

North gymnasts feel the heat at state

By Tom Baer
staff writer

Lana Horowitz, a sophomore gymnast at Southfield-Lathrup High School, was the third-best all-around performer at the state championship meet last weekend at Plymouth Canton High School.

Horowitz, the only Lathrup gymnast to qualify for the state meet, scored 32.8 to earn her third place behind all-around champion Barrie Kuebeck (37.35) of Walled Lake Western and East Kentwood's Jody Thompson (38.25).

Horowitz' best performances were a second place on uneven parallel bars (a

two-day score of 18.75) and a third on floor exercise (18.65). She was less successful in the meet's other two individual events, balance beam and vaulting. "Her routines on bars and floor were just flawless," said Lathrup coach Robin Limauro. "She did a very good job overall, but she didn't compete in beam and vault in the finals on Saturday. She

didn't have a high enough score from Friday's competition. "She fell once on beam, and she was judged kind of strangely in vaulting." Another area team, North Farmington, qualified for the meet, but found it rough going among the talented gymnasts.

Coach Mary Johnesee's North Farm-

ington team failed to finish among the top eight, and its best finish was a 10th by Sharon Shiffra on bars (8.7). "The state meet is getting so tough," Johnesee said. "Most of the girls in the finals got there by having scores in the 10s. An 8.5 would be considered an excellent score for a high school gymnast. But in floor exercise at state it was good for 30th place."

SHIFFRA, A JUNIOR, finished 24th on vaulting with a score of 8.5. Teammate Dona Kehrdr, another junior, earned a 14th place on beam (8.45) and a 22nd place in floor exercise (8.7). North senior Kim Edwards finished 27th on bars (8.1) and 35th in floor exercise (8.55). Raider freshman Angie Griffin took the 30th place in floor exercise her coach mentioned.

Senior Josephine Smith, Farmington High's lone participant at state, landed 22nd on the bars with a score of 8.35.

Freeland, a Class C high school located between Saginaw and Midland,

won the state championship with a score of 138.8. Holland was second with a 134.5.

Troy, expected by many observers to win the title, placed third (133.45), and Traverse City was fourth (132.60). "I knew it'd be close," said Troy coach Sandy Smith. "We just made too many mistakes. We had four falls on beam and lost two points right there."

Troy had an outstanding performer in senior Kathy Michaels, the fourth-best all-arounder with a score of 35.75. She logged seventh places in vaulting (17.75) and bars (17.35) and tied with Holt's Deann Dalrymple for sixth place in vaulting (18).

Barrie Kuebeck, who competed in the minimum four dual meets for Walled Lake Western this past season, was far and away the state meet's top gymnast.

Muebeck, a sophomore, was the top all-arounder (37.35) and had first places in vaulting (19.1), bars (18.6), beam (18.8) and floor (19.1).

Former Raiders help Western

North Farmington graduates Paul Welch and Jeff Dwyer turned in strong performances for their respective Western Michigan University track and gymnastics teams.

Welch, a junior, finished third in the 5,000-meter run at the Midwest Athletic Championship Invitational at WMU's Reed Fieldhouse. He was timed in 14:31.95 as Western scored 141 points to finish second in the six-team field. Dwyer, also a junior, landed fourth

on parallel bars at the 1983 Great Lakes League championships in Oxford, Ohio. He received a score of 8.4. The Broncos were second in the six-team meet with 257.1 points.

NORTHWOOD GRIDER

Flen Baker, a 5-foot-9, 165-pound defensive back who played a key role on Farmington Harrison's Class A state championship team last year, will be

sport shorts

attending Northwood Institute in Midland next fall.

Northwood, coached by Jack Plinn, finished the 1982 season with a 6-4 overall record and a 4-2 Great Lakes Conference.

OLIVET CAGER

Lori Winkel, an outstanding basketball player at Farmington Harrison, has continued playing as a freshman at Olivet College.

This past season, Winkel averaged 5.3 points and 1.9 rebounds a game. She had a total of 18 assists. She was third in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) in free-throw percentage with a .750.

Farmington picks new football coach

By Tom Baer
staff writer

The selection committee charged with the responsibility of finding a new varsity football coach for Farmington High School didn't have far to look for its choice.

Donald Kuick, an English teacher at North Farmington High School and a ninth-grade football coach in the Farmington school system for the past 23 years, was chosen to replace Richard Roy, who resigned recently after only one season as Farmington's head coach.

Roy, who also coaches the school's varsity basketball team, decided he was spread too thin with two major sports.

"BASICALLY, I just didn't think I could put the time in for both programs," said Roy, a Jack-of-all-trades in Farmington athletics since 1959.

"For example, I should have been running a weight-lifting program (for football players), and instead I was having basketball practices."

Roy will continue as Farmington's basketball coach. Kuick (rhymes with Buick) coached ninth-grade football at Dunckel Junior High School for 20 years until the middle school concept was instituted in 1980. Then he moved to North Farmington to coach its freshman team.

He's coached seven undefeated teams at that level and has more than 120 victories to his credit. The 1983 North yearlings posted a 6-2 record.

KUICK KNOWS the task ahead of him at Farmington High will be a diffi-

cult one. The other two Farmington public high schools — North Farmington and Harrison — have become known for their winning football programs.

On the other hand, Farmington High teams have won only six of the last 36 games. Following a winless 1981 season, longtime coach Harold Beardsley resigned. Roy, who had been Beardsley's assistant for years, was picked to guide the 1982 Falcons. That mostly-senior team went 1-6. "You take a program which has produced one victory in two years... well, you know it's not going to be easy," Kuick said.

"THE KIDS seem to have that losing attitude. They expect to lose before they even go out to the field. We're going to try to change all that. We're going to get the program back to the point where the kids can be proud of their team and their school."

"We're going to try to run a program similar to the ones at North Farmington and Harrison."

Kuick continued: "We're going to try to instill enthusiasm and desire. We're going to start a weight program. We're going to give them things they've never really had to any great degree."

At this time, Kuick is deciding on his assistant coaches, who will have to come from the bargaining unit of the Farmington teacher's union.

A RESERVE halfback on the University of Michigan team which defeated Southern California, 49-0, in the 1941 Rose Bowl, Kuick majored in both English and physical education. He was graduated from Michigan State University.

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