

# Rice tops Troy, advances to finals

By Jim Hughes  
Staff writer

A lesser team may have fallen, but Brother Rice was not the lesser team. The Warriors, on the strength of key free-throw shooting down the stretch, high to post a 55-43 victory Tuesday in the opening round of the Class A Fennell Regional.

Brother Rice (20-3) hit 13-of-16 free throws in the final 6 minutes, and 25-31 in the game, to help discourage a scrappy and upset-minded Colt team.

Troy, totally baffled and overwhelmed in the first half, came back in

the last two quarters. With 6:51 to play in the game, the Warriors' large lead had dwindled to 38-34.

The tightness of the contest — at that point — may have surprised some observers, but not Rice coach Nick Conti.

"I REALLY did (expect a close game), Conti said, 'and I'll tell you why. I know Jim (Troy coach Jim Clary), and I know he would prepare some type of defensive plan. Secondly, I thought it would be low-scoring because I fully expected them to throw various some combinations at us.

"With the zone, you don't take many

shots. The only way we're going to blow anybody out is if we have a 5- or 3-minute span where we hit 7, 8 or 9 shots in a row. We're just a grind it out team. We're not going to slide and glide and win by 25."

Rice opened the game as though it would be more than 25. The Warriors took an 11-4 lead, and extended the margin to 24-13 by halftime. Only poor shooting from the field (9-for-27) prevented the Warriors from opening a bigger cushion.

"I didn't think we were intimidated, just nervous," Clary said of his team's first-half performance. "Offensively, we just couldn't get the ball inside. I

## basketball

thought the kids played super defense, though. In the second half, we started to do some of the things we wanted to, offensively."

Troy junior John Locker, shut out in the first half, scored 8 of his 10 points in the third quarter when the Colts were able to work the ball inside. Dean Winski added 4 points as Troy cut the gap to 38-30 going into the fourth quarter.

AFTER FIELD goals by Kurt Schram and Winski made it a 4-point game, Rice went to work at the free-throw line. B.J. Armstrong made 6 in a row and Chris Plunkett buried 5-of-6 to lengthen the lead. In the last minute of the game, Armstrong and Plunkett combined to hit 3-of-9 while Troy mustered just 1 point.

"We've been shooting well from the free-throw line the last couple of weeks," Conti explained. "We used to shoot for 4 or 5 minutes at one time in practice. Now, we've cut it down to 2 or 3 minutes, 4 or 5 times during the practice. We do it in absolute silence. We want complete concentration."

Armstrong led the Warriors with 27 points on 9 field goals and 18-of-18 shooting from the line. Plunkett added 9 points and Jeff Herberholz scored 7.

Locker led Troy (11-12) with 10 points, while Greg Alonso and Winski each scored 8.

"We felt Troy was a strong perimeter shooting team, and we tried to defend against that," Conti said. "I thought we did a good job inside against Locker. For the most part, I thought we did the job."

By accomplishing the job, Rice advances to the regional championship game at 8 p.m.

## Raider spikers eliminated

The North Farmington volleyball season ended abruptly Saturday at the state Class A regional tournament at Lansing Waverly.

East Kentwood (35-3), the state's No. 2-ranked team much of the season, sent the Raiders home early, 15-7, 15-3.

"We didn't play well at all," said North coach Sandy Lubieniecki. "I really felt bad for the kids."

North missed 14 serves in the two games, a very unusual statistic considering the Raiders served with 90 percent proficiency all season.

"The kids were very frustrated. These were things we had worked hard on, on a daily basis, all season. Things just didn't go right," Lubieniecki said.

PATTI KOZICKI, North's senior captain, played well enough to earn the praise of both Lubieniecki and tournament officials.

"She gave her usual 110 percent effort," Lubieniecki said. "She really stood out for us."

The Raiders finish with a 29-9 record and a district championship.

"It was a good season," Lubieniecki said. "A lot of people didn't think we could do as well as we did. There were tears in the end, but the tears were not so much because we lost, but because on Monday we knew the season had come to an end."

Portage Northern (67-1), the state's No. 1 team, won the Waverly regional.

## OLSM rolls in NJCAA tournament

By C.J. Risak  
Staff writer

The faces changed, but the result was the same. First, Erich Hartnett canned 3 straight jumpers to stake Orchard Lake St. Mary's to a 6-0 lead in its National Little College Athletic Association (NLCAA) tournament opener with West Coast Christian Tuesday in Norfolk, Neb.

Then Steve Kopicki matched Hartnett's feat, pumping in the first 3 baskets of the second half to double St. Mary's halftime lead and propel the Eagles to a 66-56 victory.

THE WIN lifted the Eagles to 14-15 for the season and put them into last night's tournament quarterfinals against the winner of the Elizabeth Seton College (of Yonkers, N.Y.) and Platte (Neb.) College game.

"Everybody executed well," said OLSM coach Tim Domke. "We kept the ball in (Hartnett's and Kopicki's) hands, and they were hot. That's what we had to do, especially with (Mike) Cozad and (Rod) Scharbonneau out."

