

CC loses Holiday final at buzzer

By Steve Kowalski
staff writer

Brian Marzolino wasn't supposed to take the last shot Friday night for Southgate Aquinas, but coach Ernie Price couldn't complain about the results.

Marzolino's off-balance 19-foot jump shot at the buzzer gave the Raiders an exciting 47-45 win over Redford Catholic Central in the championship game of the Aquinas Holiday Basketball Tournament. Detroit De Porres defeated Centerline St. Clement, 57-56. In the consolation game played earlier Friday.

All the excitement took place last night in the evening during the championship.

A 3-point shot by CC's Jeff Shayer with eight seconds left tied the score at 45, and everyone in the gym expected Aquinas' sharpshooter Steve Pollack to take the Raiders' final shot, but he couldn't get open. Pollack led both teams with 24 points, having made four shots from 3-point range.

AFTER AQUINAS called a timeout, Marzolino raced the length of the court before trying his desperation shot. Marzolino finished with only 10 points, but the last two were the most important. "We're fortunate the ball fell through, but shoot, we deserved to win," Price said. "They deserved to win too, but I'm elated it was us."

Harrison squad gets big turnout

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able to offset Greene's performance. "He's a nice player," Fusco said. "And he was a little off tonight. He would have had a few more points but a few lipped the rim. He's very deceptive because of his size. He gets up and down the floor well. He's a smooth operator."

Borgess, no doubt, would have had a better chance to contain Greene had Respert been available.

Respert is the team leader at point guard, trying to make up for all the losses Borgess suffered last May because of graduation. Gone from last year's Class B runnerup team are Farish Hickman, Dwayne Kelley and Da Juan Smith — nearly 42 points a game.

"We hope to have Shawn back practicing this weekend," Fusco said. "Our first three games he was our primary point guard. He and Charles North posed perimeter threats and that tends to open up the inside game and allow Kareem to do what he does best."

"Kareem had a good performance. We wanted to get the ball inside to him and when we did, he came through."

the week ahead

BOYS BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Jan. 3
Bishop Borgess at Redford CC, 7:30 p.m.
South Lyon at Py. Canton, 7:30 p.m.
Redford at Py. Salem, 7:30 p.m.
Red. Temple at Liv. Clawsonville, 7:30 p.m.
Allen Park at Red. Thurston, 7:30 p.m.
Waterford Our Lady at St. Agatha, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 5
Lutheran Westland at Huron Valley, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 6
CC United at Springfield Christian, 5:30 p.m.
Garden City at Woodhaven, 7:30 p.m.
Redford Union at Don. Essex Ford, 7:30 p.m.
Red. Thurston at D.H. Crestwood, 7:30 p.m.
Liv. Franklin at N. Farmington, 7:30 p.m.
Py. Canton at Farmington, 7:30 p.m.
Farm. Harbort at Py. Salem, 7:30 p.m.
Hamtramck at Liv. Clawsonville, 7:30 p.m.
Bak. Borgess at H.W. Nora Dame, 7:30 p.m.
Redford CC at H.W. Beth. Galesburg, 7:30 p.m.
First Holy Holy at St. Agatha, 7:30 p.m.
Ypsilanti at Redford Temple, 8 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Jan. 4
Redford CC at Det. Country Day, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 7
Liv. Franklin at Milford, 7 p.m.
Redford CC vs. Ann Arbor Huron at Redford Ice Arena, 8 p.m.

MEY'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Wednesday, Jan. 4
Macomb CC at Schoolcraft, 7:30 p.m.
Plet Mori at Oakland CC, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 6
Highland Pk. CC at Schoolcraft, 7:30 p.m.
Oakland CC at Macomb CC, 7:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Wednesday, Jan. 4
Adrian College at Schoolcraft, 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 7
Schoolcraft at Highland Pk. CC, TBA.
TBA — time yet to be announced.

basketball

Said Marzolino: "The ball was supposed to go to Pollack, but I didn't even see him. I just went to the hole and hoped I got fouled. I just threw it up there."

The win kept Aquinas undefeated in five games. Four Aquinas players did not dress because of disciplinary reasons, so Price felt even better about the victory. CC, meanwhile, fell to 1-4 overall and coach Bernie Holowicki harbors immediate concerns for Tuesday's Catholic League opener at home against Redford Bishop Borgess.

"We need three weeks to get ready for Borgess and we've only got three days," Holowicki said Friday. "(Birmingham) Brother Rice and Borgess have the most talent in the league. Borgess is 36 times better than the (Aquinas) team that was out there tonight."

"WE GOT OUTPLAYED tonight, outbusted and outcoached."

