

Churchill Pucksters Top Stevenson, 4-3



Borgess Cagers 'Stall' Servite

After dropping the first five contests of the basketball campaign, Bishop Borgess Coach Jim Brisky came up with a different idea.

Brisky's new tactics — a stall style of game and offense.

"We are the smallest club in the Catholic Double A and look what running with the clubs has got us, five losses," commented Brisky. "It was a whole new ball game against Servite."

Deploying his new tactics, Brisky's Spartans scored the biggest upset of the year in upending a previously 4-0 Servite squad, 23-31.

Borgess trailed for the first 31:58 and with just two seconds showing on the clock, Greg Dryden flipped in a two-point layup and the Spartans were in the victory column.

A total of 46 shots were taken in the contest with Borgess controlling the ball for 26 minutes.

"If we had played Servite in its fast-breaking style, they would have blown us off the court," said Brisky. "I knew we couldn't control the boards so I turned to a stall style."

Servite wound up 14 of 26 from the floor and Borgess

12 of 20. The free throw line made the difference where Borgess made good eight of nine, Dryden connecting on four of five. Servite hit on three of seven.

Servite had the ball five times in the first quarter and scored each time while Borgess connected on two of three to trail after eight minutes, 10-4.

The second stanza saw Servite hit five of 10 from the floor and Borgess two of seven, and it was Servite, 22-15 at the half.

Borgess finally found the mark in the third, hit six of eight and Servite only three of nine and it was 29-28 heading into the final eight minutes.

Servite, which was then operating out of a 1-2 zone, took the fourth quarter tip, went down the floor and missed. Borgess controlled it for 3½ minutes and then turned the ball over.

Midway in the quarter, Pete Blondo pushed Servite's lead to 32-28. Borgess took over and stalled up to the 1½ minute mark when Dryden took the first shot of the quarter for Borgess, made it good, and the margin was again back to one point.

Servite's Mike Bramos failed to make a one-and-one situation, Tom Bulger cleared the rebound for Borgess and trailing by one, Brisky called for a timeout with 20 seconds left.

The call was for Dryden to go against Bramos and with just two seconds remaining, Dryden made his move, laid it up and the ball swished through the hoop.

"If this is the way we have to play basketball to win, this is the way we will play," added Brisky. "If we can't clear the boards, we will have to go to stall tactics."

In the 26 minutes Borgess controlled the ball, there were only seven turnovers compared to 11 by Servite. Brisky's boast of his great ball handlers.

Brisky couldn't have thought of a better way to close out 1973. His game resumed action next year on Jan. 4 at Bishop Gallagher.

Box score:

	SERVITE	BORGESS
Fuller	2	1
Burke	3	0
Zelinski	3	0
Kozicki	3	0
TOTALS	11	7
SERVITE	10	12
BORGESS	6	9

Livonia Stevenson tripped Bentley, 3-1, in Suburban hockey loop action but then fell victim to Churchill 4-3. The Spartans outshot Bentley, 39-37 and struck at the

1:10 mark in the first period, Steve Hillman scoring. Steve Marlow tied it for Bentley six minutes later. With three minutes elapsed in the final period, Wally

Molmurray put the Spartans ahead, Tom Shipp assisting. An open net goal by Jeff McDonald with three seconds remaining sealed the win. Stevenson then went up

against Churchill and without the services of All-Area forward Steve Hillman who was injured in the Bentley clash. Goals by Brian Veasey and Kirk Grant got Churchill off

to a 2-0 first period lead. Brian VanNorman's goal for Stevenson sliced it to 2-1 after two periods.

With 6½ minutes remaining, Veasey made it 3-1 Churchill and 27 seconds later, Steve Ursitti beat Stevenson goalie Curt Downs to up it to 4-1.

But the Spartans were far from out of it and bounced back in the next 1½ minutes to slice it to 4-3 on goals by Wally Molmurray and Tom Shipp.

Rick Parks finally shut the door for Churchill and finished with 41 saves while Downs came up with 43 for Stevenson.

Results:

STEVENSON.....1 0 2-3
BENTLEY.....1 0 0-1

SCORING: Stevenson-Hillman (VanNorman), 1:15; Bentley-Marlow (Lewicki), 7:28. PENALTIES: Foss (5), 12:25; Ralston (5), 12:4; Yelach (5), 4:18; Molmurray (5), 6:15; McDonald (5), 11:01; Hillman (5), 11:01; Finn (5), 11:07; Anderson (5), 12:15.

NO SCORING. PENALTIES: Train (5), 2:30; Train (5), 1:34; Brown (5), 8:25; McCann (5), 12:15.

SCORING: Stevenson-Molmurray (Shipp), 2:50; Stevenson-Molmurray (unassisted), 14:57. PENALTIES: Lantieri (5), 2:34; Varmann (5), 5:02; Dillane (5), 8:02; Dillane (5), 12:58.

STEVENSON.....0 1 2-3
CHURCHILL.....2 0 2-4

SCORING: Churchill-Veasey (unassisted), 8:30; Churchill-Ursitti (Veasey), 11:30. PENALTIES: Thawite (5), 2:15; Varmann (5), 8:15; St. Rose (5), 8:15; Fox (5), 11:31; McDonald (5), 11:45; Dillane (5), 12:00.

SCORING: Churchill-Veasey (unassisted), 8:30; Churchill-Ursitti (Veasey), 11:30. PENALTIES: Thawite (5), 2:15; Varmann (5), 8:15; St. Rose (5), 8:15; Fox (5), 11:31; McDonald (5), 11:45; Dillane (5), 12:00.