Cozad did not make the trip when it was diagnosed last week that he had monoucleosis. Scharbonneau is sidelined with broken fingers.

Hartnett, a Plymouth Salem grad, and Kopicki made up for the lack of shooters by scoring 20 points apiece. Kopicki's 3 baskets to start the second half allowed St. Mary's to increase its lead to 36-24. The 6-foot-6 junior forward also dominated under the boards, grabbing 14 rebounds to lead St. Mary's to a 39-30 edge.

"We outrebounded them, and that was a major factor," said Domke. "They were much bigger than us."

ANOTHER FACTOR in the Eagle win was their heady free-throw shooting. St. Mary's hit 14 of 16 from the line, including 14 straight in the final minutes as West Coast Christian fouled in an attempt to catch up. Kopicki made 5-for-5 in the stretch.

West Coast Christian pulled to within 4 points with 8 minutes left in the game, but never got any closer.

"Bobby Wade ran our offense really well in the second half," said Domke. After West Coast Christian closed to within 4, Wade guided St. Mary's to a pair of fast-break baskets that put the Eagles back in control. Their free throw shooting kept them in command.

Wade and Gary Pedersen chipped in 8 points apiece, as St. Mary's hit 60 percent of its floor shots.

Jim Hill and Dave Smith netted 12 points apiece for West Coast Christian.

## Baseball clinic

The first session of the Plymouth Canton Chiefs Baseball Clinic, sponsored by the Canton Parents Baseball Club, is slated for this weekend at Canton High School.

For 115, players can learn the fundamentals of the game from two of the state's winningest and most respected high school coaches: Fred Crissey and Dave Racer.

For more information, call any of the following people after 6 p.m.: Tom Kenyon 453-5667, Gary Lyle 455-3444, or Matt Kocik 455-6122.

## 'TIS THE SAVING OF THE GREEN

## PINE CASHWAY LUMBER

LAUAN UNDERLAYMENT **6<sup>39</sup>**  
4x8-1/4"

CDX SHEATHING **7<sup>39</sup>**  
4x8-1/2"

VINYL GUTTER  
brown or white  
10' gutter **3<sup>99</sup>**

•won't scratch or dent •never rusts or rots •won't leak •never needs painting

DOORS  
LAUAN PREHUNG  
28" or 30"  
1-3/8" thick  
FJ jambs **27<sup>95</sup>**

LAUAN BI-FOLD DOORS  
1-3/8" thick  
36" **24<sup>95</sup>**  
48" **38<sup>95</sup>**

DRYWALL  
4X8-3/8" **3<sup>55</sup>**  
4X8-1/2" **3<sup>59</sup>**  
JOINT COMPOUND **7<sup>99</sup>** 5 gal.  
DRYWALL PRIMER **9<sup>99</sup>** 2 gal.  
SELF ADHESIVE MESH TAPE **1<sup>59</sup>** 36 ft.

PAINT  
LATEX CEILING PAINT  
1/2 price reg. \$11.99

•high hiding white  
•one coat coverage

**5<sup>99</sup>**

STAIN KILLER

•seals water stains, burned surfaces, smoke stains, crayon & more!

**3<sup>99</sup>** qt.

save **\$4.00**

GUARDIAN LATEX WALL PAINT

•hundreds of colors  
•washable finish

**8<sup>99</sup>** reg. \$12.99

WINDSHIELD WASHER FLUID **.79** gal.

SUMP PUMPS by ATHENS SUBMERSIBLE

**74<sup>95</sup>**

Model #95071 or #94021

## PLYWOOD

	FIR Good-one-side	Particle Board
1/4"	<b>7.95</b>	—
3/8"	<b>9.95</b>	<b>4.95</b>
1/2"	<b>12.95</b>	<b>5.99</b>
5/8"	<b>16.95</b>	<b>6.99</b>
3/4"	<b>18.95</b>	<b>9.99</b>

## LIQUID NAILS

all purpose construction adhesive

**.99**

11 oz.

CAULKING GUN **1<sup>69</sup>**

## PINE CASHWAY LUMBER

Our low prices help you make it.

BRIGHTON  
DETROIT  
FENTON  
LINCOLN PARK  
MT. CLEMENS  
OWASSO  
REDFORD  
SOUTHFIELD  
UTICA  
WATERFORD  
YPSILANTI

Some items may not be available at all locations. All items Cash and Carry.

325 Main Street  
2311 East Huron  
14375 Tarry Road  
3232 Port Street  
5 South Greenback  
1315 East Main Street  
12222 Lakewood Road  
22000 West 8 Mile Road  
48075 Van Dyke  
7974 Highland Road  
629 North Huron

237-1831  
348-1800  
437-3380  
344-5177  
415-2200  
723-9911  
927-9111  
315-3278  
727-7463  
644-2450  
481-1500

OPEN  
MON. THRU FRI.  
8 A.M.-6 P.M.  
SATURDAY  
8 A.M.-5 P.M.  
SUNDAY  
10 A.M.-3 P.M.  
PRICES GOOD  
MARCH 13-19