

State basketball tournament

West Bloomfield girls to play Waterford Mott

By C.J. RISAK

So far, so good. West Bloomfield, the top-rated team in the Observer & Eccentric area girls' basketball poll for much of the season, beat the No. 2 ranked squad, Our Lady of Mercy, by a 56-52 margin in the district finals to advance to the state regional tournament.

The Lakers have now won 21 of 22 contests. But past records won't help them much in their first regional game against Waterford Mott Thursday at Southfield-Lathrup High School. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

The winner will play in the regional championship game Saturday against the winner of Wednesday night's game between Livonia Bentley and Birmingham Seaholm. The regional final will start at 7:30 p.m. at Lathrup.

Mott is now 15-7 on the season and has been playing better in the last few weeks, as was evident in

the team's 49-46 upset over Bloomfield Hills Lahser in the district finals at Rochester last Friday.

A 2-1-2 zone defense prevented Lahser from getting its inside game going. But what concerns West Bloomfield coach Mike Greene the most is one player — Martha Schmitt.

"She's outstanding," the Laker coach said about Schmitt. "We're going to have to control her so she doesn't control the boards, like (Peggy) Bertoldi of Bloomfield Hills (Anderson) did against us."

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Team speed is not one of Mott's strengths, but with Schmitt handling the ball, they are capable of breaking a press.

"We're going to have to control the tempo of the game," is what Greene says about the contest. And that means controlling Schmitt.

This will not be the first meeting of the season for the two teams. On Nov. 6, West Bloomfield whipped Mott, 52-32.

Prediction: The Lakers should win this contest without much trouble. Mott caught

Lahser on an off night in the district finals, and even then the Corsairs had to play their best to win.

West Bloomfield's balance, with Stephanie Smith and Carolyn Barcovic at the guards and Odessa, Sandy DeSilvio and Lynn Gerber on the front line, will be more than Mott can handle.

WHICH LEAVES the finals. Should West Bloomfield advance, it will probably meet Livonia Bentley. Bentley has a record equal to the

Lakers — it has lost only once this year.

The Bulldogs should beat Seaholm, which has only a 13-9 record to date. But they'll have to do it without their leading scorer, Sheila DeGrazia.

DeGrazia was suspended from the team two weeks ago for disciplinary reasons. But Bentley is still winning, with a streak of 15 straight victories.

In Bentley's 35-28 win over Livonia Stevenson in the district finals last Friday, the Bulldogs used a tactic they haven't had to resort to much this year — a press defense. But they did it well, forcing several Stevenson turnovers and turning the tide of the game.

Even without DeGrazia, Bentley has some talent. Carla Campbell, a guard, and Kim Blacha, a center, were both All-

Lakers' season won't improve its chances.

The Lakers are just starting to peak. They should just in time for regional finals.

Unfortunately, it may not do them any good. If they do win, they'll travel to Grand Blanc for a quarterfinal game. The opponent will most likely be Flint Northern.

Northern is the defending Class A state champs and hasn't lost a game in two years.

OLSM '5' gets clipped on the road

By C.J. RISAK

Orchard Lake St. Mary's college cagers were on the road for two games last weekend, and it was a trip coach Tim Domke probably wishes his team never took.

But the Eagles' trip home was no better. OLSM faced a pair of tough Ohio schools on Friday and Saturday, Findlay University and Ohio Northern, and came up on the short end in both games. Findlay posted a 71-61 win, while Northern grabbed a 99-77 decision.

The Eagles returned home Sunday, but their reception was a rude one, as Grand Valley State College invaded Dombrowski Fieldhouse and left with a 100-47 victory over OLSM.

"We've been shooting fabulously," Domke said. "We've been getting exceptional perimeter shooting. But we lived a little bit too much by it, and we died by it."

The three-games-in-three-days schedule was the biggest contributing factor to the Eagles demise at the hands of Grand Valley. "The kids' legs were dead," Domke lamented.

Freshman forward Ed Barrett was one Eagle who didn't have an off night against Grand Valley. He finished with 14 points (including five-nine from the field), eight rebounds, two assists and two blocked shots. Aaron Hardaway netted 10 points for OLSM.

TWO BLOOMFIELD Hills Lahser graduates, Mark Principe and Mark Cheklich, led Grand Valley. Principe pumped in 20 points, while Cheklich had 10 points and 14 rebounds.

Rebounding was the key in the Eagle's loss to Northern. "They (Northern) beat us on the boards pretty bad," Domke said, noting a 38-28 rebounding edge for Northern.

The inability to stop Northern's inside game also plagued OLSM. Center George Thieman scored 24 points to lead the opposition, while the Eagles' Craig Blackwell had 24 points, with teammates Scott Glidden contributing 16 and Martin Eddy 12.

Glidden was OLSM's leading scorer against Findlay with 12 points. The Eagles trailed by a 35-24 margin at halftime and were still behind late in the second half. Domke had his players start fouling Findlay to prevent them from sitting on the lead, but the strategy failed as Findlay hit 10 straight free throws to insure the win.

OLSM, now 2-3 on the year, hosts Oakland University Thursday at 7:30 p.m., then travels to Lake Superior State College for a contest Saturday.

Former Laker stars at Wayne

Brian VanGorder, a football standout during his high school days at West Bloomfield, was one of four Wayne State University players to be named to the 1979 All-GLIAC (Great Lakes Conference) team.

VanGorder, a junior linebacker, led the Tartar defense in tackles for the second-straight season. He also led the squad in quarterback sacks, a rarity for a linebacker. VanGorder picked off three enemy passes in 1979.

His brother Bob is also a member of Wayne State's football team.

He joins teammates Don Sarnacki (Gabriel Richard), Keith Gilmore (Highland Park) and Jeff Kovach (Southgate Aquinas) on the 23-man All-GLIAC team.

North cagers set for season

(Continued from page 1B)

although it may take the new coach awhile to organize the team. We open our league season against Glenview on Monday. We'll find out in a hurry."

Dennis Mikel will be Dean's new assistant coach at North Farmington.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS METROPOLITAN SAVINGS ASSOCIATION

December 19, 1979

The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of Metropolitan Savings Association for the election of Directors and the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the meeting will be held at the Administrative Offices of the Association, 31550 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills, Michigan on Wednesday, December 19, 1979, at 3:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

Victor T. Miller, Secretary

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