



Chris McCosky

Girls' game: good with bad

Thoughts idling wild down I-94 east, coming home from Kazoo.

MY EYES are heavy and my head hurts from too little sleep and the six emotion-filled girls' basketball games I had covered in the last 28 hours. The thought of this three-hour drive is killing me. It's amazing how homesick one can get spending a weekend in Kalamazoo.

A car full of young, happy girls speeds by. They hold a poster up to the window that proclaims, "Ladywood No. 1." I honk my horn and shake my fist in the air triumphantly. The girls in the car clap and smile.

They were happy because their team just won the state championship. I was happy for them. It must be a great feeling. I was also happy because they were facing the same arduous three-hour journey that I was—for some reason, I took comfort in that. I guess it was like having someone in the car with me.

GIRLS BASKETBALL has sure come a long way in a short period of time. The talent I had seen in the last two days was phenomenal. And you know what? Most of the top players were underclassmen.

When Farmington Hills Our Lady of Mercy, last year's Class A state champs, took on Flint Northwestern in the semifinals Friday night, there was just one senior on the court—Mercy's Sarah Basford.

Mercy started three juniors and a sophomore. Off the bench came two more juniors. Northwestern, which eventually became this season's state champs, started three juniors and two sophomores. Off the bench came freshman Stephanie Tipton, and all she did was hit five straight shots to help her team defeat the Marlinas.

Class B champ, Ladywood, started three juniors and two sophomores. River Rouge, which Ladywood defeated in the championship, started four juniors and a sophomore.

Who are these underclassmen? See if you don't recognize these names: Annette Ruggiero, Mary Rosowski, Terri Ford and Amy DeMatita, Mercy; Emily Wagner, Char Govan, Ladywood; Prantcha Fox, River Rouge; Tony Edwards, Northwestern. These are some of the best players in the state, and they will all be back next year.

YES, THE talent level in girls basketball has improved at a rapid rate. Unfortunately, some other areas are a step behind—at least.

The most noticeable area is officiating. The quality of officiating in high school girls' basketball is light years behind the quality of the players. It's to the point where a girl makes a legal move and gets called for a violation because the referee has never seen a girl make that kind of a move. Since he's never seen it, it must be wrong.

Case in point: Several times this season I've seen traveling unjustly called on Mercy's Mary Rosowski. She possesses a very strong, and quick, first step to the basket—it's a move that, until recently, was never seen in the girls' game. Players are being penalized for having extraordinary talents.

I ALSO think too many refs read the newspapers. They know which teams are the pregame "favorites." They know who the underdogs are. They know who the top scorers are. Sometimes, and I really believe this, these preconceived attitudes affect their judgment on the court.

Harpur Woods Regina feels an ill-advised three-second call late in the game cost them the state championship last Saturday against Northwestern. They might be right. A shot was taken and missed. Regina's Jolynn Schneider pulled down the offensive rebound, took one dribble toward the baseline, and the ref called three seconds. Regina trailed by a point at the time.

Three seconds, in girls' basketball, should be the least-called violation. Unless the girl just camps out in the lane, the call shouldn't be made. The girls' game, unlike boys' hoops, is not primarily an inside game. It's more of a perimeter game. There are very few occasions to call three seconds.

Sign on the freeway reads Marshall exit one mile. Come on, baby, another hour and a half. Don't fall asleep. Wish I could find a decent radio station.

I THINK the Michigan High School Athletic Association should seed teams for the state tourney. That would avoid a situation like we had this year. Three of the four state championships were, for all intents and purposes, decided in the semifinals. In Class A, No. 1 ranked Mercy lost to No. 2 ranked Northwestern. In Class B, No. 2 ranked Ladywood beat No. 1 ranked Manistee. In Class D, No. 1 ranked Leland lost to DeTour.

If that's not argument for seeding, I don't know what is. The tournament should be seeded from the districts right up through to the finals.

"Welcome to Jackson." Man, one more hour!

You know what else I think the MHSAA should do? They should have all the boys basketball teams schedule byes for the weekend of the girls' state finals.

I can't remember if I thanked WMU's sports information director John Beatty for all his help.

Please turn to Page 5

Swim team has local punch

By Brad Emons
staff writer

What an improvement from last season! With the addition of the Farmington schools, the 1983 All-Observer Girls Swim Team lists some of Michigan's best.

But you should start once again with some familiar faces—the Livonia Stevenson contingent—led by 100-yard breaststroke Class A champion Mary Scholes. She helped the Spartans to the Western Lakes Conference title and a fourth-place finish in the state.

Next comes North Farmington, ninth in Class A, and its young cast of talented swimmers. North won the Northwest Suburban League crown.

And Catholic League champion Farmington Hills Our Lady of Mercy, another newcomer, adds more twinkle to an already star-studded team.

Area coaches gathered recently to select the area's top performers. Swimmers are restricted to one event (with the exception of relays).

The coaches also honored four swimmers in the all-large category. These swimmers deserve mention because of their versatility and outstanding times.

Here is this year's All-Area Girls Swim Team.

