



Brian Paluk Redford CC Randy Whitfield Borgess James Head Salem Charles Smith Borgess Mike Slone Salem Perry Robinson Borgess Melton Stoudemire Huron Valley Bernie Holowicki Coach of Year

## First team

# Talent-laden cagers make the grade

BY BRAD EMONS

**B**ernie Holowicki has experienced many highs during his 22-year tenure as head basketball coach at Redford Catholic Central High.

Holowicki has won 15 Class A district titles, five regionals, appeared in two state semifinals and won a coveted state crown, not to mention a 379-131 overall record with the Shamrocks.

And though a 15-10 record during the past season was far from Holowicki's best, the veteran

coach got the maximum effort out of a team which was not expected to be a contender.

CC, which lost two key players, Bobby Kummer (UNC-Charlotte) and Chad Varga (Richmond), to graduation a year earlier, survived a 2-6 season start and a tough state tournament draw to gain a berth in the regional finals before losing to Detroit Public School League champion Cass Tech.

"We were always the underdog and underrated," said Holowicki, now in his 28th year as an elementary school teacher for the South Redford Schools. "But they were a fun team to coach because they were overachievers. They were always willing to work. Everybody contributed and that made it fun. They kept me loose."

For his efforts, Holowicki was named Observerland Coach of the Year.

As far as Observerland's best players, Redford Bishop Borgess (14-9 record) leads the way with three selections, including a pair of talented juniors.

Plymouth Salem (21-4), a regional finalist before losing to eventual state champion Detroit Pershing, landed top on the first team.

Other first-team representatives come from Redford CC and the area's smallest school, Class D Westland Huron Valley Lutheran.

Presenting the 1992-93 All-Observer team as selected by the sports staff:

### FIRST TEAM

Brian Paluk, 6-5 senior, Redford CC: Enjoyed a banner senior year after missing six weeks the previous season with a broken hand.

The CC swingman racked up a total of 580 points for a scoring average of 23.2 per game, tallying a season-game high of 36 against Catholic League Central Division champion University of Detroit-Jesuit.

The All-Catholic League pick shot 42.8 percent from the floor and 82 percent from the free throw line. He also led CC in

rebounding with an average of 10.2 per game.

"Brian had a knack to make the other four players up," CC coach Bernie Holowicki said. "He's a very unselfish player. I think he's a big-time player."

Paluk, an honor student, has not yet committed to a college.

He may pursue baseball (a pitcher), but has received basketball feelers from Toledo, Western Michigan, Grand Valley, Saginaw Valley and Wayne State.

Randy Whitfield, 6-7 senior, Borgess: Recently committed to Kent State University after averaging 16.7 points and 11.5 rebounds this season for the Spartans.

He was voted All-Catholic League and All-State Class C in the Detroit News.

Whitfield, who also visited Ball State, shot 65 percent from the floor.

"He really developed into a fine high school player," Borgess coach Glen Donahue said. "In college he should be an outstanding post player."

"He improved right from our first practice. He's a strong rebounder and a good competitor."

James Head, 6-8 junior, Plymouth: The Rocks' co-captain tallied 369 total points for a 14.0 per game average.

He shot 51 percent from the floor (115 for 224) and 72 percent from the free throw line (94 for 131). Head also hit 33 percent from three-point range.

Head showed versatility by averaging 10.4 rebounds, four assists and three steals per game. He also made 57 blocks on the year.

"James was our go-to-guy at crunch time," Salem coach Bob Brodie said. "He could go from point-guard to post player. Whenever we needed him the most, that's where he played."

Head was also voted first All-Western Lakes Activities Association, while making second team All-Suburban (Detroit Free Press) and All-Metro West (Detroit News).

Charles Smith, 6-3 junior, Borgess: Came to Bishop Borgess as a transfer when Redford St. Mary's of Detroit closed its doors.

In his first season with the Spartans, Smith led the team with a 17.6 scoring average while shooting 61 percent from the floor.

Smith showed the ability to score inside and outside.

"Charles is just a complete player," Borgess coach Glen Donahue said. "He's a good with the ball, both shooting and passing."

"He's just an outstanding prospect." Smith also earned All-State honorable mention (Class C) in both the Free Press and News.

Mike Slone, 6-4 senior, Plymouth: The team co-captain led the Rocks in scoring, totaling 483 points for a 19.0 per game average.

He shot 55 percent from the field (119 for 216) and 35 percent from three-point land (58 for 177). Slone holds the Rocks' single-season school record for three-pointers made. He was a 69 percent free throw shooter, and averaged four rebounds and three steals per game.

"He's one of the best pure shooters I've ever coached," Salem coach Bob Brodie said. "He was a threat anywhere on the floor."

"For his size, he did a good job at the guard position all year long."

The All-Western Lakes pick is headed for Madonna University.

Perry Robinson, 6-5 junior, Borgess: The most aggressive of the Borgess trio, Robinson showed marked improvement during the season, finishing with a 13.4 scoring average to go along with nine rebounds per game.

"Perry's such a strong kid," Borgess coach Glen Donahue said. "But he combines that with good speed and quickness for his size."

"He's got a lot of basketball ability."

Melton Stoudemire, 6-1 senior, Huron Valley: Led Observerland in scoring with a school-record 568 points for a 27.1 per game average.

Stoudemire, the team's tallest player, also averaged 13.9 rebounds per game. He possesses a 34-inch vertical jump.

Stoudemire holds Huron Valley's single season school record for total steals (98), along with career marks in scoring (1,600 points), rebounds (557), steals (265) and assists (245).

"Melton improved his outside shooting, but his biggest asset was his leadership," Huron Valley coach Dave Kolander said. "He took that role on his shoulders."

