

3 Farmington schools shine in league meets

Prep wrestlers set for district tournament

By TOM BAER

The three Farmington high school wrestling teams face a long trip to Davison for the Class A district tournament this Saturday, but the journey to suburban Flint should be worthwhile for many members of the local squads.

The area teams — Farmington Harrison, Farmington High and North Farmington — are seen as the strongest teams in the 12-school district, and many locals stand a good chance of advancing to the regionals on the following Saturday.

The three teams turned up for the districts by competing in their respective league meets last Saturday. Harrison, coached by Dick Cook, won its first Western Six title in the 120-pound class, which is based on the league meet at Northville. Farmington High finished second in the Lakes League meet at Waterford Township, scoring 150 1/2 points, 27 1/2 fewer than first-place Pontiac Northern. Farmington and Northern will share the ILL title, which is based on the league meet and the league dual meets. Farmington has a 5-0 league record, including a victory over Northern.

Powerful Westland John Glenn won the Northwest Suburban League Meet at North High with 114 points. North Farmington was second with 85.

HARRISON LEFT little doubt about which team was strongest in the Western Six. The Hawks compiled a 5-0 league record to go with their league meet victory.

"We weren't picked to win it by that much," said a pleased Dick Cook. "But, to a man, I think we wrestled the best we've ever wrestled."

Harrison had champions in five weight classes.

Western 6, ILL, NSL league meet summaries

INTER LAKES LEAGUE MEET

TEAM FINISH—Pontiac Northern 110 points, Farmington High 100, Livonia Stevens 84, Waterford Township 82, Walled Lake Central 81, Milford Lakeland 80.

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

115 POUNDS—Dan Logan (Northern) defeated Mark Radatz (Waterford), 14-1. Dave Prew (Waterford) pinned Rick Cabana (Livonia Stevens), 3:29.

110 POUNDS—Tom O'Neil (Northern) defeated Kevin Owens (Northern), 5:21. Tom Parent (Livonia Stevens) defeated Mike Schaefer (Waterford), 1:52.

105 POUNDS—Dan Sauer (Livonia Stevens) defeated Bill Remacher (Central), 1:53.

100 POUNDS—Dave Prew (Waterford) defeated Rick Berry (Livonia Stevens), 1:15. Curtis Johnson (Northern) defeated Tom Fawcett (Central), 3:11.

95 POUNDS—Larry Harris (Northern) defeated Brian Evans (Livonia Stevens), 1:52. Mike Cias (Central) defeated Andy Shaban (Waterford), 3:41 in overtime.

90 POUNDS—John Johnson (Northern) defeated Jim Sumner (Farmington), 6:21. Pat Connor (Livonia Stevens) defeated Keith Kahan (Central), 3:41.

85 POUNDS—Marty Bona (Farmington) defeated Dan Lemmon (Central), 5:40. Ken Hayden (Waterford) defeated Dean Pedraza (Livonia Stevens), 1:15.

80 POUNDS—Greg Gilbert (Northern) defeated Scott Radatz (Waterford), 1:49. Ray Bemas (Livonia Stevens) defeated John Johnson (Farmington), 5:41 in overtime.

75 POUNDS—Marty Mowka (Livonia Stevens) defeated Gary Hudson (Northern), 2:45. Tom Blanton (Central) pinned Greg Webb (Farmington), 1:27.

70 POUNDS—Terry Hall (Farmington) defeated Mike Edmonson (Northern), 1:44. Wally Fredrick (Livonia Stevens) defeated Bob Sakovich (Waterford), 1:55.

HEAVYWEIGHT—Bryce McIntosh (Farmington) won on forfeit over Mark Mathews (Livonia Stevens), 7:11. Chuck Quinn (Northern) defeated Kent Baskett (Livonia Stevens), 7:11.

NORTHWEST SUBURBAN LEAGUE MEET

TEAM FINISH—Westland John Glenn 114 points, North Farmington 104, Bedford Township 73, City East 61, Livonia Franklin 58.

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

115 pounds—Jim Boyer (Thurston) defeated Dwight Barclay (John Glenn), 5:40. Arny Herman (Franklin) won on forfeit over Phil Freeman (East), 1:15.

