

BASKETBALL

FROM PAGE D1

Mercyhurst; Lisa VanderPutten, Macomb; Tiffany Pencock, Sinclair; Diana Hamett and Mary Petric, Lakeland; Moore and Broyles of Kelley.

CUYAHOGA TOPS OCC MEN

Six players scored in double figures Saturday for the Oakland Community College men's basketball team, but it wasn't enough to prevent visiting Cuyahoga (Ohio) CC from taking a 102-90 victory.

The Challengers, who improved their record to 7-4, were ahead at halftime, 45-36, and outscored the Raiders in the second half, 57-54. OCC dropped to 2-11 overall.

Rome Murry and Craig Myree scored 21 points apiece for the Raiders, who also had 14 from Will Pendegras, 13 from Michael Russell, 11 from Kyle Lawrence and 10 from Ralph Sylvester.

Cuyahoga countered with three 20-points-or-better performances by James Lewis (24), Joshua Ayers (20) and Leman Smith (20). Raymond Smith added 16 points and LeAndrea Floyd 10.

Smith had 11 rebounds and Ayers 10 for the Challengers, who had a 43-36 edge on the boards. OCC's Murry grabbed 10 rebounds and Myree eight.

Cuyahoga shot a stunning 71.7 percent from the floor, hitting 43 of 60 shots. OCC was 37-of-83 for 44.6 percent.

The Challengers were 2-of-7 shooting threes and 14-of-29 shooting free throws. The

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BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Raiders were 3-of-13 and 13-of-18, respectively.

OCC's team also had five assists and four steals; Lawrence had six steals and Pendegras five; Russell had four steals, too.

GRIZZLIES GROUND FALCONS

Oakland University's men's basketball team moved above the .500 mark Sunday by registering a convincing, 61-44, home triumph over Air Force. The victory put an end to a two-game losing streak against Division I opponents.

OU guard Mike Helms spearheaded the offensive attack by tossing in a game-high 23 points. He also grabbed six rebounds.

Teammate Rawle Marshall turned in a strong all-around game by bagging 15 points and snaring 11 rebounds and Cortney Scott contributed eight points and three rebounds.

Air Force, which dropped to 5-3 on the season, got 11 points apiece from AJ. Kuhle and David Peterson.

The Golden Grizzlies held a 27-23 lead at halftime and built the margin to 11 with 17 minutes to play.

But a 12-2 Air Force run cut the margin to just one point and promptly sent the hosts on a 14-4 run of their own to put the game away.

Kankakee stuns SC with buzzer-beater

The upset win over the second-ranked Ocelots ended a home court winning streak at 50, dating back to January, 2000 when SC lost to Mott CC. It was also SC's first loss this season after 11 straight wins. Kankakee is 11-4.

The loss was only part of the bad news for the Ocelots. They also learned leading scorer Dion Sherrell suffered a broken bone in his foot midway through the second half and will be lost for six to eight weeks.

"We made a good comeback being under its own basket went to the 5-foot-10 Dorseay along the sideline, 30 feet from the hoop. With two SC defenders draped all over him, Dorseay heaved a desperation line drive that corkscrewed toward the basket."

Swish. Final score: Kankakee 84, SC 82.

team. They played like they (Kankakee) were at home. We learned how important each possession becomes and they (Kankakee) wanted the game a tad bit more than we did. Every team that plays us wants to come in here and take what we have."

Torvorius Baker led SC with 22 points and 17 rebounds. Dorseay added 17 points. James Holmes and Marcus Bennett scored nine each, and Gary Johnson (from Wayne Memorial), Andre Scott and Dion Sherrell netted eight apiece.

Rocky Cullum paced Kankakee with 19 points. Dixon and guard Lawrence Brooks finished with 15 apiece.

"Actually, when the shot (by Dixon) went up, I thought it was in," said Kankakee coach Dave Holstein. "I knew it was a prayer and sometimes prayers are answered. They (SC)

defended our out-of-bounds play well. Their size presented a problem getting a shot off."

"I was kind of disappointed with the way we finished (the game), we missed four or five free throws down the stretch, except for Collum. But it's still a road win against a quality team like Schoolcraft."

"I knew they were athletic, skilled and coached well. Our guards were outstanding. They're not big, but they're competitive and they defended well throughout the game."

The question for SC now is, can they regroup? I guess the question now is are we as good as last year?" Briggs paraphrased. "The answer is no. Now we have to focus on being the best team this team can be. You can't focus on last year."

If it takes 30-foot desperation shots to beat the Ocelots, it's doubtful they'll lose very often.

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