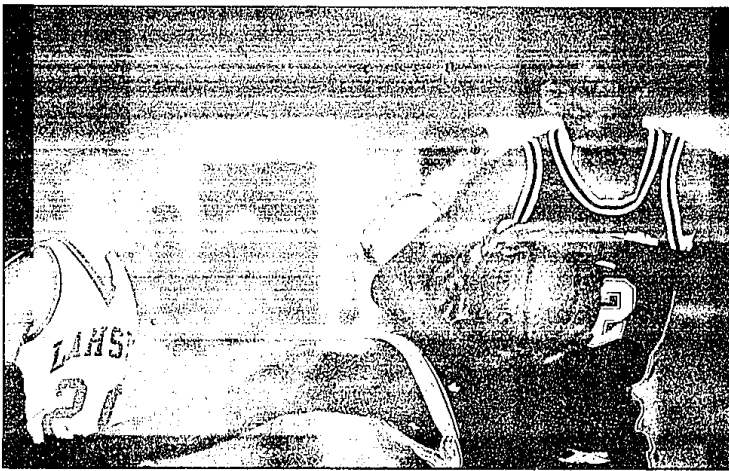


**Hoops final:** Farmington senior Garlin Gilchrist wraps up a rebound for the Falcons in the final game of the district tournament at West Bloomfield Friday. Lahser beat Farmington, 48-47.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRIGGS LEMLEY

## Clarenceville season ends in 63-39 setback

By RICHARD L. SHOOK  
STAFF WRITER

For 16 minutes, Coach Charles Albright thought he was having flashbacks to Halloween.

Underdog Clarenceville threw a scare into Albright's Redford Bishop Griggs team for a half Wednesday.

The Trojans actually led at halftime, 22-21. But the masquerade party was over when Borgess (11-12) put up a 21-4 third quarter and rolled on to a 63-39 victory. The host Spartans won the championship Friday.

"I was just talking with my coaches," Albright said, "and we were saying that it might have been a good thing that it happened that way."

"The players will realize it's not going to be a cakewalk. My kids were surprised. They just assumed they (Trojans) weren't going to come to play."

If the Trojans (14-8) had done anything at the free throw line in the first half (they were 0-for-8) they might have thrown more than a scare into the Spartans.

Clarenceville made nine turnovers in the first quarter and only got off seven shots in eight minutes of play (19 for Borgess) — yet trailed only 12-10 after the first eight minutes.

The Trojans were bothered by the Spartans full-court pressure but once they did get the ball up court they were fearless and relentless in attacking the basket. All five baskets were layups or putbacks.

"Everything we did worked," Clarenceville coach Bill Dyer

said. "But we missed a lot of shots in the second half."

"Free throws hurt us, too. I think we beat ourselves. From the final score, some people are not going to understand that, but that's the way I feel."

Clarenceville started the second half with a back-door inbound play that produced a layup, but it was nullified because of a traveling call.

"I think that kind of took the wind out of our sails," Dyer said. Borgess went down and made two free throws to take the lead and never gave it up again. It's press produced four turnovers on Clarenceville's next five possessions and a 30-22 lead.

"We knew what they were going to run," Dyer said, "and we can play some defense. We made it pretty scary for a while."

Corey McFendry did a nice job defensively on Donald Dillaker, but the senior guard, who led all scorers with 19 points, responded extremely well by not forcing his shots. In the second half he was especially effective passing to teammates for easy layups.

Khalil Mims scored 10 points for Borgess while Kendall Jones had eight. Scott Wion scored 10 to lead Clarenceville. Joe Keough and Rick Burack each had eight.

On Monday, Clarenceville posted Dearborn Henry Ford Academy, 81-58, in a foul-plagued game. Clarenceville shot 49 free throws, making 32.

Burack led the Trojans with 28 points; Wion scored 14 and Keough 13.

## Falcons from page B1

situation." A 0-0 run on baskets, by Finland, David Kemaley and Mathis tied the score at 41, but Milus and Whitfield answered with dunks to give the Falcons a four-point lead with 2:46 remaining. Another Finland free throw made it 46-42.

