

St. Joseph's surges by Ursuline with run in fourth quarter



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OAKLAND • Junior center Kelly McLaughlin and the St. Joseph's basketball team found an opening at just the right time Thursday in a 69-57 conference road victory against Ursuline.

McLaughlin scored six points to key a 10-0 run for the Angels during the first four minutes of the fourth quarter.

A series of skip passes over the Ursuline defense and corresponding seals by McLaughlin on defenders paved the way for easy layups.

“It took everybody to find openings,” McLaughlin said. “You didn't have to be directly involved in a play to help out.”

McLaughlin scored 10 of her team-high 17 points in the fourth quarter for the Metro Women's Athletic Association victory.

The Angels (4-2 overall, 2-0 conference) also got 16 points from Mallory Stock along with 14 each from Sophie Vogt and Erika Pudlowski.

“We worked to make sure everyone got a touch and we got people open,” Stock said. “If people missed their shots, we just tried to encourage them to keep it up.”

Mady Mossman scored a game-high 23 points and Nikki Soell added 12 for Ursuline, which led 53-47 through three quarters.

But the Bears (6-2, 0-1), ranked No. 9 in the STLhighschoolsports.com large-schools rankings, were outscored 22-4 in the fourth quarter.

“We played our style and we had what we wanted. Shots just didn't fall when we needed them to tonight,” Ursuline coach Jeff Stevens said. “That's really the difference tonight.”

From the perspective of the victorious Angels, feeding the ball inside to McLaughlin turned around the game.

“We told Kelly to stay on the block and that we'd get it to her because she just had to be patient down there,” St. Joseph's coach Julie Matheny said. “I think that was the difference maker for us. She hit that high elbow (jumper), which is great, but we want her to stay low

and we just didn't get the ball to her in the first half."