

ALL STAR FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

Jose Vera, Hopkins

The 16th annual All-Star Basketball Festival was hosted by the Flint Powers Athletic Association for the second consecutive year. This is an annual event sponsored by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan.

In the Class A-B men's contest, the East nipped the West 114-111 in a great game of talent and skill. Arthur Norman III

(Kalamazoo Central) was named the MVP. The senior guard, poured in 25 points and grabbed nine rebounds. Reggie Hester (Jackson) also scored 17 points and added 6 rebounds. Others in double figures for the East were Mr. Basketball, Robert Traylor (Detroit Murray Wright), Julian Bonner (U of D Jesuit) and Brad Phillips (Sturgis), with 12, 11 and 10 points respectively.

For the West, Antonio Smith (Flint Northern) led his team with 19 points and 8 rebounds. Helping in the balanced scoring were J. P. Huntington (Grand Haven) with 14; Brian Montonati (Muskegon Orchard View) with 12 and Preston Murphy (Saginaw Nouvel Catholic Central), Morris Peterson (Flint Northwestern), Luke Lloyd (Flint Southwestern) all with 11 points each. Antonio Smith was selected MVP of his team.

In the women's Class A-B contest, the West, coached by Rick Bloodworth (St Joseph) lost an 86-71 margin to Mike Mack's (Muskegon Mona Shores) East squad. The West was led in scoring by Ebony Dickinson (Detroit Murray Wright) with 12 points, followed by Larecha Jones (Flint Northwestern) with 11 points. Kylie Martin, Mattawan's All-Stater and Miss Basketball candidate had 13 points, 8 rebounds and three assists and was chosen MVP of her West team.

For the East, Ann Marie Lemire (Frankenmuth) and Nicole Cushing (Pinckney) led all scorers with 18 points each and 11 and 9 rebounds respectively. The other player in double figures was Miss Basketball, Kim Knuth (St. Joseph) with 14 points. Lemire was selected as her team's MVP.

In the men's Class C-D game, Michigan-bound Albert White (Inkster) was selected as the MVP scoring 28 points for the West in a 122-97 victory. The West team coached by Gerald Racine (Ishpeming) took an early lead and led at half time 53-43 and continued its domination of the East team coached by Don Miller (Maple City Glen Lake). In addition to White, the West also featured 19, 15, 12 and 11 point performances by Western Michigan University-bound Brad VanTimmeren (Allendale), Leigh Kakaty (North Muskegon), Don Hepburn (Kingsley), and Matt Thornton (Centreville) respectively. The East was led by Jason Singleton (Southgate Aquinas) with 25 points, Derrick Nelson (Harper Woods Lutheran East) with 16, Chris Kreiner (Brown City) with 12 and Mike Hein (Reese) with 10. Singleton received the MVP award for his team.

In the Women's Class C-D game, the West, coached by Robert Vandenberg (Martin) defeated the West 77-64. The West squad was coached by Susan McAndrews (Marine City Cardinal Mooney). Michelle Johnston (Mio AuSable) led all scorers with 14 points including 11 in the second half. This is what the West needed in order to pull a "come from behind" victory. Johnston was selected as the MVP for the West. Sarah Sidebottom (Brown City) had 10 points. Vandenberg's pupil, Tracey Smith (Martin) added 9 points including a key trey in the first half to bring her West team withing striking distance.

The East had a balanced scoring attack. Julianne Grant (Grosse Pointe Woods University), Jenny Rommel (Sand Creek) and Emily McLoughlin (St. Joseph Lake Michigan Catholic) all had eight points. McLoughlin was selected as her teams MVP. Sarah Brzak (Ashley) and Liz Grunch (Charlevoix) both added 7 points.

Once again this year BCAM is thankful to the Flint Powers High School Athletic department, under the leadership of Doug Dibble and Kathy McGee for another GREAT and WELL ORGANIZED All Star Festival.