110 POUNDS—Buddy Ait (Thurston) pinned Terry O'Neil (John Glenn), 1:38. Nick O'Neil (Franklin) defeated Bob Grace (East), 8:27.

105 POUNDS—Terry Haling (North Farmington) defeated Jay Stepp (John Glenn), 6:40. Jeff Hunt (Thurston) finished third.

100 POUNDS—Felix Jones (John Glenn) defeated John Morris (East), 5:41. Bruce Davidson (Thurston) defeated Mike Sauer (North Farmington), 3:21.

95 POUNDS—Nick Paceco (John Glenn) defeated Karl Goss (North Farmington), 3:21. Matt Wyman (Thurston) pinned Jeff Goss (North Farmington), 1:21.

90 POUNDS—Marty Benda (North Farmington) defeated Bill Meyer (John Glenn), 2:11. Brian Pome (Thurston) defeated Rick Tennister (East), 7:55.

85 POUNDS—Mike Collins (John Glenn) defeated John Oter (North Farmington), 5:41. Pete Swenon (Thurston) pinned Greg Goss (North Farmington), 1:15.

80 POUNDS—Mike Weisz (Thurston) defeated Tom Haling (North Farmington), 6:21 in overtime. Greg Day (East) defeated Craig Schaefer (North Farmington), 3:22.

75 POUNDS—Mike Weisz (Thurston) defeated Jerry John Glenn, 1:14. Matt Johnson (East) won on forfeit.

70 POUNDS—Jeff Davis (John Glenn) defeated Bill Ross (North Farmington), 5:41. Bob Coanier (Thurston) pinned Glen Sauer (East), 1:19.

65 POUNDS—Dave Kaplan (Thurston) defeated Rick Curtis (North Farmington), 1:55. Jeff Noll (John Glenn) pinned Brett Shady (East), 1:19.

60 POUNDS—Mark Scholz (North Farmington) pinned Greg Paskaly (John Glenn), 2:22. Frank Sadtzinger (East) defeated Keith Schaefer (Thurston), 7:44.

HEAVYWEIGHT—Jerome Rukonen (John Glenn) defeated Jim Soudanp (North Farmington), 5:41. Matt Barbour (Thurston) pinned Brian Kicks (East), 4:20.

WESTERN SIX LEAGUE MEET

TEAM FINISH—Farmington 114 points, Livonia Stevens 100, Northville 90, Walled Lake Stevens 85, Waterford 84, Canaan 77.

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

115 POUNDS—Tom Gerhard (Western) defeated Brian Crude (Harrison), 3:41.

110 POUNDS—John Aubry (Western) defeated Mike Jack (Canandaigua), 3:41.

105 POUNDS—Jeff Bena (Western) defeated Mike Jack (Canandaigua), 3:41.

100 POUNDS—Dave Womack (Western) pinned Pat Palmer (Harrison), 3:41.

95 POUNDS—Dave Bentley (Northville) defeated Mark Scherb (Harrison), 3:41.

90 POUNDS—Pat Maher (Harrison) pinned Kevin Smille (Canandaigua), 3:41.

85 POUNDS—Ed Faber (Northville) defeated Wally Weast (Canandaigua), 3:41.

80 POUNDS—Scott Collins (Canandaigua) defeated Kevin John (Harrison), 3:41.

75 POUNDS—Damon Crude (Harrison) defeated Bob Zahradka (Northville), 3:41.

70 POUNDS—Mike Mowka (Canandaigua) defeated Mike Gorgens (Harrison), 3:41.

65 POUNDS—Mike Gorgens (Harrison) pinned Randy Brown (Western), 3:41.

60 POUNDS—Bill Bluer (Harrison) defeated Fred Alexander (Canandaigua), 3:41.

HEAVYWEIGHT—Mark Clark (Canandaigua) defeated Curt Sells (Canandaigua), 3:41.

the team." Cook said, "In the second round, he had to beat the guy from Northville, who had tied him earlier in the season. Pat was down in the match by about five points, and he ended up winning by 10."

FARMINGTON HIGH was picked to win the ILL Meet, but Northern put nine wrestlers in the finals. Farmington had six men in the final bouts.

Ron Stern, Farmington's 98 pounder, took the title in that weight class with a 1-61 decision over Northern's Roger Thomas. In the 155 final, Farmington's Marty Bona defeated Walled Lake Central's Schab (120) and Kevin Johns (145) — logged second-place finishes.

