

C12 • SPORTS • STAR TRIBUNE • FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2015

preps girls' basketball state tournament

CLASS 1A QUARTERFINALS

Minnesota finds answer on the bench

STAFF REPORTS

Senior guard Leahm Jernak began the season in Minnesota's starting lineup before Vikings coach Chad Johnson switched her to a role coming off the bench.

"She has started as many times," Johnson said. "I think she is more relaxed coming off the bench. We always say she's going to make something happen when she gets in the game."

On Thursday, Jernak scored 12 points in the second half — 12 during an 181-run by the Vikings — to help Minnesota rally for a 60-49 victory over Browerville in the Class 1A quarterfinals at Mariucci Arena.

The Vikings (28-4), who have reached the championship game the past two years, trailed 49-40 with 13 minutes, 45 seconds remaining. The Vikings pulled within 31-46 with 1:22 left before Jernak, who was averaging only 3.5 points per game, made consecutive field goals to get the Vikings within 31-50.

With the score tied 52-52, Jernak hit back-to-back three-point field goals to give the Vikings 38-52 lead.

"The really big game here for us," Johnson said. "The Tigers (28-3) regrouped to take a 66-63 lead with 1:22 left. Meghan Tranter field goal with 55 seconds left and two free throws by Jernak with 15 seconds remaining gave the Vikings a 69-66 lead."

Poip Callahan made two free throws with four seconds left to get the Tigers within 69-68.

After Minnesota missed the front end of a layup, the Tigers missed a shot at the buzzer.

Emily Stinesness scored 23 to lead the Vikings; Jernak had 14.

Quinn Kitcher scored 25 and Crystal Pearson scored 18 to lead the Tigers.

PEARL RIVER
Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50. Push, push, push. Don't ever walk.

That's the credo Maranatha used in average 87 points per game this season and earned sixth consecutive state tournament berth.

Despite a cold shooting day, that approach worked again for the top-seeded Mustangs (28-3) in their victory over the Storm (23-6).

The Mustangs, who outscored opponents by an average of 27 points per game this year, jumped out to early 19-3 lead and appeared to be their way to another blowout, but the Storm went on a 17-0 run to pull within six points early in the second half.

"I was really con-



Minnesota super sub Leahm Jernak drove down the court, guarded by Browerville's Crystal Pearson in the second half Thursday.



Minnesota super sub Leahm Jernak, center, and Maranatha Christian's Leah Lee battled for the ball during the second half of the Class 1A girls' basketball quarterfinals.

Maranatha, which averages 87 points per game, eventually pulled away for a 65-50 victory.

my teammates to push harder and get back to (playing) up-tempo," Jernak said. "I just made sure to tell the Mustangs' trapping

CLASS 1A SEMIFINALS AT WILLIAMS ARENA

Minnesota (28-4) vs. Maranatha Christian (28-3) noon. Ada-Borup (20-16) vs. Lyle/Austin Pacelli (26-13) 2 p.m.

the half and the short jumper just before the buzzer. Ada-Borup went into the locker room with a slim 38-33 lead.

The halftime discussion for the Cougars' Turnovers, of course.

"It was definitely a point of contention," Smart said.

Their troubles quickly disappeared. Ada-Borup opened the second half with a 16-run. Senior Mikie Lee led the scoring for the Cougars with 21 points. She was also 7-of-7 from the free-throw line. Junior Morgan Miller had 15 points and was also perfect from the line (5-5).

Sophomore Viabe Rabb led the scoring for Springfield with 24 points and six rebounds. Senior Jack Arnefeld added 12 points, five assists and three steals.

HEATHER HEILE

Lyle/Austin Pacelli 66, Mountain Iron-Buhl 47. Lyle/Austin Pacelli is making his first trip to the state tournament in over 30 years, as the unseeded Athletics upset third-seeded Mountain Iron-Buhl.

