

Mercy tankers seek title No. 22

The good news for followers of the Farmington Hills Mercy swim team is that Jimmy Morton, an all-state performer, transferred from Birmingham Marlian.

The bad news is that Mercy only has 28 swimmers on the squad and 20 of those are freshmen and sophomores.

"I don't know what kind of team we'll be," said veteran Mercy swim coach De Loris Yager. "We certainly don't have the depth we've had over the years."

Still, Mercy teams have not lost a Catholic League title nor a Catholic League dual meet in 21 seasons. The 1985 Marlins, short on depth, are long on individual talent.

MORTON, AHO finished third in the national AAU meet this summer. In a power distance freestyle, Yager compares her talent to that of another Mercy swimmer: Kara McGrath who is now an All-American at the University of Texas.

To go along with Morton, the Mar-

swimming

lins have junior Suzie Knipper and sophomore Roberta Orr — both multiple-stroke swimmers who placed at the state meet a year ago.

Other returnees include senior captains Beth Bedore and Cathy Lowlewski, and juniors Leslie Hankins and Angela Harrison.

Yager also is high on freshman Jennifer Bedore (freestyle).

"Overall, I would say we have a young team with some exceptional front-line swimmers."

Mercy opens its season Saturday at the Grosse Pointe North Invitational.

Diving coach needed: Mercy High School is looking for a diving coach. Contact athletic director Ellen Sekerak at 476-2836.

— Chris McCosky

Spartans (who else?) win relays

By Brad Emons staff writer

Another opening, another girls swim meet?

Hardly. As expected, Livonia Stevenson won the Western Lakes Relays Saturday at Plymouth Salem, but the meet, sponsored by the Plymouth-Canton Rotary Club, was more than just a showcase for the power-laden Spartans.

"This league (the Western Lakes Activities Association) is going to be very tough," said Stevenson coach Lois McDonald. "We're going to get good competition and that will help everybody in the long run."

Stevenson, picked by a crown, racked up 97 first-place points.

But the surprise of the meet was Livonia Churchill, which finished second with 74. Host Salem was third with 59, followed by W.L.A.A. newcomer North Farmington with 46. Westland John Glenn, yet another newcomer to the W.L.A.A. top fifth with 41. (See complete results.)

"This league is high caliber," said Salem coach Chuck Olson. "North Farmington was fifth at the state last year and was fourth in this meet? What's that tell you?"

CHURCHILL COACH Manse Tian was excited over his team's performance.

"They really surprised me," he said. "I didn't expect to finish that high."

"We do have the depth. We're not strapped like we have been before. We can swim them around. With 44 girls, that helps. The more you have, the more competition you have. And that's good."

Stevenson took three firsts in the all-relay event. All-Staters Sheila Taormina and Sherrie Sudek hooked up with Amy Harrison and Ann Bollinger, a transfer from Dearborn, to win the 300-yard backstroke relay in 1:57.87. Taormina and Sudek also teamed up with Andrea Jackson and Maureen Sudek to gain first in the crescendo relay (4:55.2).

The Spartans' Nancy Detmer, Robin Greshaw, Patty Skalgr and Michele McKenzie won the 200 breaststroke relay in 2:25.33.

"We had some good performances," McDonald said. "Most cut down their times."

"They weren't all in their best events because we swam a lot of people. This is a very big swim compared to the teams I've had in the past."

CHURCHILL was bolstered by freshman Andrea Martin, who figured in two firsts along with Kendra James and Carol Baker.

Martin, swimming a 1:07.7 100 breaststroke split, joined Beth Nancy, James and Baker to win the 400 medley in 4:19.9. The team of Angie Neville, Martin, James and Baker took the 200 medley in 1:57.65.

Churchill showed its depth by winning the 200 freestyle relay in 1:50.24.

North Farmington, led by the Craner sisters, Marge and Cindy, took the 200 butterfly relay in 1:58.31 and the 400 individual medley in 4:23.07.

"Taking second was nice," Tian said. "But overtaking Stevenson is not possible. And North can swim better. The league is going to be a shootout."

Salem's lone first came in the 400 freestyle relay as Kristal Taylor, Cindy Elliott, Laura Shaffer and Tracy Mezazros were clocked in 3:51.01.

"In the 400 medley we were disqualified and we had to score some points there," Olson said. "Basically we swam well, but we've got a lot of work to do."

The work has already begun.

swimming

WESTERN LAKES GIRLS SWIM RELAYS at Plymouth Salem

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Livonia Stevenson, 97 points; 2. Livonia Churchill, 74; 3. Plymouth Salem, 59; 4. North Farmington, 46; 5. Westland John Glenn, 41; 6. Plymouth Canton, 29; 7. Northville, 26; 8. Farmington, 22; 9. Livonia Franklin, 19; 10. Farmington Harrison, 10; 11. Walled Lake Central, 8.