The loss spoiled the fine 23-point effort by CC senior guard Terry Boykin. Shayer was the only other Shamrock player in double figures, scoring 10 points. Ray Richards, CC's biggest inside threat, finished with only five points.

"Boykin's got to be an offensive threat for us," Holowicki said. "But Richards had his first three shots blocked and he just died after that. We got no second shots and didn't rebound at all tonight."

CC led only 20-18 at halftime but Boykin scored seven points in the third quarter, and the Shamrocks increased the margin to six, 33-27 after three quarters. Boykin's 3-point shot with 1:13 left in the quarter had given CC its largest lead, 33-24.

Pollack and Dwyne Mitchell, who finished with 12 points, rallied the Raiders in the fourth quarter. Aquinas outscored CC 15-4 in the first 5 1/2 minutes of the final quarter and finally took the lead over CC, 40-37 on Pollack's triple.

Pollack scored nine points in the fourth quarter.

"Pollack is a good shooter," Holowicki said. "I told the kids that they didn't seem to listen. We tried to be alert for him today."



Ellen Weaselmann, performing on the uneven bars, is one of the veteran gymnasts who will keep North Farmington among the top teams.

Gymnasts reload

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Senior co-captains Jenny Rick and Julie Robbins return. Rick qualified for the regional on vault and floor exercise. Robbins missed going to the regional on beam by one meet, qualifying in three dual meets instead of the required four.

The junior class has an abundance of talent, and is led by Amy Solomon, who went to regionals on the beam and does the all-around. Kristen Zarembo, who performs on the vault and beam, and Gabi Fleischer, whose specialty is floor exercise, also are juniors.

Michelle Doecker leads the sophomore class and "has improved an unbelievable amount," according to Huff. Sophomore Kara Burman is a transfer from Marquette and will perform on beam and floor to start, Huff said.

Seven freshmen dot the Harrison roster, including Michelle Davis and Colleen Heinzman, both of whom are versatile performers.

St. Mary's rally nets tourney title

Jim Butcher led a second-half rally that carried the St. Mary's College basketball team to the championship of its own Optimist International Classic Thursday night.

Butcher finished with 17 points as the Eagles outgunned the College of St. Francis from Joliet, Ill., 92-88. St. Mary's is 6-9. St. Francis is 6-6. The Eagles led 41-43 at halftime but faced a 77-88 deficit with seven minutes left when Butcher took over.

He scored 11 of his team's next 13 points, including three triples, as St. Mary's went on a 13-4 run that knotted the score at 81 with less than three minutes to play.

Jerome Washburn, who was named co-MVP of the tournament along with Butcher, put the Eagles ahead to stay, 84-83, with a free throw.

Terry Koerner, however, led a quintet of St. Mary's players in double figures with 18 points. James Curtis added 15 points, Washburn 11 and Denny Butcher, who had six assists, 10.

Kevin Niesell had nine rebounds as the Eagles outrebounded St. Francis 29-17. Washburn added five rebounds and had 20 for the tournament.

Eric Langston scored 29 points in a losing cause for St. Francis; John Shemattis, 15; Tom Kenn, 14; and Jeff Craig, 12.

The University of Guelph (Ontario) defeated Fanshawe, a team from London, Ontario, 85-49 in the consolation game.

Defending champ eliminates Mercy

Farmington Hills Mercy advanced to the quarterfinals of the Carrollton High School volleyball tournament before defending champion Bay City Handy sidelined the Marlins.

In its first competition of the new season, Mercy was 6-2 in pool-play games and 3-1 in tournament matches Tuesday.

The Marlins opened with back-to-back victories, defeating Midland Bullock Creek 15-5, 15-1 and Saginaw Arthur Hill 15-4, 15-0. Mercy split its next two matches with Pinconning (12-15, 15-4) and Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port (11-15, 15-13).

Pinconning, a top-rated Class B team, won the pool competition with a 7-1 record, and the Marlins were second at 6-2.

In its first playoff encounter, Mercy whipped Frankmunth 15-0 in the first game and prevailed 15-10 in the second. In the quarterfinals, however, it was Handy taking 15-10, 6-15 victories.

Mercy's hitting attack was led by Andrea Velthoven with a .269 kill percentage and Jennifer Goff at .259.

Coach Tim DeBello also was pleased with the play of middle hitters Lee Albrecht and Pam Thompson, both of whom are new to the position.

The Marlins received solid back-row play from Christy Johnson and Becky Leidy, and Nikki Burns, who was the back-up to all-area setter Kandl Boyle last year, did an outstanding job in her first starting assignment, DeBello said.

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