This is the first tournament appearance for Lyle/Austin Pacelli last played in the state tournament in 1981. The Athletics (26-13) led from start to finish and were up on Mountain Iron-Buhl (28-9) by as many as 21 points.

"We came out and played really, really well," Lyle/Austin Pacelli coach Justin Morris said. "I think we made a statement that we belong here."

Lyle/Austin Pacelli dominated the glass in the game, winning the rebounding battle 50-33, including grabbing 15 offensive rebounds — many of them were converted into easy layups and three-point plays. The Athletics' "two towers" of senior center Malcom Truett and junior forward Sarah Holtz each had double-doubles and combined for 31 points and 22 rebounds.

"Throughout the year we've actually struggled battling out and being physical," Truett said. "But since the playoffs started, we've been pushing and it's helping out."

Four different players scored in double figures for Lyle/Austin Pacelli, led by Truett's 16 points.

Lyle/Austin Pacelli takes on No. 2 seed Ada-Borup on Friday at Williams Arena.

"This is kind of surreal," Truett said. "But we earned this. We deserve this."

PATRICK JOHNSON

NOTES

Marshall keeps ignoring rankings

STAFF REPORTS

Underdogs on Thursday against No. 1 seed Orono. Marshall didn't see it that way.

With the bulk of their players back from a runner-up finish last year, the fourth-seeded Tigers weren't conceding.

"We knew Orono was going to be a tough opponent," Marshall coach Dan Weirly said. "But we were confident we could win."

"We were the No. 4 seed and we played a Bergus Falls team with an identical record to what Orono had (Thursday)," Weirly said. "So no, I wouldn't say we were underdogs."

DAVID LA VAGUE

Pink-out St. Michael-Albertville coach Brent Hanzore wore a tie with black and pink stripes. The team wore T-shirts with large pink letters on the front reading "Hoops for Hoop." Pink was

the predominant color in the St. Michael-Albertville cheering section.

The community was showing its collective support for a fourth-grade teacher in the St. Michael-Albertville school district. Renee Engble, who has been battling breast cancer and underwent surgery

Thursday.

"I teach with her husband," Hanzore said. "We have a cook in the district who also has breast cancer and we raised about \$200 for her (though it would be nice if we all showed support for Renee, so we decided we'd have a Pink-Out for her."

JIM PHELPS

Milestone for Reiss Minnesota senior Taylor Reiss, playing in her fifth consecutive girls' basketball state tournament, scored 11 points in the Vikings' 69-49 victory over Browerville on Thursday to become the 10th player in Minnesota girls' high school basketball history to score 3,000 points.

Reiss, who now has 3,002 points, has scored 899 points this season — the 15th-best single-season mark in state history. She is averaging 26.8 points per game.

Reiss, a three-time All-State selection in volleyball, will play volleyball at South Dakota State next season.

JOEL BEFFEL

Lee means 2,000 Minnesota senior guard Leah Lee scored 19 points against Stephen Angyle on Thursday to put her eighth points shy of 2,000 points in her career. If Lee, who averages 22.5 points per game, can eclipse that mark, she'll join Alexia Long — who graduated in 2012 and scored 2,129 points in her career — as the second Maranatha player in history to join the 2,000-point club.

"It means a lot," Lee said. "It means that my teammates really like to share the ball, which is great."

MIKE ZANATTA

results/summaries

BASKETBALL - GIRLS

CLASS 4A STATE TOURNAMENT

Quarterfinals

Ada-Borup 66, Springfield 47

Lyle/Austin Pacelli 66, Mountain Iron-Buhl 47

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

CLASS 1A SEMIFINALS

Ada-Borup 71, Springfield 53

Lyle/Austin Pacelli 66, Mountain Iron-Buhl 47

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

CLASS 1A SEMIFINALS

Ada-Borup 71, Springfield 53

Lyle/Austin Pacelli 66, Mountain Iron-Buhl 47

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50

Maranatha 65, Stephen Angyle 50