; they outhustied us and they outre-bounded us. It was complete domina-tion by Mercy. They beat us in every phase of the game."

"We mixed our defenses to keep them out of rhythm," Baker said, "Then we went with straight-up man pressure to distort their half-court offense and force someone other than Storen to handle the ball."

The Marlins bullt their lead to 45-33 half way through the last quarter. Marlan got it down to 45-39, but Mercy made 12 free throws — eight by Berrigan and three by Valire Jones — in the final 44 minutes to shut the door on the Mustangs.

snut the door on the Mustangs.

Mercy raced to a 12-2 lead earlybut hit a slump, finishing the first
quarter with seven turnovers. Storen,
gave Marian a 16-13 lead in the second period, ratilling Mercy with a
half-court trap, before the Marins;
regrouped to lead 22-21 at halfulme.

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