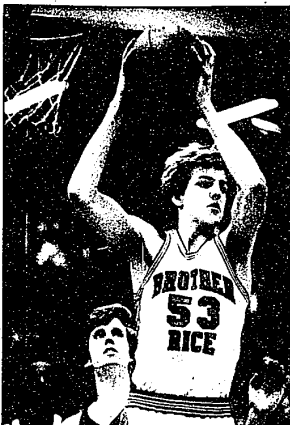


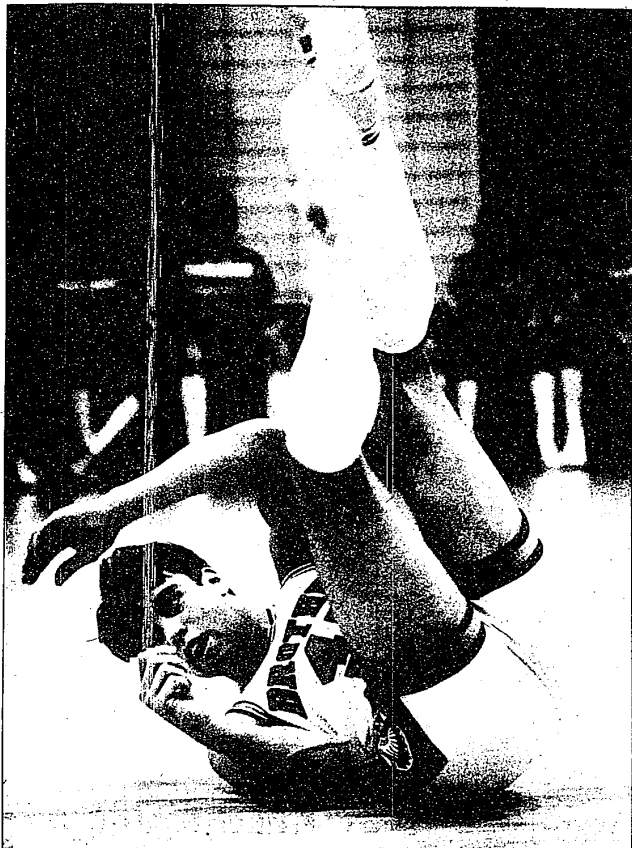
Monday, March 30, 1981



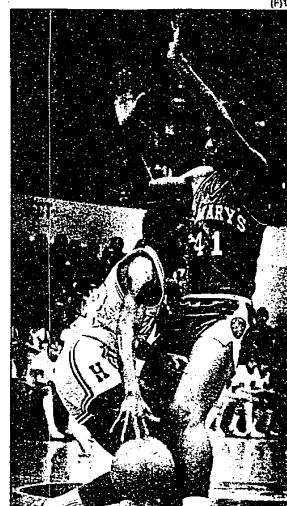
John Shasky, Brother Rice's big 6-foot-10 center, was the Warriors' top rebounder this year. (Staff photo by Mindy Saunders)



Southfield-Lathrup junior Paul Bobbitt, a 6-foot-3 forward, was the No. 2 vote-getter on this year's all-area cage squad. (Staff photo by John Stano)



Junior Paul Jokisch, a unanimous selection on this year's All-Observer & Eccentric basketball team for Oakland County, was a major reason Birmingham Brother Rice was this area's No. 1 cage squad. (Staff photo by Bill Bresler)



Hiram Harris (41), a 6-foot-5 junior guard from Orchard Lake St. Mary's, averaged 22 points and 10 assists per game this season. (Staff photo by John Stano)



Al Morris, the only senior on the all-area squad, averaged nearly 16 points per game for West Bloomfield. (Staff photo by John Stano)

Bill Norton, the coach of No. 1-ranked Brother Rice, is the 1980-81 All-Observer & Eccentric Coach of the Year. It marks the third time Norton has received this honor in his 17-year coaching career. He was O&E's top coach in 1967-68 and 1976-77. (Staff photo)



Juniors reap cage honors

By Dennis O'Connor
staff writer

Four juniors? That's right — FOUR juniors on the 1980-81 Observer & Eccentric All-Area basketball team in Oakland County.

