

Mustangs topple Rocks in regional

BY C.J. RISK
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BASKETBALL

One team had lost nine games. The other had lost just one.

So who's the favorite? That's an easy one — unless that "obvious" underdog happens to be Birmingham Marian, winner of two of the past three Class A state championships in girls basketball.

You don't want to look past the Mustangs, whatever their record. And Plymouth Salem coach Fred Thomann was certain that didn't happen.

But it would be difficult to find another feasible reason for what occurred Monday in a Class A regional semifinal, played at Birmingham Groves. It was almost like role reversal, with Marian playing like the 21-1 team and Salem looking lost, maybe not even good enough to be 14-9.

The Mustangs jumped all over the Rocks from the start, building a 20-5 lead after one quarter and then repelling all comeback attempts to eventually coast to a 50-34 triumph.

Marian, now 15-9, advances to tonight's (Nov. 24) regional final against West Bloomfield, which defeated Detroit Northern in the other semifinal at Groves Monday.

"You always dream of those kinds of starts," said Marian coach Mary Ciccone. "You lie awake the night before and hope for something like that to happen."

From Salem's viewpoint, that dream was a nightmare. While the Mustangs were scoring the game's first eight points, the Rocks were missing their first four shots and committing four turnovers.

"We had trouble with our post-up (defense)," said Salem's Thomann. "And I knew we might. But we didn't expect 31 (Amber Mazza) getting off like that. That hurt us."

Indeed, throughout the game, it was a two-player show offensively for Marian — Mazza, a 6-foot-1 junior, and Crystal Andrews, a 5-11 senior — and Salem couldn't control it.

Andrews' explosion should have been anticipated. As Ciccone noted, "Crystal's done that all season long, to everyone."

But not Mazza. The two virtually traded baskets in the first quarter, with Mazza finishing the period with 10 points and Andrews collecting eight.

The two combined to score 34 points in the game, Andrews scoring 20 and Mazza 14.

"Our game plan was to get the ball into Crystal, and then kick it back out to Amber," explained Ciccone.

It worked to perfection in the opening quarter, but in the second Salem managed to claw its way back into it. The Rocks limited Marian to three baskets and six points while forcing five

turnovers in the period, outscoring the Mustangs 14-6 — thanks to six points from Tiffany Grubbaugh and four more from Bree Pasalanic.

With the deficit trimmed to 26-17, Salem's chances seemed much improved. And through most of the third quarter, it stayed that way.

The Mustangs did get the early jump, with Andrews' three-point play pushing their lead to 33-21 with 5:45 left in the quarter. But over the next 3 1/2 minutes, the Rocks were on top of their game, outscoring Marian 10-4 while forcing six turnovers.

Lindsay Klemmer's basket with 2:10 left in the period made it a six-point game (37-31). And Salem had another chance to narrow the gap with yet another steal of a Marian inbound pass.

But the Rocks couldn't capitalize. And then disaster struck.

Marian played keep-away, running the final minutes of the clock until, with 12 seconds left in the quarter, Mazza knocked down a short jumper. Salem rushed the ball downcourt for a final shot, but it missed.

Andrews rebounded, got the ball over midcourt and launched the inevitable 40-foot desperation shot — and hit it. The five-point surge, which increased Marian's lead to 42-31 going into the final quarter, finished Salem.

"That," described Ciccone, "is a little balloon-popper." Thomann, who believed the shot came after the buzzer,

agreed. "Getting back from 18-2 to a two-possession game was a monumental climb," he said. "We just didn't have enough left. They gave their all."

"It's just too hard to maintain that kind of pace."

As for Andrew's quarter-ending three-pointer, Thomann said his players "couldn't help thinking 'Oh my God, what else can go wrong?'"

Salem did not score for the first 6 1/2 minutes of the fourth quarter, making its scoreless dry spell 8 1/2 minutes. Monica Mair's triple provided the Rocks with their only points.

Grubbaugh led Salem, but she managed just 11 points. Next best was Kelly Jaskot with seven.

Marian made 21-of-39 shots from the floor (53.8 percent) while Salem hit just 18-of-43 (34.9 percent).

W. BLOOMFIELD 78, NORTHERN 43: West Bloomfield advanced to regional final at Birmingham Groves with a win Monday over Detroit Northern.

Lisa Copeland paced a balanced attack with 21 points for the Lakers (19-4). Chastity Quinn scored 20, Heather Robbins 18 and Nina Dixon 10.

West Bloomfield's performance was that much more impressive considering guard Jen Kristensen was hampered by an ankle sprain.

The Lakers built leads of 21-12 after the first quarter and 43-23 by halftime. "I liked the way we started the game," West Bloomfield coach Lance Davis said. "We forced some turnovers and we also hit some shots early."