Maher, a senior, was especially impressive, according to Cook.

"I don't know what he did for him, but I wish I could spread it around to everyone on the team," Cook said.

Harrison's Blackmer brothers, Fred and Bill, took titles at 178 and 191. Fred pinned Walled Lake Western's Randy Brown in 3:56 in the 178 final, and Bill defeated Alexander, 3-1, in the 191 final.

Three other Harrison wrestlers — Pat Palajac (119 lbs.), Mark Schab (120) and Kevin Johns (145) — logged second-place finishes.

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by forfeit over Milford Lakeland's Mark Matthews.

Ron Stern (112 pounds) and Jim Simmons (145) provided second-place finishes for Farmington.

"It was a disappointment finishing second in the league meet, but the league meet wasn't the most important part of our season," said Farmington coach Barry Walsh. "I wasn't really building them up for it. As far as I'm concerned, the state tournaments are the keys to our season, and we'll be ready for them."

Walsh had special praise for Bona, a junior. "He was outstanding," the coach said. "He was real aggressive and he had it in his mind that he wasn't going to lose."

NSL Meet Terry Haling won the 112-pound crown with a 6-0 decision over Glenn's Jay Snapp in the finals. Marty Benda defeated Glenn's Bill Meyer, 2-1, in the 132-pound final. North's Mark Schulte pinned Greg Potulski in 5:22.

BENDA are two of the best around, as far as I'm concerned," said North Farmington coach Jim O'Leary. "Schulte suffered a knee injury about four weeks ago, but he came back to finish third in the North Farmington Invitational and second in the Edsel Ford Invitational, and now he's the league champ. We certainly didn't expect that."

Benda's victory really made my day. He's beaten the Oakland County 132-pound champ (Brimingham Grove's Mike Cuffe), and now he's beaten Meyer, who won the Schoolcraft Tournament."

Farmington gymnasts display skills

High school boys' gymnastics isn't a high-visibility sport in Michigan, but some of the state's finest male gymnasts could be seen last Friday at the North Farmington Boys' Gymnastics Invitational.

Billed as "a real showcase" of individual talent, the tournament featured gymnasts from nine high schools, including defending-state champion Taylor Truman. Other entrants included North Farmington, Farmington Harrison, Ann Arbor Pioneer, Trenton High, Taylor Kennedy, Clarencene, Taylor Center and Alpena High.

The gymnasts participated in six events, and no team scores were compiled.

One local standout was Darrell Yee, a senior from Farmington Harrison. He compiled 6.50 points to finish second in the still rings, and then logged fourths in the side horse (5.70 points) and the parallel bars (6.50).

"Yee is a super-talented gymnast," Fitzgerald said. "He's an all-arounder, obviously, from all the events he took part in. I'd say that he's listed third in the all-around state rankings."

NORTH FARMINGTON'S best performance came from Mark Rapp, who finished second in the side horse with 6.15 points. North's Greg Boscacon finished fourth in the floor exercise with 7.30 points, and teammate Bill Bena took a fourth on the trampoline with 7.05.

Trenton High's Mark Grioux was another individual standout, taking a first in the parallel bars (7.60) and a third in the floor exercise (7.45).

All of the participating teams except Alpena belong to a league—the Southeastern Michigan Interscholastic Gymnastics Association.

This season's boys' gymnastics state meet will be held at Alpena High on March 25. Alpena looks like a good bet to win the state meet, many coaches believe.

N. FARMINGTON BOYS' GYMNASICS INVITATIONAL

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS—North Farmington, Farmington Harrison, Ann Arbor Pioneer, Trenton High, Taylor Kennedy, Taylor Center, Alpena High.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

FLOOR EXERCISE—Paul Nemi (Taylor Kennedy) 8.00 points, Dave Crenn (Pioneer) 7.80, Mark Rapp (North Farmington) 7.70, Mark Grioux (Trenton) 7.60, Greg Boscacon (North Farmington) 7.50.

SIDE HORSE—John Hieckoff (Trenton) 7.20, Mark Rapp (North Farmington) 6.15, Dave Kusars (Trenton) 5.90, Darrell Yee (Farmington Harrison) 5.70.

