

Oriskany falls in 'D' semifinal game in Syracuse



Oriskany players Makenzie Buck and Aeron Hamm fight for control of the ball with a Brookfield player during the Section III Class D Semifinals on Sunday at Onondaga Community College. Brookfield won 46-40. [ALEX COOPER / OBSERVER-DISPATCH]

Unbeaten Brookfield bests Oriskany to clinch title game spot

By Marquel Slaughter
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SYRACUSE — Oriskany's Jane Fahy said her girls basketball team was deserving of a spot in the Section III Class D semifinals.

Unfortunately for Fahy, the 6-foot-2 senior faced foul trouble much of the contest and time apparently ran out on Oriskany during Sunday's contest.

Top-seeded and state-ranked Brookfield held off fourth-seeded Oriskany, escaping Onondaga Community College's Allyn Hall with a gutsy 46-40 victory.

The Brookfield Beavers — now 20-0 and ranked No. 10 in the state Class D poll — will play state-ranked No. 15 and third-seeded Waterville (18-4) for the Class D title at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, at the Carrier Dome.

"We worked really hard to get

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up here and definitely deserved to play at OCC," said an emotional Fahy. "If I didn't get into a lot of foul trouble we would've had a better chance at winning."

"I've dreamed of this my whole life, just to get to this point," Oriskany junior Matteson Hoehn added. "It's tough falling short, but we played our hearts out."

Coach Reggie German and his Oriskany team fell to 17-6. Hoehn led the way with 15 points on five 3-pointers. Aeron Hamm added nine points in the loss.

Fahy managed to score 13 in limited minutes after dropping 34 points in the quarterfinals.

German subbed Fahy out on defensive possession and back in

See ORISKANY. C4

ORISKANY

From Page C1

on offense during every dead ball late in Sunday's game, attempting to keep his star forward from picking up her fifth and disqualifying foul in order to properly match up against Brookfield's 5-foot-11 freshman Jaclyn Vleer-Elliott.

"We knew it was going to be a battle between those two. We wanted to use our intelligence more than anything," German noted. "We had some younger girls that were able to step up and keep it physical down there."

Brookfield coach Doreen Rogers' Central Counties League champion Beavers were led by an 18-point performance from Maddy Kupris. Vleer-Elliott scored 15 points before fouling out in the fourth quarter.

Vleer-Elliott and Fahy each entered the final

frame with four fouls. The Brookfield freshman didn't last much longer, fouling out when Fahy drew a risky charge as the Beavers led 41-28 with 5:51 left.

"It was either gonna make it or break it, and it ended up being the better end for our team," said Fahy, who is a standout in multiple sports at Oriskany, "and I'm happy about that. ... Our confidence bloomed after that."

Hoehn's 3 on the ensuing possession sparked a 12-2 run. Oriskany got within 43-40 on a Fahy put back to end the stretch. After Emma Smith split a pair to give Brookfield a 44-40 lead with 22.9 seconds left, Kupris blocked an Oriskany 3-point attempt in the waning seconds to seal the game.

"It was hard knowing ... with a couple seconds left that you were going to lose," Fahy said.

Brookfield led 24-18 at the half as Vleer-Elliott and Fahy each carried three fouls. Both fan sections cheered louder and louder

each time the opposing team's star player was whistled for an infraction.

Hoehn's 3 and a layup by Fahy put Oriskany within 24-23 before Brookfield went on a 10-0 run. Vleer-Elliott picked up her fourth foul as her team led 36-25 with 2:02 remaining in the third, but Brookfield still led 36-28 after three.

Fahy picked up her fourth foul 33 seconds into the fourth quarter but remained in the game, playing a key role in the paint and on the glass during Oriskany's fourth quarter comeback attempt.

Contact reporter Marquel Slaughter at 315-792-4963 or follow him on Twitter (@OD_Slaughter).

BROOKFIELD 46, ORISKANY 40

Section III Class D Semifinals

Oriskany	13	5	10	12	-	40
Brookfield	15	9	12	10	-	46

Oriskany (17-6): Matteson Hoehn 15, Aeron Hamm 9, Maddelyn Hoehn 1, Mackenzie Buck 2, Jane Fahy 13. Totals: 15-4 40.

Brookfield (20-0): Chay Wratten 5, Emma Smith 4; Maddy Kupris 18; Hailey Jordan 4; Jaelyn Vleer-Elliott 15. Totals: 16-11 46.

3-point goals: Oriskany 5 (Matteson, Hoehn 5); Brookfield 3 (Written, Smith, Jordan).