

## Hollywood spotlight on hoop teams



GRAD  
EMCIVIS

It's time for the mayor of Carmel to give his state of the girls basketball address.

It's tournament time, so ahead Clint Eastwood, make my day.

Emons, Eastwood, they're all the same when it comes to handicapping the field.

Who are these leading ladies? No more Sandra Locke, that's for sure.

Remember moms and dads, this is all make believe. You know, movie stuff, straight out of Hollywood.

So head to your nearest video store and compare your selections with mine.

Here's the Good, The Bad, The Ugly. (Records are through Friday.)

### PLAY MISTY FOR ME

Wayne Memorial (14-6): The Zebras are vastly improved from a year ago with the emergence of junior point-guard Yolanda Holt, who was a member of Borgessa's state Class C championship team in 1993. Coach Chuck Henry will have one whole of a boys basketball team this year, but his girls could make some noise at the GC district.

### ANY WHICH WAY YOU CAN

North Farmington (12-8): The Raiders have been competitive for the most part, but have had to bite the dust against the elite teams in the Western Lakes Activities Association. Camey May is a sharpshooter, however.

Farmington Hills Harrison (12-8): Like North, coach Pete Mantyla could get his team out of the Bloomfield Hills Lusher district if they catch fire. The Hawks are not as good as a year ago, but something tells me they have a shot to get into the regional.

### TWO MULES FOR SISTER SARA

Farmington Hills Mercy (5-14): The Marinas couldn't reel in a Catholic League playoff spot this season, a real rarity for this program. But don't fret, Mercy fans, because the Lusher district title is a very achievable goal.

Livonia Ladywood (2-14): Ditto for the Blazers, who missed the Catholic League playoffs for the first time since (7). Ladywood is a longshot to get out of the Novi district, make that 500-to-1 bet.

### ESCAPE FROM ALCATRAZ

Livonia Stevenson (9-11): The Spartans won last year's weak district at Southfield and should do the same again this year. But things should come to screaming halt in the regional semifinals at Dearborn when Detroit Murray-Wright comes calling.

Livonia Franklin (9-11): The Patriots open district play tonight against Wayne in an interesting matchup. Senior guard Tracy Rymkiewicz is a scorer, while Kevin Main is an inside force. Franklin is capable of advancing to the GC district final, but that's where it all ends.

### THE GAUNTLET

Lutheran High Westland (17-3): After losing several key players to graduation off last year's Metro Conference championship team, which finished 19-3, coach Ron Gentel had his new crew contending again right until the final game this year. But it looks like a tenth place rerun as the Warriors will meet Borgessa in the district final.

### WHERE EAGLES DARE

Redford Thornton (16-3): The Mega Conference-Due Division champs led by Heather Worrell and a cast of role players, face very tough Class B district field, even at home. No. 1-ranked Coun-

ty Day and Renaissance of the Detroit Public School League are both state contenders.

### HEARTBREAK RIDGE

Farmington (8-12): Hate off to John Ventura to getting his Falcons into the Western Lakes Activities Association playoffs. The Falcons have a tough task ahead, however, because rival North Farmington stands in the way in tonight's opener.

### PAINT YOUR WAGON

Redford Union (5-14): If the Panthers can best Garden City, then they're a contender in the Southfield district. Expect Lauren Wright, Jenny Szal and Kacie Mathews to get into the district final against Stevenson.

### IN THE LINE OF FIRE

Westland John Glenn (14-14): The Rockets could meet district favorite Garden City in a second round matchup. By the second quarter, first-year coach Andy Denison may be circling the wagon.

### HAND'EM HIGH

Livonia Churchill (1-19): Junior center Jesse Jenkins has enjoyed a fine season, but the Chargers' only win this season came against Livonia Clarenceville. The Chargers face the Cantonville winner on Thursday in another WLAU rerun.

### COOQAN'S BLUFF

Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (14-8): The Hawks were competitive in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference this season, but how well they will fare in the Class D Taylor Baptist Park district is anybody's guess.

Plymouth Christian Academy (9-11): Going to Grass Lake for a little fishing expedition? Don't forget to bring the right tackle.

### THE DEAD POOL

Plymouth Agape Christian (11-14): The tiny school on Ann Arbor Trail is making its first-ever appearance in the Michigan High School Athletic Association tournament. They are headed for Grass Lake.

Redford St. Agatha (5-13): The Aggies tied themselves at Pontiac Notre Dame Prep against some formidable Class D opponents. The first-round loss is former state champ Auburn Hills Oakland Christian.

### THE UNFORGIVEN

Livonia Clarenceville (3-18): I will never say a bad thing about the Clarenceville football field. It certainly suits the needs of a Class C school. But let's face it, the Borgessa draw isn't suitable to the Trojans' needs.

## Mercy ready to defend district title

Farmington Hills Mercy finished the regular season in girls basketball Friday with a 54-44 win over visiting Detroit DePue.

The victory also helped to put the Marinas in the right frame of mind to begin defense of their district tournament title this week.

Mercy meets the winner of tonight's Farmington Hills Harrison-Bloomfield Hills Lusher game Wednesday at LaSalle.

The Marinas are 5-14 but played another rugged schedule in the Catholic League and will attempt to win their 19th district championship in 21 years under coach Larry Baker.

"We're not going to concede anything to anybody," Baker said. "I think our kids will come out scrapping. I think we can count on that."

Mercy outscored DePue 17-6 in the second quarter to lead 28-

18 at halftime and 30-25 after three periods.

MaryJane Valade scored 15 points and Jesse Brennan 13 for the Marinas, who made only 13 of 30 free throws.

Kelsha Brooks added eight points and had nine steals. Jena Kluska scored all seven points, including five of eight free throws, in the fourth quarter.

Start Hill totaled 18 points for the Eagles (11-6).

"We had a week of intense play and immersed ourselves in three close games," Baker said. "If we could only win one, I'm glad it was the last one."

"We really played through a number of game situations this week, including freezing the ball tonight and setting up a last-minute, three-point shot Wednesday. Hopefully, the pressure of those situations will get us ready for the district."

Mercy fell short Wednesday in a 46-43 loss at Monroe Jefferson, the Huron League champion. Valade had 12 points and Brennan 11 for the Marinas. Chris Dietrich and Teresa Taormina scored 20 each for the Bears (15-4).

**FARMINGTON 34, WESTERN 30:** The Falcons avenged an earlier 38-37 loss by defeating Walld Lake Western in the regular-season finale Thursday.

Amanda Porter and Kim Washnock scored 12 points apiece to lead Farmington (10-12), and Sarah Rattal added a pair of timely baskets in the fourth quarter.

"The key was holding Jody Miller to five points versus 15 in the first game," Falcons coach John Ventura said. "Amanda guarded her and did a really good job on her."

Gina Brooks had 12 points for the Warriors, who fell 19-10 at halftime. Farmington rallied from a 25-22 deficit after three quarters to outscore Western 12-5 in the last period.

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