

Seniors spark win for Mercy

Seniors MaryJane Valade and Keisha Brooks had stellar performances Tuesday as Farmington Hills Mercy trounced rival Livonia Ladywood in girls basketball, 66-46.

Valade scored a game-high 23 points and pulled down 13 rebounds. Brooks put up solid numbers, too, tossing in 16 points and grabbing 13 caroms.

BASKETBALL

The Marlins trailed after one quarter, 12-10, but rallied to take a 27-19 halftime lead. They led 47-36 at the end of three periods and outscored the host Blazers by nine in the finale.

"It was a real bawling, sloppy kind of game," Mercy coach Larry Baker said. "Neither team performed real smoothly."

"By the end of the third quarter, we were playing well. Mary-Jane stepped up and gave us a fine game. We encouraged her to move her game outside, and she gave us two threes tonight."

Valade scored nine points in the third quarter, and her three-point basket in that period gave the Marlins a double-digit lead.

"She played a fine game like the All-Catholic player who was last year and has been this year," Baker said.

Jessie Brennan added eight points for Mercy, 2-6 in the Catholic League Central Division and 6-9 overall. Susie Roble added five assists and seven points.

Sarah Poplitz scored 17 points and Stephanie Mussat nine for Ladywood, 0-7 and 2-10.

Neither team had a good night at the free-throw line. The Marlins made only 13 of 28 and the Blazers 12 of 31.

W.L. CENTRAL 39, HARRISON 36: The third quarter proved to be the difference for the Walled Lake Central girls basketball team Tuesday in a Western Lakes Activities Association game.

After falling behind 28-20 at the half, the Vikings went on a 13-4 run in the third quarter en route to a 39-36 victory over visiting Farmington Hills.

Central's defensive pressure was stifling as the Vikings held Harrison to just eight points in the second half.

Bucky Cummings scored 20 points and grabbed five rebounds to pace the winners, while Jenny Keeler clipped in eight points and eight rebounds.

Amy Roble led the Hawks with 12 points.

Central is 6-2 in the WLLA, Harrison

5-3. Both teams are 8-5 overall.

NORTHVILLE 40, FARMINGTON 40: The Falcons put up a good fight Tuesday before falling to a regular-leading Northville in girls basketball.

The Mustangs held first place in the Western Lakes Activities Association with an 8-0 record. The Falcons are 4-4.

Senile America Porter scored a season-high 27 points for Farmington. Angi Newman and Sarah Rittell added eight points apiece.

Jenny Neale hauled down 10 rebounds. Porter also had four steals and three assists.

The Falcons did a fine job defensively against Northville's top scorers, coach John Verdu said, holding Chloa Christensen to seven points and Lauren Matton three.

But other players picked up the slack as Christine Herndon scored 13, Julie Pile and Lindsey Hunt 10 apiece.

"We played extremely hard; we played very well as a team," Verdu said. "I'm proud of my girls. They gave a really good effort; maybe it was our best game of the year."

"I don't think it was one of their better shooting nights, but maybe our defense had something to do with that."

"Where we lost the game was on the boards. We gave up too many second and third shots. We did a good job on two of their better players, but their post players pounded the boards."

The Falcons (6-6) made 12 of 15 free throws; the Mustangs (11-2) connected on seven of 12.

Farmington stayed close all the way, trailing 14-10 after one quarter and 23-19 at halftime.

Northville led 35-25 entering the finale, but the Falcons got within three late before the Mustangs led the win with free throws and a couple layups.

CANTON 40, N. FARMINGTON 34: Plymouth Canton had a good start Tuesday but had to hold off feisty North Farmington for the victory.

The Chiefs outscored the Raiders 23-14 in the first quarter but only scored 17 points after that.

"We got off to a good start," Canton coach Bob Blohm said, "but North was really into it and played with a purpose."

The Raiders cut the deficit to three points in the fourth quarter, but a basket and free throw by Melissa Marzoff gave Canton a cushion.

Marzoff finished with a game-high 13 points. Kristi Fierenz added seven.

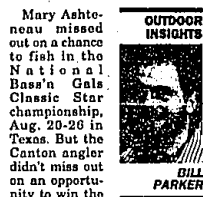
Tricia Traczyk scored nine points, Katie Collins eight and Katie Vihleke seven for the Raiders.

Canton is 7-1 in the Western Lakes and 12-2 overall. North is 3-5 and 4-9.

MARIAN 72, BORGESS 67: Host Red Bishop Borgess, the top-ranked team in Class C, only trailed by one point at the halftime. But a stellar fourth-quarter effort (20-15) by Birmingham Marian, No. 3 in Class A, sealed the Catholic League victory.

Brean Walos' 19 points led all scorers. Nicole Anacjonus scored 16.

Angler ends season with tournament success



Bill Parker

Mary Ashteneau missed out on a chance to fish in the National Bass'n Gals Classic Star championship, Aug. 20-22 in Texas. But the Canton angler didn't miss out on an opportunity to win the Oakland Bass Master's final tournament of the season.

A regular on the Bass'n Gals national tournament trail, Ashteneau was in contention to qualify for the prestigious Classic Star, the women's equivalent to the Bass'n Gals Classic, but couldn't make it to the final qualifying event and missed the cut.

Sunday on Pontiac Lake, Ashteneau teamed up with Fer-

ndale's Mark Gomez and the duo won the Pontiac Lake Open with a seven-fish, 18-pound, 8-ounce stringer. The team that finished second had less than nine pounds of fish.

"It was a pretty good day for us," said Ashteneau. "There were hardly any weeds in the lake because they had killed them all. We found the fish down around the stumps. I didn't know there were that many stumps in Pontiac Lake."

Bass buster

Wade Cooke loves to go fishing with his dad, Kirk. On a recent outing on Walnut Lake, the 9-year-old West Bloomfield angler showed his dad how to catch the big one. Fishing with a chartreuse twister tail on lead jigger, he caught a feisty 17-inch smallmouth bass, his biggest fish to date.

Successful hunters

The archery deer season is just over two weeks old and already the successful hunter reports are rolling in. If you, a family member of hunting partner has experienced success, I urge you to call or write to me with the success story. Please include the successful hunter's name (correct spelling) and home town, where the deer was taken (county) what type of habitat was being hunted, the size of the deer (weight and rack if appropriate) and any other interesting details of the hunt. Phone and fax numbers and the Eccentric's mailing address are listed at the bottom of this column.

Tom Byrne had a short, but extremely sweet, archery deer season. Hunting in a patch of hardwoods along the edge of a field in Lake County on Oct. 5, the Farmington Hills hunter filled both of his archery tags within minutes of each other.

Byrne shot a 140-pound doe at 6:25 p.m. While waiting in his blind to follow up on his shot, a 3-point buck wandered into range and Byrne successfully completed a double-header by arrowing the buck as well.

Canton's Marty Weakley didn't wait long to fill his tag. Hunting on the edge of a corn field in Livingston County, Weakley, who arrowed a 4-point last year, bagged an 8-point at 7 p.m. on opening day. "I had been watching him for a couple weeks," said the Canton hunter. "He was feeding in the corn on a regular basis."

Redford's Jason Simms bagged a doe on a regular basis. While hunting with his step father in Montmorency County, it was the first deer for the 17-year-old, who has been hunting for two years.

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