

2004-05 MISS BASKETBALL AWARD WINNER: TIFFANIE SHIVES

By **MICK McCABE** FREE PRESS SPORTS WRITER

Tiffanie Shives was about to enter high school at Lansing Christian when her parents began receiving warnings from friends and coaches. The questions remained until the parents talked to Michigan State coach Joanne P. McCallie. "Tiffanie went to Michigan State's elite camp between eighth and ninth grade, and Coach McCallie addressed that," said her mother, Trudy. "Coach said if she was good enough, college coaches would find her." Not only did college coaches find Shives, so did other high school coaches, who elected her the 24th recipient of the Miss Basketball Award, which was presented Monday at the Free Press.

Shives became the first Miss Basketball from a Class D school since Julie Polakowski of Leland won the initial award in 1981. And like Polakowski, Shives is headed to MSU. Playing at a school with an enrollment of about 200 certainly didn't hurt Shives, who easily outdistanced the field. She received 110 of the 274 first-place votes and received 680 points. St. Johns' Jenny Poff, who also signed with MSU, was second with 434 points, and Carney-Nadeau's Carly Benson, who signed with Michigan, was third with 269.

Shives, a 5-foot-10 guard, is averaging 25.1 points heading into tonight's state quarterfinal against St. Joseph Michigan Lutheran. She holds the state record with 300 career three-point baskets, and she has scored 2,176 career points.

A player's accomplishments before her senior year often determine someone's candidacy for the Miss Basketball Award, and Shives had an outstanding junior season while leading Lansing Christian to the Class D state championship. She scored 32 points and hit nine of 16 three-point shots in a 66-33 semifinal victory over Rapid River, then scored 36 points and was 7-for-14 from three-point range in a 56-42 victory over defending champ Portland St. Patrick in the finals.

Last summer, Shives proved she belonged at the top of her class. She narrowly missed making the junior national team. "This is such a great honor because it means a Class D player can be the same caliber as a Class A player," Shives said. "It's about who knows you and if they have seen you. When I found out I was the front-runner I thought: 'Oh, great, more pressure.' But that's OK because I like pressure."



HEAD OF HER CLASS

Voting for the finalists for the Miss Basketball Award (points given on a 5-3-1 basis):

NO	PLAYER	SCHOOL	PTS
1.	Tiffanie Shives	Lansing Christian	680
2.	Jenny Poff	St. Johns	434
3.	Carly Benson	Carney- Nadeau	269
4.	Christine Spencer	Traverse City Central	230
5.	Lauren Aitch	Lansing Waverly	176
6.	Kristen Morris	Birm. Detroit Country Day	168
7.	Ashley Jones	Detroit King	167
8.	Teghan Thelen	Pewamo- Westphalia	156
9.	Marissa Thrower	Detroit Renaissance	99

AND THE WINNERS WERE ...

The 23 former winners of the Miss Basketball Award:

YEAR WINNER

1981	Julie Polakowski, Leland (Michigan State)
1982	Sue Tucker, Okemos (Michigan State)
1983	Michele Kruty, Manistee (Dayton)
1984	Emily Wagner, Livonia Ladywood (Stanford)
1985	Franthea Price, River Rouge (Iowa)
1986	Deadra Charles, Detroit DePorres (Tennessee)
1987	Dena Head, Plymouth Salem (Tennessee)
1988	Jennifer Shasky, Birmingham Marian (George Washington)
1989	Peggy Evans, Country Day (Tennessee/Ohio St.)
1990	Markita Aldridge, Detroit King (N.C.-Charlotte)
1991	Lisa Negri, Flint Powers (Ohio State)
1992	Erinn Reed, Saginaw (Iowa/Kansas)
1993	Sally Sedlar, Manistee (Toledo/Central Michigan)
1994	Kim Knuth, St. Joseph (Toledo)
1995	Maxann Reese, Redford Bishop Borgess (MSU)
1996	Deana Nolan, Flint Northern (Georgia)
1997	Aiysha Smith, Redford Bishop Borgess (St. Johns/LSU)
1998	Kristen Koetsier, Grandville (Western Michigan)
1999	Vicki Krapohl, Mt. Pleasant (Duke)
2000	Tabitha Pool, Ann Arbor Huron (Michigan)
2001	Liz Shimek, Maple City Glen Lake (MSU)
2002	Danielle Kamm, Saginaw Nouvel (Marquette)
2003	Krista Clement, St. Ignace (Michigan)

