



Maxann Reese
Borgess

Adriane Bryant
Borgess

Sarah Warnke
Canton

Yolanda Holt
Wayne

1st-team All-Area

Shellye Sills
Salem

Jamie Faber
Garden City

Tracy Rynkiewicz
Franklin

Fred Thomann
Coach of Year

4 area cagers make All-Observer 2nd, 3rd teams

By BRAD ENONS
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Salem certainly went toe-to-toe with some of the state's heavyweights in girls basketball this season.

The Rocks suffered two close setbacks in the season-ending Western Lakes Activities Association playoffs, but regrouped in the state tournament to win the tough Northville district before being ousted in the regional final by Birmingham Marian.

Salem's 17-7 season included one of the state's roughest schedules.

The Rocks' losses were far from embarrassing. To the contrary, they went up against state Class A champion Flint Northern, a respectable 46-40 loss; Class A runner-up Walled Lake Central, state quarterfinalist Ann Arbor Pioneer, and don't forget two other solid league rivals, Plymouth Canton and Northville.

For his efforts, coach Fred Thomann has been selected Observerland Coach of the Year. The former Michigan State captain has guided the Lady Rocks to an impressive 247-77 record in 13 seasons, including three Final Four berths and two final eight spots.

"We played in some great games this year and we made a nice tourney run," Thomann said. "The other thing that was gratifying was watching the growth of our underclassmen. It was nice to see how they developed and

stepped up to the next level of competition."

The future appears bright for the Rocks, who return three starters for 1996.

"We'll be a tall, rangy, athletic and quick team next year," Thomann said.

Introducing the 1995 All-Area Girls Basketball team:

Maxann Reese, senior guard, Redford Bishop Borgess: The Michigan State University signee set career records at Borgess for points (1,553), field goals (655), field goals attempted (1,389), three-point field goals (150), three-point field goals attempted (359) and games played (100).

Michigan's Miss Basketball averaged 14.5 points, 6.3 rebounds, 4.5 assists and 4.2 steals per game as a senior — numbers that are remarkably similar to her career averages.

Reese averaged 14.9 points, 5.8 rebounds, 4.3 assists and 4.1 steals throughout a career marked by consistency.

"She loves basketball more than anything and her love for the game has been a great asset for her teammates," coach Dave Mann said. "It was always hard to talk with her about setting goals because she was already at the gym."

Adriane Bryant, senior guard, Redford Bishop Borgess: The University of Toledo signee was the setting force of the Spartans, caring more about setting up her teammates for baskets than herself. She leaves with career records for free throws made (224) and attempted (362) and assists (543).

Bryant averaged 8.1 points per game as a senior, one below her career mark. She averaged 6.1 assists and 4.6 steals per game as a senior.

She has always been in charge of herself, and our team, starting at the point for four years and serving as co-cap-

tain (with LaZandra White) for two," Mann said. "She always took responsibility for losses, even when they weren't her fault. She would step forward and challenge herself and her teammates in team meetings."

The Spartans were 94-12 during the four years they were led by Bryant and Reese.

"For four years, they made me real smart," Mann said.

Sarah Warnke, senior center, Plymouth Canton: The three-year varsity starter led the Chiefs with 15.4 points

and 6.1 rebounds per game. She shot 48 percent from the field (114-238) and 67 percent at the free throw line (95-141). Her free throw shooting improved dramatically as she made only 50 percent of her attempts (62-123) during her junior year.

The Chiefs won 80 percent of their games (50-14) during Warnke's career. She averaged 10.5 points and 6.6 rebounds per game in her career.

"Sarah is a hard worker that improved in every phase of the game over the last four years," coach Bob Blom said. "Her dedication helped her become an out-

standing post player who was difficult to guard because of her strength, speed and quickness. As a co-captain, her leadership on and off the court helped her team develop and achieve at a very high level."

Yolanda Holt, junior guard, Wayne: The 5-foot-10 guard averaged 18 points and eight rebounds per game for the Zebras, who finished 10-7 overall. The first-team All-Mega Conference Red Division selection will be a highly-recruited player entering her senior year.

"Yolanda's got a lot of big-time schools looking at her," Wayne coach Chuck Henry said. "They like her size as a guard and her skill level."

"She can shoot from the perimeter, she's good off the dribble and she can post up. She's agile and coordinated for her size. Her versatility as an inside and outside player is a plus."

Holt, who carries a 3.0 grade-point average, played her first year for state Class C champion Bishop Borgess before transferring to Wayne in 1994 where she set out most of this season.

"I expect much of the same from her next year," Henry said. "I'd like to see her develop more strength and stamina. I'm trying to get her to go out for track this spring."

Shellye Sills, senior center, Plymouth Canton: A three-year varsity player, the 6-foot Sills averaged just under 15 points and 8.8 rebounds per game. She shot 47 percent from the floor and 63 percent from the free throw line.

