

Ab Hazen (top) was a Western Lakes Activities Association champion at 187 pounds for Farmington. Hazen is shown pinning Churchill's At

Clomens. Farmington placed a disappointing seventh in the league meet Saturday.

Plymouth schools rule WLAA wrestling meet

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ville beat out Farmington for sixth with 123 points.

"Of all the league championships we've won over the years," said Krueger, "this one was the hardest to achieve. The kids just did a great job."

Salem raced out in front early in the meet, then had to have two "minor miracles" to pull the championship out, Krueger said.

The minor miracles came in the 112-pound division and the 145-pound division.

Salem sophomore David Dameron lost three of four matches against Canton's Todd Gattoni at 112 over the course of the regular season. But in the league championship match, Dameron scored a 1-0 overtime decision.

At 145, Salem's Andy Ward and Canton's Larry Janga had met three times — their records were 1-1-1. They met again. Again, it was an overtime decision. Again, the decision went two the Rock wrestler — this time the score was 4-2.

"THOSE OVERTIME matches really hurt us," said Canton coach Dan Chrenko. "But you know, you don't get any points for being close. We needed two win one of those two matches. If

we did, we were league champs."

Chrenko said he expected the meet to be a six-team fight. The fact that four of the six teams struggled hurt the Chiefs.

"We were kind of expecting some help from the other teams that we didn't get," Chrenko said. "It got down to a two team race and they beat us head up. You have to give Salem credit, they had a great day."

Besides league champs Dameron and Ward, Salem got second place finishes from Rick Vershave (119), John Jeanotte (132) and Eric Retting (167). The Rocks also got key third place finishes from Marc Cygan (heavyweight), Bishop Borgess transfer Kenny Freeman (105) and Bruce Zak (155).

The Rocks placed 10 grapplers in the final four.

Canton, which placed eight wrestlers in the final four, had one league champion. Tim Collins raised his season record to 37-2 by scoring a 4-1 decision over Western's Rod Schuh for the medal at 130.

Livonia Bentley had four champions in the meet and one second place finisher. Salem Yaffai (105), Anwar Yaffai (119) and Abe Yaffai (126) all brought home championship medals, as did Mark Zenas (185).

Bentley's Marty Alcoulan lost by default to Livonia Churchill's Dave Scott at 198.

FARMINGTON, despite a disappointing team score, got championship performances from Dave Hovey (98) and Ab Hazen (187).

Western had three champions: Chris Thompson (heavyweight), Bob Rich (132) and Matt Turner (155).

Revengeing his team's dual meet loss to Canton earlier this year was bitter-sweet for Krueger.

"He (Chrenko) has one of his best teams and I have one of my youngest," he said. "But, a lot of people like to compete against an arch rival like Canton. Dan is such a nice guy that, you're first feeling is of joy and your second is you feel down for the other team."

"I liked it better when we were in different leagues. He'd bring home his championship and we'd bring home ours. Then we're both happy."

Area wrestlers now set their sights on some individual state honors. The district meet will take place at Temperance-Bedford Saturday. The top four wrestlers in each weight division qualify for the regional meet the following weekend.

Hawks scalp Chiefs

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Harrison played without starting forward John Miller, who was out with an injury.

"We kept coming and coming after them," Harrison coach Mike Teachman said. "We used a token press and match-up zone, and a fast-breaking driving offense."

"I WAS VERY pleased with the team as a whole. We've played only one bad

game all year. These kids have high character."

Canton got balanced scoring as four players hit in double figures, but it still wasn't enough.

Gary Thomas poured in 19 points to lead the Chiefs. Mark Benneft tossed in 12 and dished off a school record 14 assists. Mike Jennings netted 14 and Elijah Rogers added 11.

Free throws were a deciding factor

in the contest.

The Hawks went to the foul line 37 times and connected on 27 (72 percent), while Canton could manage only seven of 11.

Harrison also controlled the boards, outbounding Canton 46-33 in the contest.

The Hawks improved their record to 2-10 in league and 4-12 overall with the upset.

Sports quiz

Who was the last team to win a Catholic League swim championship besides Farmington Hills Our Lady of Mercy?
Answer: St. Paul in 1966.

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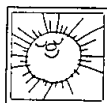
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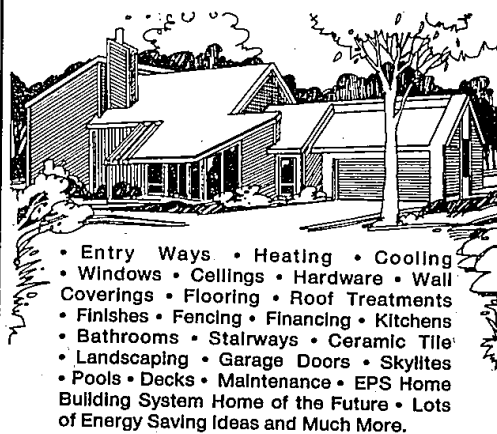
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