# Mercy swim streak in peril

outlooks for the Farmington Hills Mercy swimming, tennis and cross country teams. The Mercy basketball team will be profiled on Monday.

By Chris McCosky

Paul Schroeder's first full-time oaching job is a pleasantly diffi-

caching Job is a pleasantly difficult one.

The 1981 Redford Catholic Central graduan assumed command of the Farmington Hills Mercy awim team.
What's so tough about that?

Tie is replacing De Loris Yager.
Yager, a member of the Catholic
League Hall of Fanne, won 21 consecutive Catholic League titles at
Mercy and never lost a dual meet.
'It will be hard to fill Mrs.
Yager's shoes, no doubt about it,
'all schreder, who was a standout
swimmer at John Carroll Universityl in Cleveland and is currently enrolled at St. John's Seminary
School in Plymouth "Since she has
retired from swimming, I'm just
going to try and pick up where she
left off."
What's so pleasant about it,
then?

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What's so picasant about it, then?
He inherits a very talented team, one that claims 12 potential state qualifiers, according to Schroeder's estimations.
"In our league (Catholic League), there just isn't a lot of competition, we have the best team, and it's

We have the best team, and it's kind of hard to destroy that.

"But we have a very tough schedule this season. We are swim-

ming against the top-ranked teams in the state. We will lose this year, I can guarantee that. It will be good for both the team and for the school to realize that they are not lavinetble. It is good to swim better competition. It forces you to swim all-out in every meet."

all-out in every meet."

THE 1986 Mercy schedule includes Ann Arbor Pioneer, Ann Arbor Huron, Dearborn, Rochester and Rochester Adams, There are 14 dual meets on the schedule.

Returning to the team from Inst year are seniors Jenny Morton, Angle Harrison, Suzie Knipper, Juniors Amy Cetnar, Lynn Zielinakl, Roberta Orr, Erica Campbell and sophomore Lisa Kelly.

Schroeder is also high on three frechmen: Becky Wiguist, Liz DeMatita and Katle Westhoff.

"We have a lot of depth," where a lot of depth, we have a lot of the depth of the

Jim Kerwin is in his third year at the helm of the Marlins. His master plan called for the team to be state contenders in flev pears. The team seems very, very close this season. "It's a good team," he said. "We have good depth and a lot of expenence. I'm looking for them to play very well. In the past, if we drew Birmingham Marian or Birmingham Scaholm in the regionals, we wouldn't really have a chance. Now we can be successful against them and give them a good match."

Kerwin has four solid singles players, three of them are returning letter winners. Seniors Kathy Helimbuch, who played No. 1 singles all of last year, and Carole Williams are back along with junfore Becky Tasich, who played No. 2 singles last year.

Nicole Transou, a talented freshman, will also play singles for the Marlins.

Kerwin has established five doubles teams. They are: sophomore Clindy Viall and junior Kristen Orlandoni; junior Sue Kong and senior Kitty Pheney, freshmen Shannon Flitpatrick and Katrina Regan; juniors Kandl Boyle and Cathy Best; and, seniors Kim Waiker and Jane Kang.

"We are improved over last year, Kerwin said. "We have more depth, that's our biggest improvement."

The Marlins, 8-3 last year and

depth, that's our black of the Marilins, 8-3 last year and second to Marian in the Catholic League, will open Wednesday, Sept. 3, at Dearborn.

### CROSS COUNTRY

This marks the 10th season Mercy has sponsored cross country and Bob Kirkland has been the team's only ceach. In that time, be has won a pair of Catholic League titles and has been in contention virtually every season.

This season should be no exception.

This season shown we to the control of the cam. Kirkland said. "They work real well with me and with each other. The drawback to that, though, is that we haven't had one person take charge. We need the



Mercy tennis coach

one person to jump out in front. If we get that, the others will definitely follow."

Kirkland has a strong pack of five runners senior Amy Lafferty, juniors Barb Cheaney and Moira Kordel and sophomores Molly Penbach and Moliy AfeWood.

"These are really good kids," he said. "We should win our share of meets this season. But I don't think we have the type of team that can run with Farmington in the area or Harper Woods Regina in the Catholic League."

Mercy, 4-3 and second to Regina last season, will open the season Saturday, Sepi. 6, at the West Bloomfield Invitational.

## Raiders in hunt for division title

By Chris McCosky stalf writer

The North Farmington girls tennis team was supposed to be in a re-building phase last year and was ex-pected to struggle in the demanding 12-team Western Lakes Activities

Association.

Some struggle. The Raiders finished with a 10-4 record, second best in the Lakes Division, fourth best in

ished with a 10-4 record, sectors used in the Lakes Division, fourth best in the WLAA.

Coach Norm Staniszewski returns everyone from that team except Monique Baker, who played at No. 4 singles last year.

Last year was a very satisfying season, the veteran coach said. Essentially, we are still a very young team. We don't have any ranked players, no stars. It'll be an interesting year.

Sophomore Wendy Wolf, the No. 1 singles of the decision of the star of t

Harrison opens Sept. 2 at South-field.

Sophomore Wendy Wolf, the No. 1 singles player last year, is back. She, along with sophomores Anne Heimbuck and Fam Gressler, Junior Carey Maxwell and seniors Amy Lowe and Terry Spengler are vying for singles roles with the team. Junior Meredith Wall and sophomores Lori Benedict, Karen Merkle and Megan Weinberg should also see action.

The Raiders will open the season Tuesday, Sept. 2 at West Bloomfield.

FARMINGTON HARRISON, the FARMINGTON HARRISON, the longitume dominant force in Observerland girls tennis, fell into a 2-12 season a year ago. What are the prospects for this season! "Well, we were 2-12 last year and I'd be happy to do that again," sald coach Bernie Goldstein.

In other words, it could be a long season.

### World tourney at Canton

The Canton Softball Center will host 128 of the top Class C slow-pitch softball teams in the country this weekend as the USSA World Class C Divisional Tournament comes to town.

The top teams from the Midwest will be competing in a double-climination format Friday through Monday. The champion-ship game is slated for Monday afternoon.

Canton Softball Center officials have not established an exact admission fee yet. Weekend passes, however, will be sold.

The Canton Softball Center is on Michigan Avenue, west of Canton Center Road.

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# An area star returns, another leaves

basketball

He was a member of the Michigan AAU's 17-and-under team this summer which played at the nationals in Washington, D.C.

Tive talked with Skip (on the phone) and right now he's planning on staying with his brother down in Georgia, "said Dropp. Tit's a family thing and right now if don't have any answers. Our principal (Ron Cowden) and our athletic director (Bill Pinnell) have both talked to him."

Mark Robinson of Wayne Memorial and Steve Hawley of Westland John Glenn.)

"Knowing if we were having Skip back, we could build around him," Dropp said. "It's definitely a blow because he's such a nice person. He's a personal friend and he's such a leader.

"I think everybody at school is a little numb,"

Holowicki called Vaccarelli's reinstatement, "a shot in the arm for us."
"I'm not going to deny that I'm

glad to have him back," said the CC coach. "I just hope he stays in school for his sake. He's an exciting play-

or."
After his dismissal, Vaccarelli fin-ished his junior year of high school in Colorado, living with his father and sister. ister.

Last season, Vaccarelli averaged

nearly 16 points per game, helping the Shamrocks to a 16-7 overall

record.
With the departure of Barnett, Va-carrell is considered the area's top returning prospect.





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