

Hawk gym win 'heaven-sent'

"It's like she dropped out of heaven right into my gym."

That's the way Farmington Harrison gymnastics coach Linda Perkins described Tana Burningham after the sophomore led the Hawks to a 119-88 victory against Walled Lake Central Monday night.

"She's just a real treasure to watch," Perkins said. "She's intense, she takes it very seriously and she has a great disposition."

Burningham, who competed at the club level until this season, took first in all four events Monday. She won the vault with a 9.25 score. She scored an 8.3 on uneven parallel bars, an 8.6 on

balance beam and an 8.0 on floor exercise.

All-Area performer Tracy Solomon also had a strong meet for the Hawks. She placed second on all four events: 8.75 on vault, 7.8 on bars, 7.95 on beam and 7.7 on floor, which tied her sister, Jordy Solomon.

Jordy Solomon contributed a fourth on vault (7.45), a fourth on bars (6.8) and a third on beam (7.8).

Debbie Schurgin placed fourth on beam (6.35) and Jenny Rick earned fifth-place points on both vault (7.15) and bars (4.2).

The win improves Harrison's record to 2-0. The Hawks will host Plymouth-

Salem tonight.

NORTH FARMINGTON, after scoring 119 points in its first meet of the season, rebounded with an impressive 127.35-point showing Monday against Northville.

The 127.35-96.15 victory improves North's record to 1-1.

All-Area performers Ellen Murtaugh, Lucine Toroyan and Kara Karhu paced the victors.

Murtaugh won three of the four events and placed second in the other. She won the vault (8.75), the beam (8.7) and the floor exercise (8.2). Her 8.05 was second in the bars.

Toroyan, just getting back in shape after an illness, won the bars with an 8.4. She tied for second with Karhu on vault (8.25) and placed second on beam (8.35).

Karhu, in addition to her second on vault, placed third on bars (7.75), third on beam (7.75) and second on floor (8.6).

Lisa Brundie scored a fourth on vault (7.8), a fifth on bars (6.8) and a third on floor (7.7). Kim Stralor placed fourth on floor (7.1) and fifth on vault (7.25). Laura DiCicco took a fourth on beam (7.4) and a fifth on floor (6.45).

The Raiders will host Walled Lake Western tonight.

All-Area gymnasts lead Salem by Glenn

So much for first-meet rustiness.

The Plymouth Salem gymnastics team, a serious contender for the Western Lakes championship this season, opened its campaign with a 121.4-113.85 win against Westlaid John Glenn Monday.

In its first event of the season, the vault — one usually fraught with jitter-caused falls — Salem scored an impressive 33.85.

All-Area performers Beth Rafail and Jackie Huff led the Rocks.

Rafail, a senior, won the vault with

a 9.05. She also won the balance beam with a 7.85. She placed second on both the uneven parallel bars (7.45) and floor exercise (8.35).

HUFF, A junior, won on floor with a 8.55. She placed third on vault (8.35) and on bars (7.35).

Becky Talbot gave Salem a fourth place on vault (8.25), a third on beam (7.35) and a fourth on floor (8.15). Freshman Dana Holda scored a fourth on bars (6.6).

The Rocks will travel to Farmington Harrison tonight.

volleyball

Mercy tops Regina in 3-set thriller

There are wins that are ugly, wins that are nice, wins that are just wins, and there are wins that are big.

The Farmington Hills Mercy Volleyball team's win against Harper Woods Regina Monday was a step beyond big; it was a breakthrough.

"With a history of losing in volleyball, I don't think this team really believed it could win," Mercy coach Renea Callery said. "To win at home like this, in a league match — this is big."

It was also dramatic.

Regina, usually one of the stronger Catholic League teams, pounded Mercy in the first game, 15-4. Mercy rallied to win game two, 15-12.

The Marlinis fell behind in game three, 12-8. Enter junior Shannon Persy.

PERSY STEPPED into the service corner and banged out seven straight points to win the game and the match for the Marlinis.

Callery, a first-year coach with Mercy, praised the individual play of several Marlinis.

Michelle Fryatt. The senior setter was near flawless. In game two, she was successful on 18 of 21 sets. In the third game she made 11 successful hits. She also served well and played solidly on defense.

Judy Janitz and Cathy Loniewski. The two hitters were the beneficiaries of Fryatt's accurate sets. Between them, only one spike was missed.

"We're still not playing together as a team," Callery said. "This win will help the girls trust each other and play as a team. I think that the individual talent of the girls has put the wins together for us at this point."

Before the holiday break, Mercy had defeated Royal Oak Shrine 15-9, 13-15, 15-2 in a non-league match.

Mercy's next match is tonight at Livonia Ladywood.

the week ahead

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Saturday, Jan. 11
Highland Pk. at St. Cath. (men), 7:30 p.m.
St. Cath. at Highland Pk. (women), 5 p.m.

PREP BASKETBALL

Friday, Jan. 10
Liv. Churchill at Farm. Harrison, 7:30 p.m.
Liv. Franklin at Ply. Canton, 7:30 p.m.
Wald. John Green at Liv. Stevenson, 7:30 p.m.
Ply. Salem at Farmington, 7:30 p.m.
W.L. Central at N. Farmington, 7:30 p.m.
Woodhaven at Garden City, 7:30 p.m.
Wayne Memorial at Trenton, 7:30 p.m.
Red. Thornton at D.H. Annapolis, 7:30 p.m.
Clarenceville at Luthern West, 7:30 p.m.
Bishop Borgessa at Harper Woods, 7:30 p.m.
Bth. Galsberg at Catholic Cent., 7:30 p.m.
St. Agatha at A.A. Galt, 7:30 p.m.
Redford Temple at Springfield Chr., 7:30 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Thursday, Jan. 9
Liv. Franklin vs. Bloomfield Hills Andover at Detroit Skating Club, 8 p.m.
Liv. Churchill vs. Southfield at Southfield Beech Woods Arena, 8 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 10
Liv. Churchill vs. Liv. Stevenson at Livonia's Edgar Arena, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 11
Catholic Central vs. Grosse Pte. North at Redford Ice Arena, 8 p.m.

bowling

OPEN JUNIOR BOWLING TOURNAMENT RESULTS AT WONDERLAND LANES (December 28-27)

Sponsored by the Observer Newspapers, Pro-Am Bowling and Trophy Livonia VFV Post 341

Girls 8-10 years: 1. Krista Snow, 298 (actual) and 673 (with handicap); 2. Kelly Citterdine, 219-627; 3. Adrienne Pietzsch, 202-589.
Boys 8-10: 1. Joe Naveleza, 367-709; 2. (tie) Delano Voletti, 335-651; and Michael Johnson, 306-651; 3. Ricky Green, 424-845.
Girls 11-12: 1. Melanie Schacht, 364-678; 2. Anne Nichols, 257-656; 3. Kristy Patti, 294-643.
Boys 11-12: 1. James Jozwik, 388-852; 2. Brandon Tuttle, 365-638; 3. Scott Wright, 381-633.
Girls 13-14: 1. Julie Trost, 629-697; 2. Vikki Emigelski, 395-600; 3. Jodi Markham, 412-601.
Boys 13-14: 1. Kevin Kosowski, 520-727; 2. Ron Karowski, 490-733; 3. Dan Patti, 590-719.
Girls 15-17: 1. Kelli Lippinski, 541-685; 2. Kathie Kuhn, 500-877; 3. Joan Kaminski, 448-664.
Boys 15-17: 1. Brian Thompson, 633-663; 2. Henry Noble, 685-678; 3. Erik Paul, 525-672.

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