FIRST TEAM

Jennifer Rowe, North Farmington, 200 freestyle: The hard-working freshman went to the state meet and placed sixth in the 500 freestyle, 12th in the 200 and was a member of the Raiders' fourth-place 400 freestyle relay squad.

She also established school, pool and league records this year.

"Jennifer is a very hard worker—willing to go more," said coach Jordan Hatch. "She's a competitor."

Sherrie Sudek, Livonia Stevenson, 200 IM: The sophomore's best finish in the state meet was fourth in the individual medley (2:12.54). Her best time in this event was 2:11.53 (state preliminaries). She also helped Stevenson to fourth place in the 200 medley relay at the same meet.

During the season, Sudek set a varsity record in the 400 freestyle (1:37.4) and a Stevenson pool record in the 100 backstroke (where she was undefeated).

A two-event conference champ, Sudek was called "very talented, a good student and very spirited" by her coach, Lois McDonald.

Mary Manderfield, North Farmington, 50 freestyle: A senior, Manderfield was a team captain and leader.

Her win in the 50 freestyle enabled North to beat West Bloomfield for the first time ever in a dual meet.

Making her fourth straight state meet appearance, Manderfield finished 12th in Class A with a season-best time of 25.28.

"Mary would swim any event that might need to be filled to help her team," coach Hatch said. "The team comes first to her."

Katie MacIntosh, Farmington, diving: The junior standout finished 15th in the state and second in the Class A regional.

The Western Lakes Conference champ won 10 of 11 dual meets and set a Farmington varsity and pool record with a 236.4 point total for six dives.

Shella Taormina, Livonia Stevenson, 100 butterfly: Only a freshman, Taormina finished fifth in the butterfly at state with a time of 59.46. Her best time in this event was 59.12.

A member of Stevenson's fourth-place medley relay team at state, Taormina was "very talented with all strokes," according to her coach.

"She has lots of spirit and is liked by the whole team," McDonald said. "She knows how to practice to succeed."

Taormina also won two events at the Western Lakes Conference meet.

Ann Schlaepfer, Livonia Bentley, 100 freestyle: The sophomore was 13th at state in the 100 freestyle where she holds the school record.

At the Western Lakes meet, Schlaepfer finished second in the 100 freestyle (55.89), fourth in the 50 freestyle (28.05) and helped Bentley to second place in a school record-setting 400 freestyle relay performance (3:48.5).

"Ann's a very competitive swimmer who enjoys the challenge of competing against the best swimmers from other teams," said Bentley coach Keith Wright.

Sue Herzog, Farmington Mercy, 500 freestyle: Herzog's best finish in Class A was in the 500 freestyle where she placed fifth in 5:09.21.

She also helped the Marlinas to 14th place in the 400 freestyle relay and 14th in the 200 medley relay.

Herzog also grabbed eighth at the state meet in the 200 freestyle (1:58.39).

Kathy Sullivan, Livonia Stevenson, 100 backstroke: 13th at state in the backstroke, the sophomore excelled in a variety of events this season for the Spartans.



Jennifer Rowe
N. Farmington

Sherrie Sudek
Stevenson

Mary Manderfield
N. Farmington



Katie MacIntosh
Farmington



Shella Taormina
Stevenson



Ann Schlaepfer
Bentley



Sue Herzog
Mercy



Kathy Sullivan
Stevenson



Mary Schoenle
Stevenson

Please turn to Page 2

Mercy memories:

The Our Lady of Mercy basketball team's season may have ended a bit sooner than most had hoped, but throughout the 27-game season, the Marlinas provided myriad thrills for their fans and supporters. The story is on page 5C.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Boys Ball:

Farmington High's Bruce Kratt drives against Stevenson's Ric Rozman in Tuesday night's loss. It was a bad night for both the Falcons and North Farmington, but things went nicely for the Harrison Hawks. Details on page 5C.

The more you have and the more you earn, the more help you need keeping it.

People with substantial assets or income—or both—stand to lose the most to taxes and inflation. Fortunately, the Government permits tax sheltering for those who invest in the development of certain key resources—usually oil and gas or residential and commercial real estate.

The tax advantages can be diverse and attractive, and can exist in interesting combinations. They become possible when you invest in a limited partnership engaged in the appropriate development work. Some come as first year expenses that can be used as deductions. Others are deductions due to depreciation which, depending on financial structure, can be spread out over a period of years. There's the possibility also that investment appreciation can be converted to capital gains. And, in many cases, cash flow generated by the partnership can be partially sheltered.

Obviously, the more compatible a tax shelter can be to your own situation, the greater your opportunity to maximize results. Kidder, Peabody's forte is arranging this matchup. Our requirements in this field are exceptionally high; most tax shelter plans fail to meet our standards. From those that do, we make a painstaking selection for each and every client. For a confidential discussion—with no obligation to you—use the coupon and we'll telephone at your convenience.

Kidder, Peabody & Co. INCORPORATED

Member New York and American Stock Exchanges

3290 West Big Beaver Road
Troy, MI 48064
Tel: (313) 649-9700
64 additional offices worldwide

Please tell me more about maximizing my tax shelter plans. I'd like you to call between the hours of _____ (am) (pm) and _____ (am) (pm)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel: _____

Member SIPC

BE-5290