GAME WINNING GOAL coming up for Churchill as Brian Veasey is about to slap the puck (circle) past Stevenson goalie Curt Downs with Churchill's Jeff Truax (8) assisting.

It was goal No. 4 in Churchill's 4-3 victory over Stevenson. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

Belleville Stuns Plymouth Salem

By FRED DELANO

A quick-handed Belleville quintet which stole the ball often enough from error-prone Plymouth Salem to shock a sheriff handed the Rocks their first basketball defeat of the season, 63-56, and knocked Plymouth out of first place in the Suburban Eight.

Belleville delighted a home court throng by out-rebounding the taller Rocks, 44-28, and never trailing after taking a 25-25 lead on a steal by Walter Easley with 2½ minutes left in the second quarter.

Although Plymouth fought back to a 38-all tie in the first three minutes of the third period, the Tigers then went on an offensive surge that saw them outscore the Rocks 14-4 for the balance of the period and go into the final quarter leading 52-42.

What Belleville coach Tom Niemi calls his stall offense held Plymouth at bay in the final eight minutes, although a late Rock flurry after the Tigers led 60-46 did give the Rocks some solace.

The Tigers had four men in double figures, Charles Brown and Walter Easley both with 16, sophomore Dennis Easley with 13 as well as 17 rebounds, and Mel Abraham, 12.

Eric Agardy was Plymouth's only man in double figures with 20 points, 10 of which came in the first quarter when the Rocks held the upper hand, 16-14.

The Rocks were guilty of 27 turnovers, reducing their shots from the floor to 56. They hit 24 for 43 per cent, but in sheer volume it couldn't match Belleville's 30 goals on 74 tries (41 per cent).

"We lacked poise, weren't

hitting the open man and didn't have their enthusiasm," admitted Plymouth coach Fred Thomas as an assistant coach at Livonia Franklin, commented, "It was a great game for us. When you outbreasted someone like that, you know you're playing inspired basketball."

"We forced many of those Plymouth turnovers and won this game with our defense. It was a big one for us," added Niemi.

In the Suburban Eight standings now read: Allen Park, 2-0; Dearborn, 2-0; Plymouth Salem, 2-1; Livonia Bentley, 1-1; Belleville, 1-1; Edsel Ford, 1-2; Redford Union, 0-2; and Trenton, 0-2.

The Rocks now will play a string of four non-league games before resuming league action at home Jan. 11 with Allen Park as the foe. Belleville's next Sub 8 game will be Jan. 4 at Bentley.

Plymouth this week is playing host to Thurston, Livonia Stevenson and Livonia Churchill in a Christmas tournament, with the finals to be played Thursday. The Rocks then will take on Farmington Harrison and Plymouth Canton, both at home, Jan. 4 and Jan. 5.

Although Salem's varsity slipped to 4-1, the Jayvees upended Belleville, 71-50, to make it five in a row without a loss.

Varsity summary:

Belleville: D. Easley, 8-14-12; Curtis, 2-0-1-4; W. Easley, 8-0-2-16; Abraham, 10-19-12; Thomas, 1-0-0-2. Plymouth Salem: Proulx, 2-2-4-0; Mac, 3-1-2-7; Agardy, 8-2-7-20; Lantieri, 4-0-0-8; Johnson, 1-0-1-2; DeHouder, 1-0-0-2; Tait, 1-0-0-2; Ellingshausen, 2-1-2-4. Totals: 24-48-19-36.

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Hawk Swimmers Dunk Canton

Farmington Harrison the No. 8 swim team in the state last season dunked Plymouth Canton in Western Six competition, 106-56. It was Harrison's second loop victory and third overall against one tie.

Double winner for Harrison was Chris Hoehner, a sophomore who clocked in at 2:18 in the 200 individual medley and 5:22.6 in the 500 freestyle.

Harrison won all 11 events in the tuneup for a match with last year's No. 4 team in the state Birmingham Groves. The meet is at Groves tomorrow (Thursday), splash in is set for 7 p.m.

Results:

200 medley relay: 1-Harrison (Rado, Howard, Duda, Horvack); 2-Harrison (Humphreys, Palmer, Hawthorne, Underhill); 3-Plymouth (Foss); Time 1:49.9.

500 freestyle: 1-Palmon (Foss); 2-Armstrong (Foss); 3-Harris (PC); Time 5:22.3.

200 individual medley: 1-Hawthorne (Foss); 2-Smart (Foss); 3-Palmon (PC); Time 2:18.0.

50 freestyle: 1-Fisher (Foss); 2-Humphreys (Foss); 3-Greenwood (PC); Time 2:13.3.

Diving: 1-Kelley (Foss); 2-Water (Foss); 3-Water (Foss); Points 254.4.

100 butterfly: 1-Horvack (Foss); 2-Duda (Foss); 3-Wood (PC); Time 1:21.1.

100 freestyle: 1-Hawthorne (Foss); 2-Fisher (Foss); 3-Greenwood (PC); Time 2:14.7.

500 freestyle: 1-Hawthorne (Foss); 2-Palmon (Foss); 3-Harris (PC); Time 5:22.3.

100 backstroke: 1-Duda (Foss); 2-Palmon (PC); 3-Hawthorne (Foss); Time 1:51.1.

100 breaststroke: 1-Hawthorne (Foss); 2-Greenwood (PC); 3-Hawthorne (PC); Time 1:53.3.

400 freestyle: 1-Harrison (Rado, Duda, Horvack, Hawthorne); 2-Harrison (Armstrong, Palmer, Smart, Palmer); Time 5:21.4.