

MISS BASKETBALL

MAXANN REESE

Redford Bishop Borgess

Maxann Reese, who has signed with Michigan State, is the 15th recipient of the Miss Basketball award, given annually to the state's top senior by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan, in conjunction with the Detroit Free Press.

The voters had little doubt, Reese easily outdistanced the field, totaling 629 points. Stacey Thomas of Flint Southwestern was second with 395 and Muskegon Mona Shores' Jamie Ahlgren third with 282.

Reese won without overwhelming statistics. She is averaging 14.6 points, six rebounds and 4.5 assists this season.

"People would tell me: 'You have to do this; you have to score so many points,'" Reese said, "A lot of the other winners were averaging 20, 30 points a game. If that's what people voted on, then I wasn't going to win it.

"I just thought about being runner-up for the award. I wanted to be at least second. I know my stats weren't awesome.

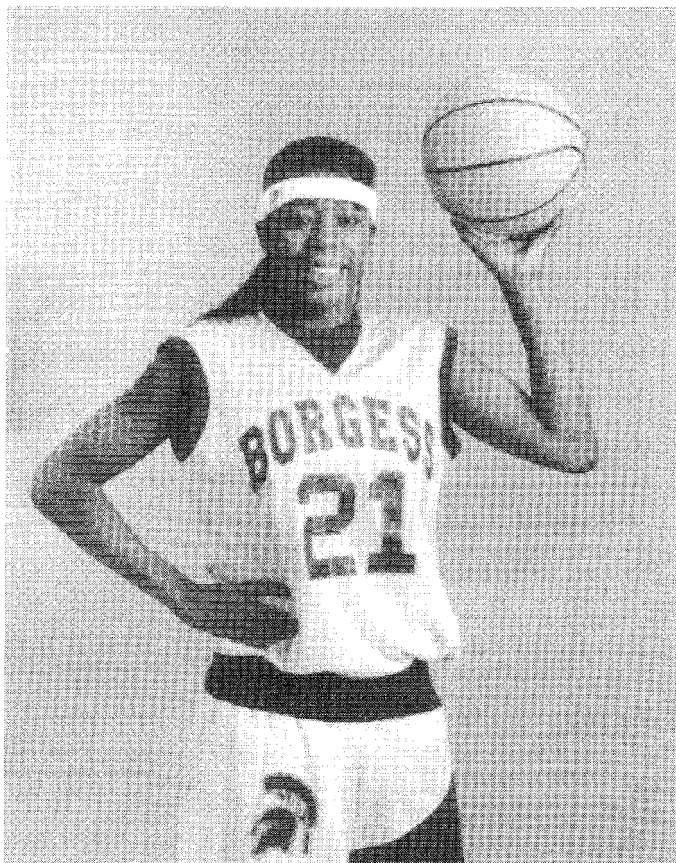
"I wasn't going to cry if I didn't win, but I would cry if I did."

Cry she did. She was emotional during the announcement as she thanked her parents, teammates, coaches and school officials.

Reese won Class C state titles in her sophomore and junior seasons but lost to Lansing Catholic Central in the Class C finals in December. "She might have been the state's all-time leading scorer if she went to a school where she was the showpiece," Coach Dave Mann said. "But she's just happy to play.

Maxann, a 5 foot-9 guard has committed to play at MSU, making her the first Miss basketball to sign with a state school since the 1982 winner, Okemos' Sue Tucker, signed with MSU.

(Information and photo courtesy of the Detroit Free Press & Mick McCabe)



MISS BASKETBALL VOTING

629	Maxann Reese	Redford Bishop Borgess
395	Stacey Thomas	Flint Southwestern
282	Jamie Ahlgren	Muskegon Mona Shores
206	Katy Kamp	Stevensville-Lakeshore
191	Kristen Rasmussen	Okemos
150	Karin Husbeck	Haslett
146	Shana Lynch	Fraser
109	Havilah Cunningham	Lansing Catholic Central
108	Kenisha Walker	Grand Rapids Creston
97	Rachel Guyton	Detroit Kettering
89	Katie Knake	Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes
62	Julie Henderson	Ann Arbor Huron