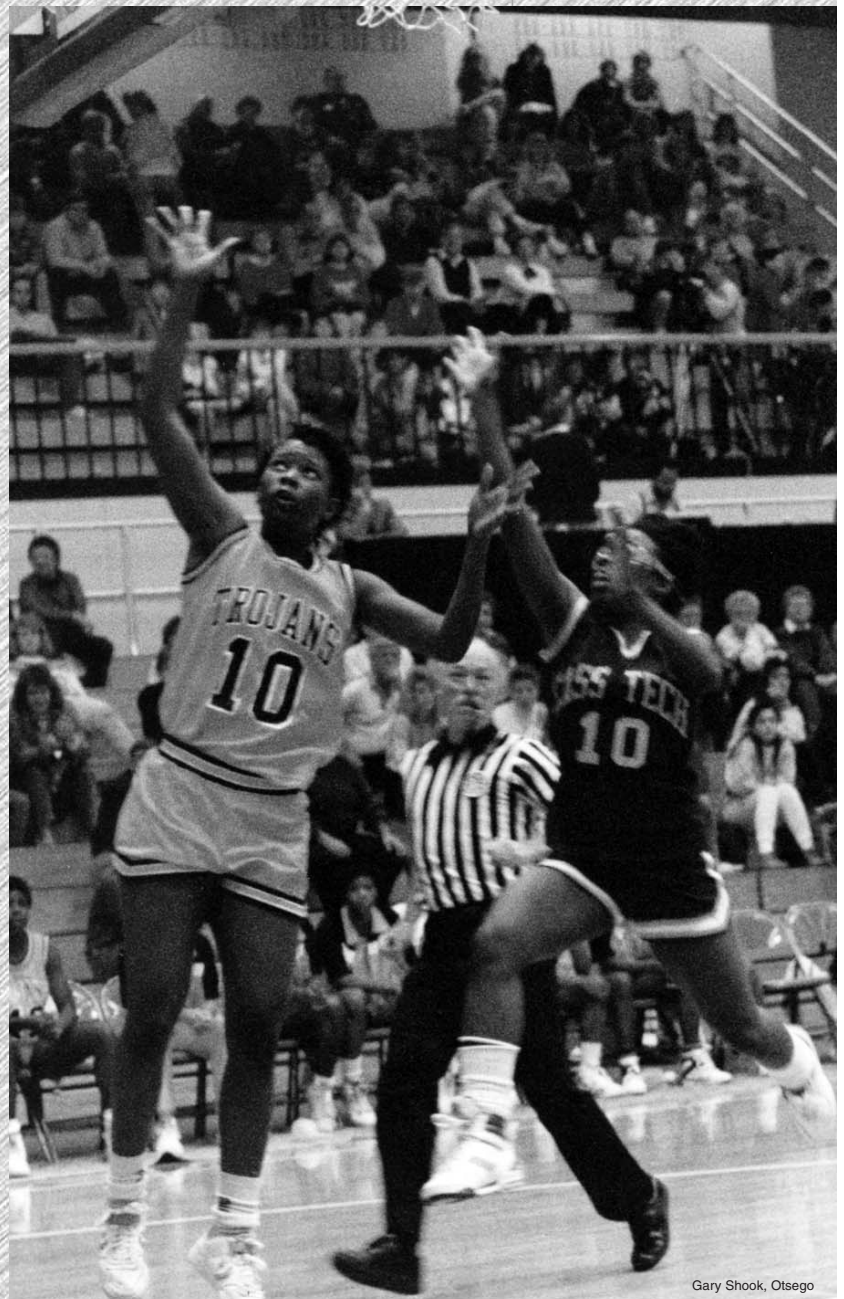


Finals Flashbacks

1977-78

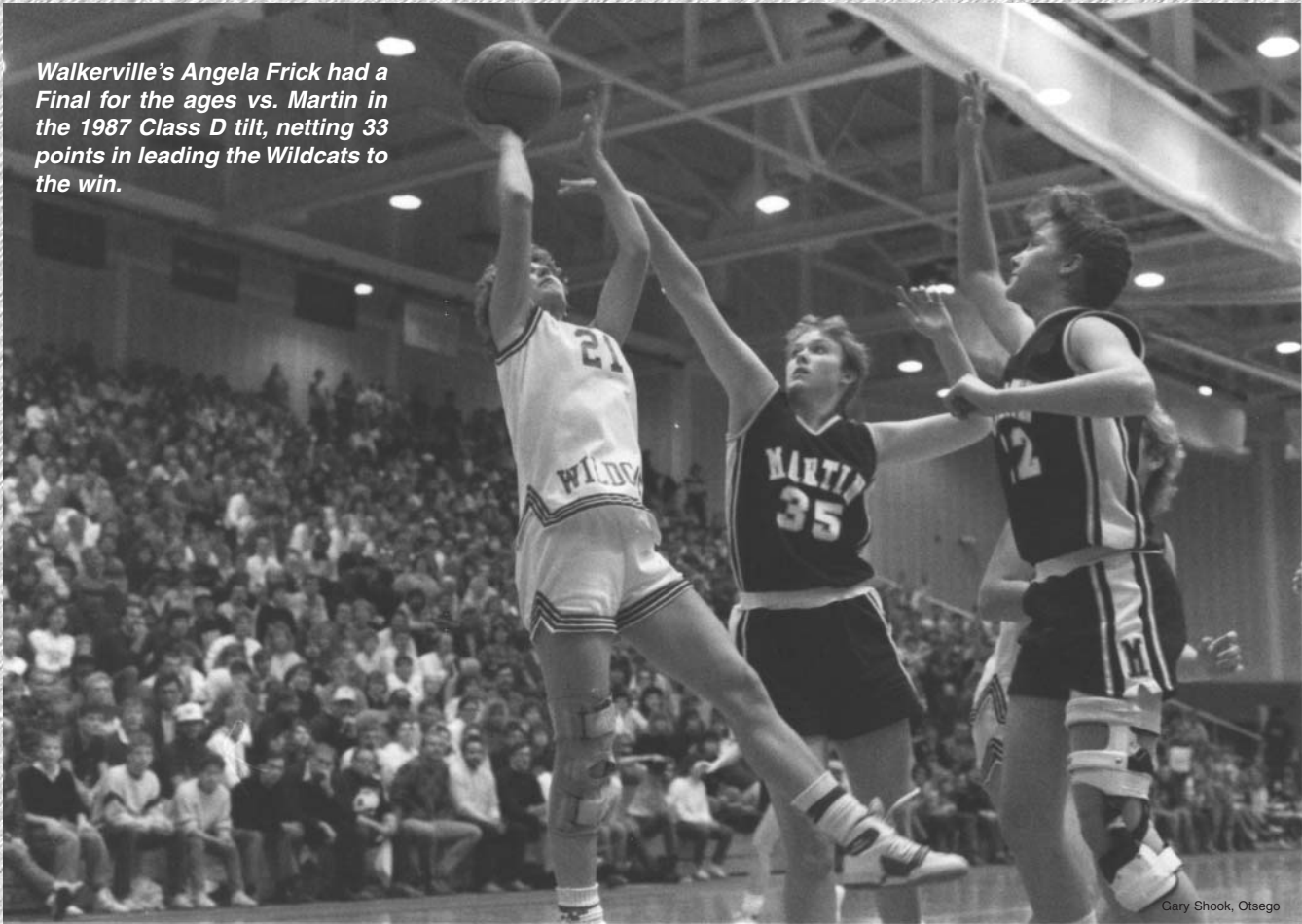
Farmington Our Lady of Mercy finally emerged victorious after seeing defeat in the Final in each of the three previous years. The Marlins rallied from 12 points back to defeat Detroit Mumford, 63-52, in the **Class A** finale at MSU's Jenison Fieldhouse in East Lansing. Mercy had defeated Mumford in the city championship contest earlier in the year. Trailing 27-15 with just over five minutes to play in the second quarter, the

Saginaw's Tanya Holliman beats Detroit Cass Tech's Kerri West on a break during the 1987 Class A title game, but Cass Tech got a comeback win.



Gary Shook, Otsego

Walkerville's Angela Frick had a Final for the ages vs. Martin in the 1987 Class D tilt, netting 33 points in leading the Wildcats to the win.



Gary Shook, Otsego

Marlins switched to the press, and cut the lead to three points, 34-31, at the half. All five of Mercy's players contributed points in the third quarter as the team grabbed a 47-42 lead entering the final frame. Katie McNamara ended the day with 21 points and 10 rebounds to lead all scorers. Mumford's Debra Walker totaled 18 points, while teammate Michelle Grier added 17 points.

Sophomore Terri Soullier netted six straight buckets in the second quarter and finished with a game-high 26 points, to lead Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher to a 50-31 victory over Okemos in **Class B**. Soullier finished with 12 rebounds and five steals on the evening. Dree Look, the only other player in double figures, led the Chiefs with 12 points.