HIGH BAR—Buddy Merchant (Alpena) 6.60, Jeff Spencer (Taylor Center) 6.10, Rick Rothman (Pioneer) 6.00, Bill Crenn (Pioneer) 5.90.

PARALLEL BARS—Mark Grioux (Trenton) 7.60, Ray Woods (Alpena) 7.10, Jeff Spencer (Taylor Center) 7.10, Darrell Yee (Farmington Harrison) 6.50.

STILL RINGS—Jeff Tenney (Alpena) 6.05, Darrell Yee (Farmington Harrison) 7.00, Tim Durham (Trenton) 7.20, Ann Brown (Pioneer) 7.15.

TRAMPOLINE—Dave Dierke (Pioneer) 6.80, Bill Bena (North Farmington) 7.00, Bill Bena (North Farmington) 7.00.

Technical helps Falcons slip by North in overtime

By TOM BAER

Bruce Brown is no coaching rookie at Farmington High School. He's been the Falcons' basketball coach for the past five seasons. But even Brown had trouble remembering the last time Farmington beat neighboring North Farmington in basketball.

He had trouble remembering until last Tuesday night, that is. That's when Farmington nipped North Farmington, 73-30, in overtime on North's court.

"This has got to be a hell of a morale boost for us," said Brown, whose team has a 7-7 overall record. "I mean to come over here and beat North Farmington in overtime is really something special. We haven't beaten them since I've been coach here."

Actually, Farmington should have wrapped things up early. The Falcons pulled ahead by five points (18-13) after the first quarter and then extended the lead to 15 points (36-21) at halftime. North was clearly having problems with Farmington's zone defense.

But North rallied for 25 points in the third quarter, while holding Farmington to 16. North's comeback continued in the final quarter of regulation play. In the final seconds, North's Mike Garcia stole the ball on an inbound pass and scored to tie the game at 62-61.

Farmington's Rick Mihziker fouled Mark Thompson with 28 seconds left. Thompson made both ends of the one-and-one to give North a brief two-point lead. Farmington's Dick Radatz, who played an outstanding game, hit a layup in 16 seconds left to send the game into overtime.

FARMINGTON SCORED nine points, including seven free throws, in the overtime. The turning point came with 28 seconds left in OT and the scored knotted at 68. North's Mark Bentley fouled Radatz, and then was called for a technical foul when he uttered a common and colloquial four-letter verb and noun.

Radatz converted the technical and then made the lead end of the one-and-one to put Farmington up by two, 70-68. Teammate Randy Meier iced the victory by dropping in two free throws with 11 seconds left.

Radatz, a scrappy 5-foot-11 senior guard, led all scorers with 10 field goals and nine of 11 free throws. Rick Mihziker added 16 points, and Bob Finnell had 11, five coming in the overtime period.

North had four starters finish in double figures with Bentley, a 6-2 senior, tossing in 20 before fouling out in the overtime. Bentley scored 15 points in the second half to pace North's comeback. Garcia and Mark Biehl each had 16 points, and Thompson added 12.

North's Harold Beardsley, a 6-6 junior, started but picked up three fouls early. He failed to score a point for the Raiders.

North outrebounded Farmington, 35-24, with Biehl grabbing nine and Bentley seven.

North, now 7-8 overall, plays next on Friday (Feb. 11) at home against Westland John Glenn. Farmington plays on Friday at Walled Lake Central.



Farmington's Rick Mihziker (21) looks for a shot, but North's Harold Beardsley has things well in hand. Beardsley blocked the shot, but Farmington won the game, 73-70, in overtime. (Staff photo by Harry Maute)

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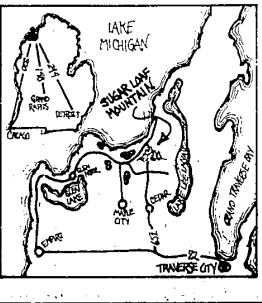
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FARMINGTON-NORTH FARMINGTON

FARMINGTON HIGH (71): Rick Mihziker 8, 10, 11, Bob Finnell 2, 5, 11, Rick Mihziker 4, 14, Joel Sorenson 5, 12, 8, Dick Radatz 1, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

NORTH FARMINGTON (16): Mike Bentley 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.