



WAITING WITH 'MOUTH OPEN' ANTICIPATION for the start of the 1973-74 prep basketball campaign in Observerland are 19 squads with Bishop Borgess kicking off the season in a Thanksgiving tourney. Mike Henderson, one-time Churchill High mascot, was caught in this pose waiting for his first basket. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

Capture Volleyball Title

Mercy Girls Win Crown

Sporting an unbeaten season, Farmington Our Lady of Mercy High captured the first Catholic League girls volleyball championship.

After a 12-0 regular season mark, the Mercy Marlin's toppled Detroit Bishop Gallagher in the title match at Marian High, 15-8 and 15-7.

Mercy chalked up its undefeated record in league play

with Marian, Livonia Ladywood, Dearborn Sacred Heart, St. Agatha, Rosary, Vista Maria and Immaculata of Detroit.

The volleyball champs were composed of: Mary Wallace of Livonia; Redford Township's Lynne Zessin; Jean Otto, Diane Wink and Karen Gilbooly of Farmington; Judeen Bartos of

Dearborn Heights; Ann McInerney of Southfield; Mary Anne Thompson of Orchard Lake; and Donna Sass, Sheree Dikendorf, Irene McSweeney, Mary Hammell, Vicki Koet and Lou Masko of Detroit.

Miss Sass captained the Marlin crew with Miss Thompson the co-captain.

Borgess Cagers Open Tonight With Aquinas

By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor

The 1973-74 prep basketball season in Observerland tips-off tonight (Friday) with Bishop Borgess going against Southgate Aquinas in the opening round of a four-team Thanksgiving tourney.

Borgess plays in the 7 p.m. clash, with Catholic Central meeting U-D in the 8:30 contest. Action resumes Saturday with the losers competing at 7 p.m. and the winners at 8:30.

Coach Jim Brisky's mass of question marks will begin to be answered tonight. His Spartans are coming off a 10-11 season where they were outscored, 1401 to 1296.

"We are small and it looks like we will have to play at about 110 per cent every game to stay with the clubs in our league," said Brisky, whose Borgess club tied for fourth last season in the Catholic Double A with a 3-7 mark.

Servite won the Double A last year with 8-2 and the

third place team, Divine Child, wound up capturing the state Class B championship.

Brisky has two starters and a sixth man returning to give his second season plan an experienced nucleus.

Greg Drypen at 5-11 and Dan Kelly at 5-10 are returning guards with 12 and 10 point scoring averages respectively. Both are expected to handle the "quarterbacking" chores for the Spartan cagers.

At 6-2, Mike Milosch who was the sixth man last year, will be counted on for rebounding prowess. Kirk Zell (6-3), Tom Bolger (6-2), and Phil Parker (6-1) are other names in Brisky's attack.

Borgess has a newcomer to the basketball program this year in its "all - everything kicker" Tom Birney. The 6-4 athlete is out for basketball for the first time and Brisky has high hopes for him in the rebound department.

Prospective juniors coming up are 6-0 Mark Gergel and Jim Pearce at 6-3.

"Our key is going to have to be hustle, hustle, hustle and defense, defense, defense," commented Brisky. "We will be working out of all sorts of presses and full court movements."

"We have some depth now and can gamble with the press."

Early signs show Borgess having its problems in the Double A again as Divine Child has three of five starters back as do Shrine and Servite.

Brisky is hoping that this pre-season tourney will help answer some question marks. Last year it was an eight-team tourney and Borgess lost in the opening round to Aquinas, 93-55, came back with consolation wins over Gibraltar, 66-64, and Southgate, 65-43, before losing to U-D, 56-43.

Borgess then has a layover with Shrine on tap, Nov. 30.

"Things are going to be getting better with basketball here at Borgess," finished Brisky, ready to tackle his second season as head coach.

Area Wrestling Coverage Set For Expansion

There will be a new flavor in the Observer coverage of the 1973-74 prep wrestling card.

To complement the match and invitational stories will be weekly team ratings along with individual ratings. Sports Editor Tom Donoghue will meet every week with three coaches who will be responsible for three separate areas in Observerland.

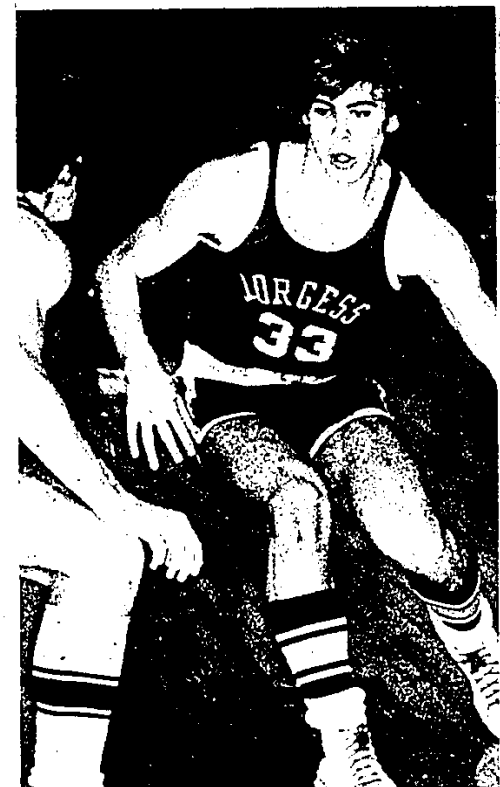
Thurston High Coach Jim Copp will be handling Redford Union, Southfield, Southfield Lathrup, Bishop Borgess and Bentley along with his Eagle squad. North Farmington head mentor Jim O'Leary will be responsible for talent information out of Farmington, Harrison, Clarenceville, Stevenson, Franklin and his Raider squad.

John Glenn Coach Bob Lusk, considered the "Dean" of area wrestling coaches, will head up the Churchill, Plymouth Canton, Plymouth Salem, Garden City West, Garden City East and his Glenn Rocket area.

Expands Card

The Clarenceville instructional gymnastic program will expand its program to competitive classes for boys and girls.

Anyone interested should attend a session at the Clarenceville gymnasium, 2-3:30 p.m. on Saturdays or 7-9 p.m. on Wednesdays.



KEY TO BORGESS ATTACK will be the ball handling and "quarterbacking" of 5-11 guard Dan Kelly in the Catholic Double A basketball action. Borgess opens its '73-74 campaign tonight against Aquinas Southgate in a Thanksgiving Tourney.