Plagued with early fouls, Saginaw Carrollton bowed to DeWitt, 51-36, in the **Class C** contest, while Mid-Peninsula downed previously unbeaten North Adams, 56-40, in **Class D**. Both schools are being honored Saturday with the MHSAA's "Legends of the Game" Award (See page 30 for more details).

1987-88 Trailing by 20 with two minutes to play in the third quarter, Detroit Cass Tech, led by LaTonya Tate and Sheronda Mayo, rallied to defeat Saginaw, 52-51, in the **Class A** game at Grand Valley State in Allendale. The

Technicians held the defending champions scoreless over the final 4:16, then scored the last nine points to grab the title. Tate finished with 20 points, including the game-winning three-point field goal with 1:43 remaining. Mayo added 14 points, including eight in the fourth quarter. Sentaria Johnson finished with a career-high 20 points for the Trojans.

Flint Beecher defeated Frankenmuth, 49-34, for the **Class B** crown. Senior Marie Williams scored 17 points, including six in the third quarter, to bust open the game for the Lady Bucs. Poor shooting took its toll on the Eagles, which had knocked off Grand Rapids Christian in a Semifinal thriller. Frankenmuth hit only 29 percent of its shots in the first half, and 33 percent in the entire game. Lynn Pavlicek notched nine points for the Eagles.

Detroit St. Martin dePorres, led by the outstanding defense of guards Natasha Porter and Tuonisia Turner, grabbed its first-ever girls basketball title with a 73-50 thrashing of top-ranked St. Joseph Lake Michigan Catholic in **Class C**. Dana Joubert (first cousin to prep legend Antoine) led the Eagles with 27 points and 14 rebounds. Maureen Nelligan paced the Lakers with 19 points.

Angela Frick and the Walkerville Wildcats notched a 65-59 upset victory over top-ranked Martin in **Class D**. The Wildcats took advantage of the three-point shot to overcome Martin's height advantage. Frick scored 33 points,

including a trey that put the Wildcats ahead to stay, 50-47. Teammate Angie Bond hit 3-of-6 from beyond the three-point arc. Julie Davis tallied 31 for the Clippers.

1997-98

Grand Rapids Christian avenged a 1996 Semifinal

loss to Birmingham Marian with a 58-56 victory over those same Mustangs in **Class A** play at Central Michigan University's Rose Arena. A year previous, Christian's wild come-from-behind rally fell just short. This time, Brianne Gallert's lone field goal with 31 seconds to play gave Christian a 55-54 lead. Fouled on the shot, Gallert missed the free throw, but then added a pair of free throws with 28 seconds left to up the margin to three, 57-54. Mandy VanDenBosch sealed the win with a free throw with nine seconds remaining to give Christian its first MHSAA girls basketball crown. Jenny Newsone led the winners with 20 points, while guard Breean Walas paced Marian with 18 points.

Jennifer Thomas scored 15 points to lead Detroit Country Day to its second title in three years with a 41-35 win over Saginaw Swan Valley. Thomas pulled down 14



Gary Shook, Otsego

Detroit Country Day's Jennifer Thomas did it all in the 1997 Class B championship game with 15 points and 14 rebounds vs. Saginaw Swan Valley.



Gary Shook, Otsego

rebounds, allowing the Yellowjackets to hold Swan Valley to only three points in the third quarter, and overcome a 23-20 halftime deficit. Coach Frank Orlando upped his varsity coaching record to 301-75 with the win. One night earlier, he became the 22nd coach in state history to win at least 300 varsity games, with the team's 58-42 victory over Flint Powers Catholic.

Redford Bishop Borgess picked up its third MHSAA title in five years with a 54-21 thumping of Hancock in **Class C**. Karen Merchant led the victors with 16 points. Christina Anderson added 12 points. Elizabeth Pietila finished with eight for Hancock.

In **Class D**, Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher grabbed its first MHSAA girls cage title in 20 years with a 39-37 victory over Upper Peninsula entry Rapid River. Senior center Julie Becker provided the heroics with a lay-up with 15.5 seconds to play off a pass from Krista Falson. With a defense designed to stop her, Becker was held to eight points after scoring 24 in the Semifinals. Gallagher's 5-8 power forward Otema Ansong posted six points during an 8-0 run the knotted the game at 31, then added a pair of free throws to tie things up again at 37-37. She finished with a game-high 18 points and 10 rebounds. Andi Wilbee led Rapid River with 11 points and 10 rebounds.

Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher got the best of Rapid River in the 1997 Class D Final. The Lancers were aided by six key points from Otema Ansong (40) during a late 8-0 run.