FINAL RELAY RESULTS

400-yard medley: 1. Churchill (Beth Nancy, Andrea Martin, Kendra James, Carol Baker), 4:19.90.

2. Stevenson, 4:27.58; 3. Northville, 4:31.58; 4. Franklin, 4:42.05; 5. John Glenn, 4:42.56; 6. Harrison, 4:48.48.

200 breaststroke: 1. Stevenson (Nancy Detmer, Robin Greshaw, Patty Skalgr and Michele McKenzie), 2:25.33; 2. Churchill, 2:29.37; 3. Salem, 2:29.84; 4. Northville, 2:31.55; 5. North Farmington, 2:34.26; 6. Canton, 2:40.42.

200 backstroke: 1. Stevenson (Sheila Taormina, Amy Harrison, Sherrie Sudek and Ann Bollinger), 1:57.87; 2. Canton, 2:05.08; 3. Farmington, 2:13.13; 4. Salem, 2:14.02; 5. John Glenn, 2:15.23; 6. North Farmington, 2:22.04.

200 butterfly: 1. North Farmington (Liz Worthen, Nancy Wetherholt, Cindy Craner and Marge Craner), 1:58.31; 2. Northville, 2:05.58; 3. Church, 2:06.91; 4. Stevenson, 2:10.48; 5. Canton, 2:16.30; 6. Franklin, 2:19.10.

Diving: 1. John Glenn (Candy Ange and Jamie Koestel), 354.65 points; 2. Stevenson, 348.50; 3. Central, 341.60; 4. Canton, 335.30; 5. Church, 298.00; 6. Franklin, 278.00.

400 individual medley: 1. North Farmington (Marge Craner, Cindy Craner, Amy Menzies and Liz Worthen), 4:23.07; 2. Salem, 4:28.11; 3. Stevenson, 4:52.58; 4. Church, 5:12.19; 5. Central, 5:18.35; 6. Northville, 5:24.99.

Crescendo: 1. Stevenson (Audre Jackson, Maureen Sudek, Sherrie Sudek and Sheila Taormina), 4:55.20; 2. John Glenn, 4:59.58; 3. North Farmington, 5:05.95; 4. Salem, 5:17.90; 5. Franklin, 5:23.74; 6. Church, 6:00.39.

200 medley: 1. Churchill (Kendra James, Angie Neville, Andrea Martin and Carol Baker), 1:57.65; 2. Canton, 1:59.81; 3. Farmington, 2:10.42; 4. Stevenson, 2:14.50; 5. John Glenn, 2:17.30; 6. North Farmington, 2:17.46.

200 freestyle: 1. Churchill (Cathy Ankenbrandt, Erin Henry, Karin Sedestrom and Beth Nancy), 1:50.24; 2. Stevenson, 1:52.10; 3. Harrison, 1:53.43; 4. Salem, 1:58.77; 5. John Glenn, 2:04.05; 6. North Farmington, 2:07.27.

—Meet sponsored by the Plymouth and Canton Rotary Clubs

OU sports

Spikers in groove, take 2nd in tourney

The Oakland University volleyball team proved it was a team to be reckoned with last weekend by reaching the finals of the Indiana-Purdue at Fort Wayne Tournament.

OU lost the championship match to Wright State 15-4, 15-11, the only shadow on an otherwise bright week. The Pioneers were 7-1 for the week, including a 3-1 mark during the IPFW tournament.

To top it off, senior middle hitter-blocker Becca Wyatt was named Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) player of the week. Wyatt had 11 aces, 23 digs, 12 solo blocks, 13 blocking assists, 47 kills, a .283 hitting percentage and 51 points serving.

At the IPFW tourney, OU won its pool with four straight victories, losing just one game. The Lady Pioneers defeated Bellarmine 15-0, 15-11; Northern Michigan 15-15, 15-7, 15-13; St. Francis of Illinois 15-5, 15-11; and IPFW 15-11, 15-8.

In Saturday's semifinals, OU edged Mt. St. Joseph's 15-4, 6-15, 15-6. Stacey Young, a senior from Bloomfield Hills Andover, started the pivotal game with 11 straight serving aces. She finished with 13 to spark the triumph.

Judy Jenner shattered the OU career mark for assists in last Tuesday's wins over University of Michigan-Dearborn and Macomb Community College. A sparkling performance at the IPFW tournament improved Jenner's record to 1,847. The former record of 1,719 was held by Linda Sciotti (1983-84).

Coach Bob Hurdle was also pleased with outside hitter Bridget Bohnet's play. Bohnet collected 24 kills during the tournament, increasing her season hitting percentage close to .500.

On Monday, the Lady Pioneers whipped Alma 15-5, 15-6, 10-15, 16-14, at OU. The victory upped their record to 11-2 overall, 9-1 in NCAA play.

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