"We stayed with man and probably should have gone zone," Mikel said. "We didn't want to give them any open shots on the perimeter, but they ended up dumping it inside."

Lahser played well in the first half, leading by eight late, while Farmington seemed to struggle. But the Falcons got within two at halftime, 23-21, as Milus (four) and Whitfield combined for the final six points.

"We just didn't seem to get in sync," Mikel said. "We were hoping to get up on Lahser and have them play catchup. We never did and weren't able to use some strategy."

"We would've liked to use more zone but were afraid to. We stayed with man and, for the most part, the kids did a good job."

The Falcons turned it around in the third quarter, hitting seven of nine shots (78 percent) and outscoring the Knights, 17-7. Matt Mikel had 11 points, including three triples, in that period.

"I felt pretty good when we were up by eight," Mikel said. "We were playing better and had momentum going our way. To their credit, (the Knights) came back and played us tough."

"In a game like that, whoever gets the breaks at the end is going to end up winning the game. The kid hit the foul shot; that was a big-time free throw."

"When we got down 10, we took a timeout and said we knew we were going to face some adversity," Drogosch said. "We said 'Let's put that behind us,' and the kids responded very well."

Drogosch credited his assis-

tant coaches for talking him into playing man-to-man defense the whole game.

"When we left here Wednesday, I was thinking we had to play zone, because they're too athletic," he said. "But I thought their legs looked a little tired, because they played three games this week."

The last time the Knights, Division 3 champions in the Oakland Activities Association, won league and district titles in

the same year was 1976.

"Other years we lost to West Bloomfield in the first round," Cassar said. "After we got by Harrison, we know we had a chance."

"After the last four years, I think we turned a lot of peoples' heads this year. We played Lathrup and Groves this year, and I think that's a very winnable game."

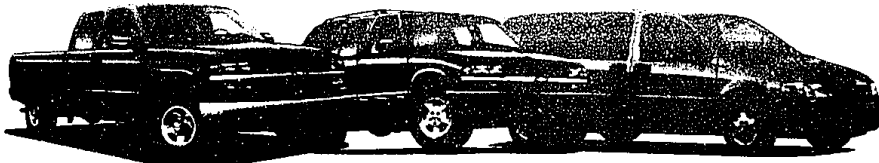
"We're playing our best basketball of the year," Drogosch

said, "and we have a legitimate shot at the regional, which is something Lahser has never done."

Lahser shot 46 percent (18-of-39) from the floor and made nine of 13 free throws. Farmington, which set a school record for single-season victories, was 18-of-45 shooting field goals for 40 percent and was 7-of-10 at the line.

"It's a tough way to lose, but it's been a good season when you look back on it," Mikel said.

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## Groves rallies in 2nd half to top Oak Park

Southfield-Lathrup outscored Berkley in the first three quarters and rolled to a 68-61 victory Friday over Berkley at Birmingham Groves.

The Chargers were led by Eddie Ward who had 16 points. Jamal Drogosch registered 12 points and Ken Moore added 10. Berkley's leading scorers were Phil Watts and Byron Copeland with 18 points each.

**GROVES 70, OAK PARK 67:** Groves rallied from a 23-point third-quarter deficit to defeat Oak Park in this district semifinal game Friday.

The Falcons, fresh off an upset in a first-round game over Brother Rice on Tuesday, outscored Oak Park 44-27 in the second half to take a three-game winning streak into Saturday's district championship game against Lathrup.

Groves trailed 40-25 at halftime and Oak Park nixed the advantage to 23 points early in the third quarter. Groves coach Bill Norton instructed his players to get the ball inside to Scott Bridgewater. The move paid off as Bridgewater finished with a season-high 39 points and 17 rebounds.

Nate Kuzman added 11 points, and Marion Burt, who netted 44 points in Groves' regular-season triumph over Oak Park, finished with eight points.

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