The Salem center made All-Western Division in the WLA and was a two-time All-Conference pick.

"Shellye jumps well, is quick and powerful, and fundamentally pretty solid," Salem coach Fred Thomann said. "She has a great first step and battled bigger players extremely well. She plays excellent defense and made shots at crucial times of the game that allowed just some wins some games."

"Shellye was extremely steady game-in and game-out."

Sills, a first-team All-Observer volleyball pick, carries a 3.3 grade-point average and is considering the University of Toledo and Ohio State.

Jamie Faber, senior guard, Garden City: The shooting guard scored 17.7 points per game, setting a school single-season scoring mark with 424 points. She graduates as the Cougars career scoring leader (822 points).

Faber led the Cougars this year with 40 blocked shots and was second in rebounding average with seven per game. She shot 48.8 percent from the field, which is just shy of the school single-season record, and averaged four steals per game.

Sagehen Valley, University of Michigan-Dearborn and Madonna are among the schools showing interest in the three-year letterwinner who has a 3.2 grade point average and scored 23 on her ACT test.

"Jamie was a player that was probably our inspiration throughout the year," coach Marshall Henry said. "She was always going full tilt, the girl we counted on to carry us through with speed, quickness, jumping and scoring ability. She didn't play AAU ball because she plays soccer, but she is an example of what you work hard and dedicate yourself to improving. She is probably the first girl I've coached that has a 'legitimate pull-up boy-type' jump shot."

Tracy Rynkiewicz, senior guard, Livonia Franklin: The senior guard had the best scoring average in Observerland, finishing at 21.8 points per game. She averaged 5.1 rebounds per game and led the Patriots with 4.4 steals per game.

Rynkiewicz, who was a third-team selection a year ago, finished with 457 points this season and 1,318 for her career (second only to Western Kentucky's Dawn Warner).

She was an All-Western Division pick in the Western Lakes Activities Association. "Tracy is an excellent basketball player," coach Gary Warner said.

ALL-AREA GIRLS' BASKETBALL

1995 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

FIRST TEAM

Maxann Reese, Sr., Bishop Borgess
Adriane Bryant, Sr., Bishop Borgess
Sarah Warnke, Sr., Plymouth Canton
Yolanda Holt, Jr., Wayne
Shellye Sills, Sr., Plymouth Canton
Jamie Faber, Sr., Garden City
Tracy Rynkiewicz, Sr., Livonia Franklin

SECOND TEAM

Heather Wiggins, Sr., Redford
Amanda Abraham, Sr., Plymouth Canton
Alyssa Smith, Sr., Bishop Borgess
Came Kay, Sr., Northville
Kelli Forester, Sr., Plymouth Canton
Christie Glover, Sr., Garden City
Amanda Porter, Sr., Farmington

THIRD TEAM

Becky Vachon, Sr., Plymouth Canton
Erin LeGage, Sr., Livonia
LaZandra White, Sr., Bishop Borgess
Erica Greene, Sr., Farmington
Mary Jane Vachon, Jr., Farmington
Rae Barge, Jr., Wayne
Lauren Wright, Sr., Redford Union
Fred Thomann, Sr., Plymouth Salem

HONORABLE MENTION

Farmington Hills: Marcy Keisha Brooks, Jessie Duvon, Nadia Grooms; Farmington Hills: Marloni Amy Robe, Amy Jenkins, Cecily Dowell; Farmington Hills: Washbrook, Bern Haisold; North Farmington: Kellee Fournier, Tonia Traczky, Melissa Grant; Plymouth Salem: Nicole VanHecke, Andrea Pivetti, Angela Simon; Plymouth Canton: Melissa Martoff, Mary Anderson, Noelle Okunobus; Plymouth Canton: Lisa Erickson, Kristine Zedon; Plymouth Canton: Gretchen Dorsch, Ted Thor, Redford Union: Kase Mathews, Jerry Szak, Jascha Kert; Redford Union: Jan Lucas, Brandi Malevsky, Kristy McDonald; Redford Bishop Borgess: Carolee Friery, Karen Merchant; Garden City: Stephanie Smith, Jennifer Tatol, Kelly Shanks; Redford St. Agatha: John Tachler, Michael LaBarre; Westland: Jerry Twittemeyer, Janet Twittemeyer, Joy Terman, Katie O'Neil; Westland: Sharon Valley Lohrman; Michiana: Ruth; Wayne: Melinda; Sandy Jackson, Tonya Crawford; Westland: John Glantz; Rochelle Harris, Arja Potts, Jani Galk; Livonia: Cherrill; Jesse Jenkins, Alicia Deconen; Livonia: Franklin: Kellee Mah, Annee Parrett; Livonia: Stevenson: Stacy Nichols, Jenny Day, Katie Downum; Livonia: Ladywood: Kathy Dankert, Katie Law, Stephanie Kustly.

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