

# Game Isn't Over Until the Fat Lady Sings

Perry Celebrates Too Early - CG Wins on Two Free Throws

Columbus Grove Vidette - December 11, 1986

## Cindy Smith's Free Throws Breaks 28-Game Drought

After leading most of the game, it appeared that the Columbus Grove girls' basketball team would not break their 28-game losing streak on Monday night. After trailing by five points with two minutes remaining in the game, Lima Perry scored six unanswered points, taking a 38-37 lead with 1:06 remaining.

The Lady Bulldogs had several shots at the go-ahead basket, but could not get the winning shot to fall. Perry grabbed a rebound with 12 seconds remaining and hustled the ball into the safe confines of their own end of the court with time expiring.

A Commodore threw up a last second shot that bounded wildly away from the rim. Columbus Grove's Cindy Smith, who had been playing cautiously throughout the fourth quarter with four fouls, grabbed the rebound and was fouled with no time on the clock.

With the buzzer, sounding and Perry celebrating their "apparent victory", the crowd and players realized that Smith, who had played most of the game, but did not have a shot at the basket, would be given a one-and-one free throw attempt.

With her teammates hugging her, encouraging her and adding to the pressure of the moment, the 5-8 sophomore made two of the most perfect free throws that ever swished through the nets at the CGHS gymnasium, giving the local girls a 39-38 victory .... A victory that have been eluding the local team for almost two years (January 16, 1985 when Grove beat Cory-Rawson, 44-32).

Smith's heroics were set up by the fine play of April Sybert, who scored 29 of the Bulldog's' 39 points, and Heather Brown. Sybert netted nine shots from the floor and one from the line for 19 points and Brown gained two buckets and six charity tosses for 10 markers.

COLUMUBS GROVE 14/63 11/21 39  
April Sybert 9-1-19. Heather Brown 2-6-10. Cindy Smith 0-2-2. Kris Hofferbert 1-0-2. Penni Verhoff 1-0-2. Cheri Donaldson 1-0-2. Ginger Gossard 0-1-1. Deb Morman 0-1-1.

LIMA PERRY 12/55 14/28 38  
S. Miller 3-5-11. M. Miller 2-6-10. Be. Craig 3-2-8. Ba. Craig 2-0-4. Greene 2-0-4. West 0-1-1.

Columbus Grove	7	15	12	5	39
Perry	10	12	6	10	38