



Kathy Temple was the second-best all-arounder in the recent state championship meet. (Staff photos by Randy Borst)

Hawk tanker shines in Class B state meet

Farmington Harrison's swimming team didn't win a meet this season, but it sure had a winner in freestyler John Rudel.

Rudel, a senior, was seldom beaten in his specialties — the 200- and 500-yard freestyle events — and last Saturday capped his high school career by finishing second in those events in the state Class B championship meet at the Grand Rapids Junior College pool.

He was timed at 1:46.26 in the 200 freestyle, and then turned in a time of 4:46.72 in the 500. Kevin Brown of St. Joseph won both events, establishing a state record 1:44.40 in the 200 and going 4:45.97 in the 500.

Rudel's efforts gave Harrison 26

team points, good for a 12th-place tie with Spring Lake and Fremont.

Farmington-West Bloomfield scoring performances were rare at the state Class A meet last Saturday at Michigan State University's McCaffrey Pool.

Tom Maten, a senior at West Bloomfield High School, finished 10th in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 22.7, far from his best this season.

"He moved up from 12th to 10th place, so I guess I can't be too disappointed," said West Bloomfield coach Jim Downs. "But his time wasn't too good. The whole field in the consolation was slow."

West Bloomfield's 400-yard freestyle

relay (Bob Papp, Steve Beckner, Skip Schwarz and Maten) qualified for the state meet, but finished out of it with a time of 3:23.0.

Jim Gasser of North Farmington qualified for state in the breaststroke. He couldn't advance out of the preliminaries with a time of 1:03.47.

Ann Arbor Pioneer won its fourth-straight Class A title, scoring 221 points. Ann Arbor Huron finished second with 120, Bloomfield Hills Andover was third with 89, and Birmingham Groves fourth with 84.

East Grand Rapids won the Class B meet with 198 points. St. Joseph followed with 141.

2 Raider gymnasts sparkle

By TOM BAER

Last year, about this time, North Farmington's gymnasts were celebrating a championship, having tied perennial-champion Ludington High in the girls' state meet.

A year later, coach Mary Johnnessee's North Farmington team still has cause to celebrate — even though the "team" at state consisted of just two girls and the school's name didn't even appear in the team standings.

Although North has two outstanding gymnasts in junior Kathy Temple and senior Suanne Casillo, the team didn't qualify for the championship meet because of a poor showing in a regional meet.

Temple and Casillo, however, qualified as individuals for the state meet held last weekend at East Kentwood High School in suburban Grand Rapids.

"It was tough going into the state meet not being a team," Johnnessee said. "They'd announce over the loudspeaker that North Farmington was the state champion, and here we had just the two girls."

"It was hard on them. They had to live up to that state-champion image."

But both North girls turned in excellent performances.

Temple, who won all-around and uneven parallel bars as a sophomore in last year's meet, defended her championship on the bars with a score of 18.6 and placed second in all-around (which includes skills from the four individual events) with a 35.6.

"TEMPLE, WHO has a long background in gymnastics, is greatly improved over last season, according to her coach."

"If you can improve 100 percent, she has," Johnnessee said. "She's doing tricks now that you see the Olympians doing. Her tumbling and dance (for floor exercise) have gotten a lot stronger."

"She's more composed now — and she's always been very composed."

Temple and Casillo tied for first place in balance beam with scores of 17.1. Temple also placed second in floor exercise (18.15) and was seventh in vaulting (17.65).

In addition to her first on the beam, Casillo placed sixth in all-around (33.9) and bars (17.65), and eighth in floor exercise (17.1).

Casillo's best events are vaulting and balance beam, according to Johnnessee.

"The beam is especially hard, because you have to be steady," she said. "It's only four inches wide and you can fall off very easily. Suanne didn't fall off either day at the state meet. That's what saved her."

JOHNESSEE, WHO teaches third grade at St. Fabian Elementary School in Farmington Hills, is looking forward to next season, because North will have freshmen for the first time — and thus more recruits for the gymnastics team.

"That'll really help us," she said. "We know about 15 girls at Duncunk who really want to be on the team. We'll be much deeper next year."

