

FULL OF HIGHLIGHTS

Both the varsity and JV girls basketball teams finish with winning records and many accomplishments

The varsity girls basketball season was one full of highlights. The team won ten games in a

row in taking the district title over defending Division II state champ Dayton Dunbar, before losing in the regional semi-finals. They compiled a 19-6 record, going 11-3 in the Greater Miami Conference. For the first time, they beat league rival Milford on their home court, and defeated Lakotata three times, including a first-ever win at their gym.

"The way the players grew, matured, and really became a team was the biggest highlight," said Coach Steve Imhoff. The team relied on leadership from their three seniors, Becky Beeson, Heather Hoag, and Tracey Greggs.

The "big three" players in scoring and in rebounding were juniors Alison Cohen and Amy Scalcucci and sophomore Mandy Hester. Cohen received first-team All-GMC honors, Scalcucci received second team, and Hester got honorable mention. "All of the players contributed in every game they played, with good ball handling and free throw shooting," said Imhoff.

In six of their ten straight wins, the team held their opponent to under 40. In the tournament, they beat Ursuline, Amelia, and in an overtime, come from behind win, Lakota. They won districts by beating Dayton Dunbar, but were beaten by Milford in their third match-up of the season.

"We had very nice fan support in the post-season," said Imhoff. The day of their big Milford win, students found every floor in the school adorned with feet that said "MTM" (March To Milford).

Imhoff commented, "Next year we hope to give our fans even more to cheer about."

The girls junior varsity basketball team

ended its season with a 17-3 record, the best record in girls JV basketball history. They also finished first in the GMC with a 13-1 record. Coach Paula Hayden attributed the teams' success to the ability to adjust to every game and the fundamental abilities of all the members on the team.

Hayden said that finishing first was not one of the team goals because they did not want to place extra pressure on themselves. "Everyone works to win a championship," said Hayden, "but you have to be realistic. By the middle of the season, we realized we could win it."

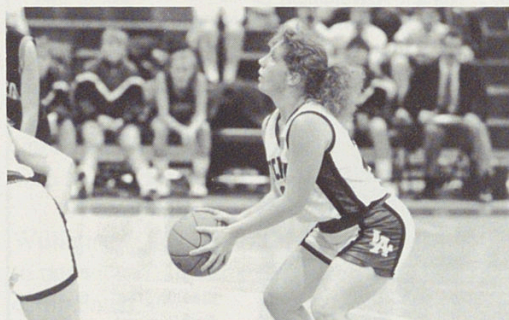
Forward Shannon Adams, leading scorer and rebounder, agreed with Hayden about the turning point of the season. "When we beat Hamilton at Hamilton, we all knew that we could win a championship."

"At the beginning of the year, the full court defense gave us a lot of problems," Hayden said, "but by the end of the season we were able to handle it. Also, the zone defense was really tough to handle, but we worked on it and it ended up not being a problem."

Hayden also felt that every girl was able to help each other. "If someone was not playing at their best," said Hayden, "someone else came through to pick it up. They are a team of role players, not individuals out for glory."

By the end of the season, everyone was feeling the effects of the number one spot. "Everyone was stressed out," said Adams, "practices were a lot harder because we knew we had to win all of our last four games. Our main goal was to beat Milford." The season came to a close with the girls winning their last 14 games.

by Michael Leichman, Stewart Mandel, and Scott Webb



After being fouled, Junior Emily McNutt concentrates on making her free throw in order to get more points to beat Lakota. Sycamore won 55-43.

Sophomore varsity player Mandy Hester dribbles down the court with a Lakota defender keeping in step with her during their defeat over Lakota.



Sophomore Jessie Good dribbles the ball as she waits for her teammates to set up a play against Lakota.

