

**BASKETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN**  
**1997-98 MISS BASKETBALL BALLOTING**

<u>NAME - SCHOOL</u>		<u>5 PTS</u>	<u>3 PTS</u>	<u>1 PT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
<b>AIYSHA SMITH - Redford Bishop Borgess</b>	(145)	<b>725</b>	(22)	<b>66</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>818</b>
TAWANA McDONALD - Flint Northern	(42)	210	(68)	204	49	<b>463</b>
MILLI MARTINEZ - Imlay City	(47)	235	(24)	72	15	<b>322</b>
RAINA GOODLOW - Detroit Dominican	(24)	120	(47)	141	19	<b>280</b>
BRITTANYA DAY - Muskegon Heights (write-in)	(35)	175	( 4)	12	5	<b>192</b>
HEATHER OESTERLE - Mason	(20)	100	(22)	66	23	<b>189</b>
ALAYNE INGRAM - Lansing Waverly	(22)	110	( 9)	27	14	<b>151</b>
BREEAN WALAS - Birmingham Marian	(16)	80	(13)	39	29	<b>148</b>
RORY WENDT - Okemos	( 5)	25	(28)	84	27	<b>136</b>
LEIGH ANN DALTON - Kalkaska	( 8)	40	(21)	63	20	<b>123</b>
AMANDA ABRAHAM - Canton Plymouth Salem	(11)	55	(15)	45	14	<b>114</b>
LAUREN METAJ - Northville	( 5)	25	( 6)	18	14	<b>57</b>
AMANDA WOLKE - Stevensville Lakeshore	( 6)	30	( 5)	15	12	<b>57</b>
SARAH JUDD - Harper Woods Regina	( 6)	30	( 5)	15	9	<b>54</b>
ALICIA ROZAK - Sterling Heights	( 4)	20	( 7)	21	8	<b>49</b>

# Bishop Borgess star named Miss Basketball

DETROIT (AP) — Swimming's loss was basketball's gain when Aiysha Smith of Redford Bishop Borgess decided to pick a sport to pursue in high school.

"I still swim and I enjoy it, but I do most of my swimming during the off-season," said Smith, who was a Junior Olympic qualifier in the backstroke before she turned her attention to basketball and became the second Miss Basketball in three years from Bishop Borgess.

The Miss Basketball award is presented annually to the best senior girls basketball player in Michigan as selected in voting by members of the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan.

The 6-foot-1 Smith had a total of 818 points, including 145 first-place votes. Tawana McDonald of Flint Northern was second with 463 points and Milli Martinez of Imlay City was third with 322, followed by Raina Goodlow of Detroit Dominican (280) and Brittaina Day of Muskegon Heights (192).

Bishop Borgess coach Dave Mann called Smith "the best defensive player I've ever coached and that's quite a statement, considering the other kids we've had here.

"What sets Aiysha apart is that she can guard anybody on the floor. She has great technique and even at 6-1 has the quickness to defend guards. And she'll bang with the bigger kids inside, too. She did a good job defensively on both McDonald and Goodlow when we played their teams."

Smith said she enjoys playing defense, unlike many other top players who prefer the offensive part of the game.

"Defense just seems to come easier for me," she said. "I love defense. I think it's because when I first started playing I couldn't shoot at all, so I concentrated on defense."

So far this season Smith is averaging 10.6 points and 11.5 rebounds per game for Bishop Borgess, which will be playing in the Class C quarterfinals Tuesday.

"She doesn't have a high scoring average, but she has a high shooting percentage (51.9) and when she does score it has a huge impact on the game," Mann said. "When we beat Flint Northern earlier this year, she hit a couple of 3-pointers. Those were the only ones she had all game, but they changed the whole game. It forced their big player to come out and guard Aiysha and opened things up for us inside."

Smith was a teammate of Maxann Reese, who was Miss Basketball in 1995, her first two years at Bishop Borgess. Smith said she learned a lot from Reese and Adrienne Bryant, another member of the 1994 Class C state championship team.

"They taught me how to be tough," Smith said. "I was timid at first. Now I have a lot more confidence and Maxann and Adrienne helped me with that."

Mann said hard work was the reason Smith received the top award for Michigan's girls basketball players.

"I could tell from Day One that Maxann and Adrienne would be All-State caliber players, but I didn't see that potential in Aiysha from the start," Mann said. "She has improved steadily since her freshman season. Her biggest improvement came in ball-handling. She went from being strictly a post player as a freshman to being our backup point guard last year. This year we're deeper at guard, but we still have her handling the ball when the game's on the line."

Like many top players, Smith has the ability to raise the level of her teammates' play. Bishop Borgess has had four straight 20-win seasons and an overall record of 96-12 since Smith has been on the team. The Spartans have advanced to the state quarterfinals in each of Smith's four years on the squad.

St. John's, DePaul, Toledo, Cincinnati, Memphis and Eastern Michigan are among the colleges Smith is considering.