Another Farmington-area gymnast, Farmington Harrison's Janet Thibodeau, qualified for the state meet. She scored 7.9 in vaulting in the preliminaries.

Barb Burke of Walled Lake Central had a score of 8.55 in floor exercise in the preliminaries.

Host East Kentwood won the state title with 100.65 points, unseating Lud-

ington, which had won or shared the last five championships. Ludington had 100 points for second place, and Troy High School took third with 97.65.

Ann Arbor Huron finished fourth (97.15) followed by Royal Oak Dendoro (95.25) and Ann Arbor Pioneer (94.85).

East Kentwood's Jodi Thompson was an individual standout, winning the all-around with a score of 35.95 to Temple's 35.6.

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Suane Casillo has had outstanding performances on balance beam and vaulting.

Raider boys finish 6th in state finals

North Farmington's finish in the boys' gymnastics state championship meet last Saturday — sixth place in a field of 13 teams with 131.467 points — didn't impress Raider coach Dennis Fitzgerald.

"We thought we could make a good showing, but we didn't," said Fitzgerald. "We're into one of our worst performances of the season."

Jeff Dreyer, a senior at North Farmington, finished fourth in all-around with a score of 44.5. His best individual events were parallel bars and high bar — both ninth-place with 7.4 scores.

His other individual scores: floor exercise (11th with a score of 8.35), side horse (12th, 6.5), still rings (17th, 6.3) and vaulting (20th, 8.5).

North senior Doug Roberts tied for sixth place in vaulting with Alpena's Joe Bau with scores of 17.75. Bob Burns, another North senior, placed ninth in the side horse with a 6.75.

Alpena won the boys' championship with 151.462 points. Ann Arbor Pioneer had 147.017, East Lansing 142.483, Ann Arbor Huron 140.95, and Trenton 137.192.

Greg Noss of East Lansing won the all-around with a score of 48.8 for the six events.

All-staters crowd mat team

By MARTY BUDNER

The 1980 Observer & Eccentric All-Area wrestling team is virtually an all-state group.

Eleven of the 13 first-team wrestlers qualified for last month's state meet, and seven of them placed. If a team captain were to be selected, Lahser's John Segula — who capped an undefeated season with a state championship title at 112 pounds — would be the most likely candidate.

The All-Area wrestling team was recently chosen by a panel of coaches representing the O&E's six-paper, Oakland County coverage area.

The panel representatives included Al Kehl of Bloomfield Hills Lahser and Jim O'Leary of North Farmington. Rochester High School coach Max Hesse was unable to attend.

Criteria used for team selection was placement at state, regional and district competition. In some cases, coaches acknowledged performances at the Oakland and Schoolcraft tournaments, plus the various league meets.

Besides Segula, the first-team includes Farmington's Dave Denny (105), John Murphy (119) and Greg Lemanski (155); Rochester Adams' Keith Masters (126) and Richard Thompson (145); and North Farmington's Brad Fisher (98) and George Houetteker (198).

Other first-team members are Joey Levier of Bloomfield Hills Lahser (132); Willie LeClerc of Troy (138); Barry Bausano of West Bloomfield (155); Gary Allen of Auburn Heights Avondale (167); and Bob Fallon of Birmingham Brother Rice (heavyweight).

The team's lone underclassmen are Fisher (sophomore) and Bausano (junior).

Lahser's Kehl was named coach of the year.

SEGULA, A two-time O&E All-Area wrestler, was a perfect 42-0 this season to finish his high school career with an outstanding 17-12 record (90 percent winning average). Last year, Segula placed sixth at the state meet (112 pounds).

Segula has been wrestling since he was 10 years old, and has represented the United States in competition in Iran and Germany. He has been an Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) state champion several times.

"He's a tremendous wrestler on his feet — he scored 126 takedowns while giving up only two," said Kehl of Segula, who is being recruited by several Big 10 and Big 12 conference schools. "The thing that sets John apart from other wrestlers is his great competitive spirit and tremendous self-confidence."



Dave Denny (top) of Farmington finished fifth at state meet. Practicing with Denny before state is the Falcons' Mark Bartrum, an O&E second team selection. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

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Bill McMachen SeaRay

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