



Mother of Sorrows teammates prepare to combat St. James in the contest that determines the girls' championship tournament. Mother of Sorrows won, 16-14, thus taking the title.

Text by Molly Judge  
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## CYO Teams Note 25 Growing Years

"The CYO gives kids who aren't good enough or don't have the capabilities to play for their high school teams or kids who really love basketball, the opportunity to become involved in a team sport," said Dave Burns, CYO coach for St. Margaret Mary's parish high school team.

For 25 years, the Catholic Youth Organization has given high school and elementary boys and recently elementary girls the chance to play as a team, develop good sportsmanship and to win trophies as well as friends. Currently, there are 40 high school, 49 elementary and seven girls' teams participating in the parish CYO basketball leagues.

According to Jack Quiggle, the community service director of CYO, team membership in the program is continually expanding. "I expect the boys' teams to grow into more parish teams in the coming years, but it's the girls' teams that I really expect to blossom," he said. Quiggle attributes this speculation to the rising interest in women's sports combined with future CYO plans to include the feminine teams in more tournaments.

Quiggle also noted that the parishes are becoming more involved with the CYO basketball program, despite the entry fee of \$175 for boys' teams and \$70 for girls'. "There is more participation on the youngsters' part and particularly on the part of the parish than ever before," he said.

Parishes supply their own coaches and enlist players from the neighborhood. Rochester area teams are grouped in four geographical divisions. This year, in the elementary boys league, Mt. Carmel won the Northeast division title (11-0); Holy Rosary, the Northwest (9-1); St. Louis,



"... I have noticed that the girls are more enthusiastic and play harder than the boys. In fact, I have never worked with a more enthusiastic group," says Tom Maira, the coach of these girls on the Mother of Sorrows elementary team.

Southeast (10-1); and St. Pius X, Southwest (10-1). In the high school league, St. Margaret Mary's captured the NE division (10-1); St. Charles Borromeo, NW (10-0); Good Shepherd A, SE (10-1); and Good Shepherd B, SW (10-0). In the elementary girls' division, Mother of Sorrows seized the top position, (6-1). Good Shepherd B won the Monroe County high school tournament that followed with Good Shepherd A in second place and St. Charles-Borromeo in third. The grade school winners were, in order, St. Louis, St. Ambrose and Holy Rosary. Mother of Sorrows girls took the tournament trophy by defeating St. James.

The Bishop's tournament is scheduled for March 8-9. Rochester will host the second-place elementary school winners while Elmira has the top teams, Auburn, number three, and Geneva the fourth.

High school boys enlist only the first and second division teams in the tournament, with the top teams competing in Rochester and the second placers in Elmira. Quiggle said that the tournament was so successful that he would like to plan a girls' Bishop's tournament for next year.

In an effort to give the winning coaches and the high team scorers recognition, Quiggle organized an all-star tournament, played last weekend.

"It's a great thing to bring together kids and see if they can form a winning team. It tests the coaches' skill and is really a good lesson in team work," Quiggle said.

According to Quiggle, the most amazing teams in the league are the girls. "They are really scrappers and interested in basketball. They play a good game. And participation is rapidly growing," he said. Tom Maira, who coaches the champion Mother of Sorrows team with his son, Michael, and assisted by secretary-treasurer Beth Iles, said, "I have coached the boys elementary team here for three years and the girls for two, and from my experience, I noticed that the girls are more enthusiastic and play harder than the boys. In fact, I have never worked with a more enthusiastic group. They have around 100 per cent attendance at every practice and game and show a great interest in basketball."

"There is such a great interest and fantastic participation on the part of the audience that I would like to see more girls' teams organized," he added.

Walter Gamble, assisted by David Wilson, coaches the boys' elementary team at Mt. Carmel. "When Mt. Carmel discontinued its school basketball team, the parish took over and joined the CYO league, since the kids wanted to play. The parish decided that I would be coach for their team, mainly because I work at the Lewis Street Recreation Center where the team practices and because of my experience with basketball," he said.

"The CYO gives these kids the opportunity to play ball and have fun. They are busy and they learn something constructive," Gamble added.

Quiggle agrees. "The CYO offers the kids something worthwhile to do. It keeps them off the streets and teaches them the rules of good sportsmanship. Interest in the CYO has increased and this is apparent when you see the phenomenal spectator participation. Kids and their parents work together to form a winning team. It's really great!" he said.