Talk about looking to the future. Actually, when 13 of the area's 22 basketball coaches recently met to select this year's honor team, it was their consensus that it was a "down" year for basketball in the area.

Overall records reflect this opinion, as only eight of the area's 22 teams finished with better than .500 records.

So why not look to the future — and, oh, what potential some teams have.

Just look at the first-team All-Area selections: JUNIOR Paul Jokisch of Birmingham Brother Rice; JUNIOR Paul Bobbitt of Southfield-Lathrup; JUNIOR John Shasky of Brother Rice; JUNIOR Hiram Harris of Orchard Lake St. Mary's; and senior Al Morris of West Bloomfield.

Six of the top 15 players are underclassmen.

Brother Rice, selected the No. 1 team in the O&E area, dominated the area selections, to no one's surprise. The Warriors were head-and-shoulders above all teams in the area, and it reflected in the all-area selections.

It's a rare occasion when two players from the same squad receive first-team honors. But Rice came out of the meeting with Jokisch and Shasky on the "elite five," and landed four players among the top 15 selected.

Also, Rice's Bill Norton was selected coach-of-the-year by his peers.

PAUL JOKISCH, the Warriors' 6-foot-7 junior forward, was the only unanimous selection for first-team honors. He clearly outdistanced every player in the voting.

Jokisch, a second-team all-area selection as a sophomore, was the hub of Rice's offensive thrust this season, averaging 17 points and pulling down nine rebounds.

"Paul is a great athlete," said Norton. "Sometimes people overlook how skilled he is as a player. His basketball awareness is constantly improving."

Please turn to Page 2C

All-Area basketball team

FIRST TEAM

PLAYER	SCHOOL	YEAR
Paul Jokisch	Brother Rice	Junior
Paul Bobbitt	Lathrup	Junior
John Shasky	Brother Rice	Junior
Hiram Harris	St. Mary's	Junior
Al Morris	West Bloomfield	Senior

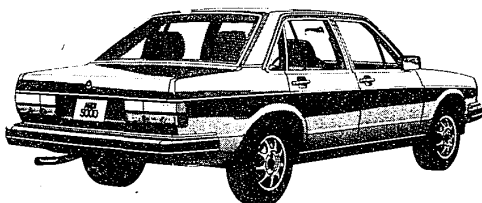
SECOND TEAM — Rob Jeske, Birmingham Seaholm; Darryl Darden, Southfield High School; Les Daggis, Birmingham Brother Rice; Robin Peterson, Bloomfield Hills Andover; Ed Murden, Southfield High School.

THIRD TEAM — Ed Okuniewski, Orchard Lake St. Mary's; Terry Bobbitt, Southfield-Lathrup; Dennis Kozak, Birmingham Brother Rice; Steve Stratton, Bloomfield Hills Lahser; Richard Giles, Rochester Adams.

HONORABLE MENTION — Damon Jones, Doug Howell, Troy Hudson — Detroit Country Day; Jeff Miller, John Peddie — Birmingham Groves; C.J. Beshke, Mike Chew — Birmingham Seaholm; Brett Forbush, Karl Heurman — Rochester Adams; Derek Woodmore, Kirk Matich, Tim McClure — Auburn Hts. Avondale; Rich Ziegler, Jerome Walker — Southfield High School; William Moir, Kevin Lunn — Southfield Christian; Jim Kozmar, Steve Hamsey, Jim Simmons — Troy High School; Stephen Essayan — Southfield Manogian; Phil Kozicki — Orchard Lake St. Mary's; Eric Girdler — Bloomfield Hills Andover; Pier DalSanto — Birmingham Brother Rice; Sam Gun — Southfield-Lathrup; Bryan Miller, Rochester High School; Tim Hazen — Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook; Mike Kramer — Troy Athens; Goran Vasovski, Steve Hollatz — Farmington Harrison; Jerry Liphardt — Farmington High School; Mark Bowditch, Tom Rennard — North Farmington; Dave Austin — Farmington Lutheran Northwest.

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