Writers and readers trip with 0-2 win over division leader

The Farmington City Council and Farmington Hills City Council met for a joint study session on Thursday, November 18, 1999, at Farmington Hills City Council Chambers, 23500 Liberty Street, Farmington Hills, Michigan. The meeting was held in compliance with Public Act 267-1976. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Bush, Campbell, Hartsock (arrived at 7:14 p.m.), McShane (arrived at 7:03), Mitchell.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

FARMINGTON CITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell, City Manager Lauhoff.

FARMINGTON TRAFFIC AND SAFETY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chiara, DeCorte, Goss, Mahas, Reynolds, Wegman.

Council met with the Traffic and Safety Board to discuss a parking study recommendation for the Central Business District; timed parking in municipal parking lots at State Street and Farmington Road; results of a new left turn signal installed at Grand River/Orchard Lake/Nine Mile; and to clarify the areas of responsibility of the Traffic and Safety Board.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

MARY L. BUSH, Mayor
PATSY K. CANTRELL, Clerk/Treasurer

Published November 25, 1999

CITY OF FARMINGTON SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING WITH TRAFFIC AND SAFETY BOARD (Summary)

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council with the Traffic and Safety Board was held on Monday, November 15, 1999 in Council Chambers, 23500 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan. Notice of the Meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Bush, Campbell, Hartsock (arrived at 7:14 p.m.), McShane (arrived at 7:03), Mitchell.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

FARMINGTON CITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell, City Manager Lauhoff.

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Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

MARY L. BUSH, Mayor
PATSY K. CANTRELL, Clerk/Treasurer

Published November 25, 1999

JOINT STUDY SESSION CITY OF FARMINGTON AND CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS (Summary)

A joint study session of the Farmington City Council and Farmington Hills City Council was held on Thursday, November 18, 1999, at Farmington Hills City Council Chambers, 23500 Liberty Street, Farmington Hills, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

FARMINGTON COUNCIL MEMBER PRESENT: Campbell, Hartsock, Mitchell.

FARMINGTON HILLS COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Barnett (arrived at 7:14 p.m.), Bates, Brickner, Ellis, Grant, Oliverio.

FARMINGTON CITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Cantrell, Lauhoff.

FARMINGTON HILLS CITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Brock, Roach, Sibley, Whitnary.

47TH DISTRICT COURT: Judge Fred Harris, Judge Maria Parker, Walsh.

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Dendinski of Dendinski & Co.; Michael McGee of Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone; John Allen of Monal, Inc.; Ken Jandura of Spillie Candella; Doug LaParo of French Associates.

The Councils of the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills met to hear recommendations on the construction of a new Court facility. The Councils concurred to move forward with the design of a new Court facility and to take action to approve funding at a future meeting of the respective Councils.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

WILLIAM S. HARTSOCK, Mayor
PATSY K. CANTRELL, City Clerk/Treasurer

Published November 25, 1999

CITY OF FARMINGTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS (Summary)

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was called to order by Mayor Bush at 8:00 p.m. on Monday, November 15, 1999 in Council Chambers, 23500 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

PRESENT: Mary L. Bush, Arnold T. Campbell, William S. Hartsock, JoAnne M. McShane, James K. Mitchell.

ABSENT: None.

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell, Director Goss, Director Goshama, City Manager Lauhoff, Assistant City Manager Richards.

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell gave the Oath of Office to newly elected Councilpersons Hartsock, McShane and Mitchell.

Comments were made by Mayor Bush.

Council elected William S. Hartsock as Mayor and James K. Mitchell as Mayor Pro Tem.

Comments were made by Mayor Hartsock.

Minutes of the Special and Regular meetings of November 1, 1999 were approved as submitted.

Public Hearing: 2000-2001 Community Development Block Grant Program. Council approved participation in the 2000-2001 Community Development Block Grant Program.

Benjamin York reported to Council on his experience as a Boy's State Representative.

Council introduced Nancy Cosmoundouros, the new Cultural Arts Coordinator for Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Karin Goshama, Director of Public Services, presented an update on Code Enforcement.

Minutes of other Boards were received and filed.

Council passed a proclamation proclaiming November 21-28, 1999 as "National Family Week".

Council accepted the resignation of Ellen Wallis from the Arts Commission.

Council adopted a resolution establishing the procedure for an administrative hearing to determine whether the cable television franchise renewal proposal should be granted.

Council approved a budget adjustment for 47th District Court roof repairs. Public comments were heard.

Council comments and announcements were heard.

Council adopted a Master Bank Dispositive Signature resolution.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

WILLIAM S. HARTSOCK, Mayor
PATSY K. CANTRELL, Clerk/Treasurer

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KATHRYN A. DORNAN
City Clerk

Published November 25, 1999

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