"A lot of games this season we were behind at halftime, but he helped us come back and that allowed us to finish third in our league (Michigan Independent)."

As a junior, Stoudemire led the Hawks to a Class D district crown.

### 1992-93 ALL-AREA All-OBSERVER BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

#### FIRST TEAM

Brian Paluk . . . . . Redford CC  
Randy Whitfield . . . . . Borgess  
James Head . . . . . Plymouth  
Charles Smith . . . . . Bishop Borgess  
Mike Slone . . . . . Plymouth  
Perry Robinson . . . . . Borgess  
Melton Stoudemire . . . . . Huron Valley

#### SECOND TEAM

Ken Taylor . . . . . Westland Glenn  
Brandon Slone . . . . . Plymouth  
Antonio Dodd . . . . . Wayne Memorial  
Keye Smith . . . . . Farm. Harrison  
Tony Gola . . . . . Westland Glenn  
Bruce Calhoun . . . . . Wayne Memorial  
Derran Gaskewille . . . . . Redford CC

#### THIRD TEAM

Calvin Pruitt . . . . . Farm. Harrison  
Mark Kaleric . . . . . Livonia  
Der Collins . . . . . Redford Union  
Adam Roy . . . . . Liv. Stevenson  
Paul Kovachik . . . . . Liv. Franklin  
Owen Cooley . . . . . Plymouth  
Scott Manser . . . . . Farmington  
John Pennala . . . . . Farmington

#### COACH OF YEAR

Bernie Holowicki . . . . . Redford CC

#### HONORABLE MENTION

Plymouth: Brian Jensen, Todd Forbes, Wayne Memorial: Gerald Adams, Der Collins, Andre Greves, Redford Bishop Borgess: Robert Ribby, Redford: Carlisle, Gastros, Andy Kummer, Andy Skarabara, Jeff Quitt, Farmington: Hartman, Jeremy Teachman, Ryan Carl, Don Bryan, Westland: John Glenn, Aaron Scheller, Kevin Claypool, Plymouth: Charles Matt Pappas, 3rd President, Ryan Witten, Livonia: Charlesville, Mark Struble, John Kalk, Livonia: Francisco Clemente, Harvett, Greg Maple, Livonia: Charles, Mark Rutherford, Drew Jordan, Farmington: Brian Fair, Stanley Lewis, Farmington: Doug Toole, Evan Ellis, Redford: Thurman, Jeff Larson, Matt Webster, Livonia: Scott, Redford: Dallas Doug Gola, David Marquet, Garden City: Roby Shew, Chad Perley, Redford: St. Agathe, Shanon Roby, Livonia: High Westland: Phil Spolack, Westland: Huron Valley: Lathrop, Doug Harrier, Plymouth: Lakeshore Academy: Jason Neal.



JIM JACOBFIELD/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Top gun: Charles Smith, a junior, led Redford Bishop Borgess in scoring this season, averaging 17 points per game.

Pre-Season  
**AIR CONDITIONING**  
UP TO  
**REBATE \$700**  
...BONUS...  
Night Set Back Thermostat  
with all orders

Installed For as low as  
**\$1195**

TRU TEMP  
Heating & Cooling, Inc.  
Garden City  
427-6612  
1-800-956-TEMP

Carrier Model 34TR011  
"We're the inside guys"

**FREE TOWING**

American Transmission  
2013 Grand River  
Farmington Hills • 478-0311

**STOP WORRYING**  
Come to American for a  
**NO CHARGE TRANSMISSION CHECK**

OPEN MON. THRU SAT. 8 A.M.-6 P.M.

WITH AD EXPIRES 4-30-93  
See Manager for Details

**GO CARTS • MINI BIKES**

FROM  
MOPEES ..... \$695  
CARTS ..... \$439<sup>95</sup>  
1 & 2 Seater

MINI BIKES ..... \$419<sup>95</sup>  
ATV CARTS ..... \$729<sup>95</sup>  
POLARIS ATVs SAVE \$100<sup>00</sup>

**LaBARON'S** 313-585-3535  
12" DEQUINORE • TROY • S OF 15 MILE

**THE CARRIER CASH CRAZE!**

UP TO \$700 CASH BACK

Now when you buy a Carrier "Infinity" high-efficiency gas furnace, a Carrier 38TR 12SEER air conditioner, air cleaner, and humidifier, you'll receive as much as \$400 cash back from Carrier. Plus up to \$300 from local utility companies.

No matter what the weather, you'll enjoy year-round comfort—and instant savings—with a Carrier system. Plus, rest assured your equipment is covered by a complete 10 year parts warranty.

COMPLETE 10 YEAR PARTS WARRANTY

Carrier  
LEADERSHIP DEALER

**BERGSTROM'S**  
plumbing • heating • cooling  
30633 Schoolcraft, Livonia  
(between Harrison & Middlebelt)  
522-1350

**THE Carrier CASH CRAZE!**

UP TO \$700 CASH BACK AND SIX MONTHS SAME AS CASH

Now, when you buy a Carrier 58VUA "Infinity" high-efficiency gas furnace and a Carrier 38TR 12 SEER air conditioner you'll receive as much as \$400 cash back from Carrier and \$300 if Michigan is your gas utility. No matter what the weather, you'll enjoy year-round comfort and instant savings with a Carrier system. Plus, rest assured your equipment is covered by a complete 10 year parts warranty.

Carrier  
We're The Inside Guys.

**ROLAND BROTHERS**  
HEATING & COOLING  
"The Furnace Man"  
LIVONIA WAYNE OTHER AREAS  
532-0360 722-2253 722-2254

\*Apt based on 17.88%  
No annual fees.  
No maintenance fees.  
Offer valid to qualified credit applicants. Contact us for more details.