

# Observerland swimmers fare well at state

By Brad Emons and Dan O'Meara  
staff writers

Observerland did not come home with any firsts, but area schools turned in a good showing at the state Class A and B boys swim championships last weekend.

Livonia Stevenson was the top area team at the Class A meet, scoring 32 points in the meet held at Eastern Michigan University. The Spartans, however, did not crack the top 10 in the team standings which were won by Ann Arbor Huron.

But senior Joe Saunders was responsible for most of Stevenson's points, taking a third in the 100-yard butterfly (51.63) and a fifth in the 100 backstroke (54.85). He also teamed up with Mark Gergely, Tony Albert and Doug Coderre to gain an 11th-place finish in the 200 medley relay (1:40.3).

The Spartans' 400 freestyle team of Duane Filppo, Greg Jubeniville, John Kocharnek and Mike Goecke was 10th. They were clocked in 3:17.3.

## Stevenson does the best in Class A

"We took only eight boys and all took home medals, which was nice," said Stevenson coach Doug Buckler. "As for Joe (Saunders), it was a bit of a disappointment, but it was my fault because I should have tapered (rested) him a week earlier. He was on record pace at 75 (yards) in the butterfly and then he lightened up."

"That was because he wasn't rested up, but it's a gamble trying to determine when to taper down (the workouts)."

PLYMOUTH SALEM was right behind Stevenson in the team standings thanks to sophomore Ron Orris, who finished sixth in the 200 freestyle (1:44.7) and fifth in the 100 freestyle (47.65).

Orris also led Salem to an 11th place in the 400 freestyle, joining forces with John Irvine, Fred Seidelman and Jeff Musson. The Rockets' quartet of David Miller, Geoff Tay-

lor, Jon Hobgood and Mike Hill added 12th in the 200 medley.

"I was pleased because everybody we took to the meet swam on Saturday (the prelims started on Friday)," said Salem coach Chuck Olson. "I think we swam fast, but not fast enough to get into the top 10."

Orris, recovering from a bout with the flu, was held out of the 500 freestyle to save energy for the shorter freestyle events.

"Orris had a great meet, and I don't anticipate him slowing down," Olson said. "He had been out of the water eight days, and the smart thing to do was to save him since he had a lot of flexibility swimming other events."

In the 500 freestyle, Redford Catholic Central freshman Troy Shumate finished seventh with a time of 4:41.4. He also helped the Shamrockes' 12th-place finish in the 400 freestyle relay.

OTHER AREA PLACERS in Class A included Westland John Glenn's Mark Miller, who was eighth in diving, and Farmington's Jim Vik, who was 12th in the 50 freestyle (1:24.4).

But one of the biggest surprises came from Livonia Churchill Junior Mark Papierski, who took fourth in the 200 individual medley (1:57.53) and sixth in the 100 backstroke.

Papierski's times improved dramatically after he finished second in the 200 IM and sixth in the 100 backstroke at the Western Lakes Activities Association meet (March 3-5).

"He's easy going and a hard worker," said Churchill first-year coach Lawrence Hein of his standout. "He's talented in all four strokes, and he swam wherever I needed him on the team this year."

"We tapered his workouts, and he

had some significant drops (in times). At the league meet (WLAA) we did not taper him down."

In the backstroke, Papierski moved all the way from the 12th best preliminary time to the sixth best overall.

AT THE CLASS B meet in East Lansing, Farmington Harrison pulled a surprise by cracking the top 10.

The Hawks finished 10th overall with 53 points in a meet captured by Holland Christian, which scored a team-high 149 1/2.

Scott Farabee was the Harrison standout, finishing fifth in both the 200 freestyle (1:46.67) and the 100 butterfly (54.74). Teammate Brian Fitzgerald added a sixth in the 500 freestyle with a clocking of 4:52.37.

The area's top finish (Class A or B) belonged to Redford Thurston's Dan Hayes, who took second in the 100 butterfly with a time of 52.53.

Hayes just a week earlier figured in three first-place finishes at the Tri-River League meet.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer  
Scott Farabee was among the best swimmers in two events.

## Ladywood roars into semis

By Brad Emons and C.J. Rissak  
staff writers

Maureen Knittel was flying high Saturday, leading No. 1-ranked Livonia Ladywood to the state Class A regional volleyball title last weekend at Lansing Waverly.

The Blazers opened defending state champion East Kentwood (15-12, 8-15, 15-8) and Lansing Eastern (15-7, 15-7) to move into Saturday's state semifinals against Lake Orion.

Ladywood meets the Dragons at 2:30 p.m. at Flint Carman-Aldrich High School. The other semifinal matches Temperance-Bedford and Sterling Heights Stevenson at 1 p.m. The state finals are scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

Knittel, a senior, has been Ladywood's fourth or fifth best hitter dur-

## volleyball

ing the season, but on Saturday she recorded 13 kills, including three acs in 24 attacks to spark the regional final win over East Kentwood.

"She played well beyond what she's played all year," said Ladywood coach Tom Teeters, who is no stranger to the state finals, having led Livonia Clarenceville to the Class B crown in 1978.

"WE WANTED to go to the middle," Teeters added. "But they (East Kentwood) had a double-block set on Sarah Adama, so Mary Kelly our setter recognized that 'Mo' was hit-

ting real well. She was smart enough to go to the hot player."

Nancy Wagner, who made an unusual shot to wrap up the match, teamed up with Corinne McNamara to add 12 and eight kills, respectively. Kari Domanski served 12 points, including three acs.

In the win over Lansing Eastern, Kelly made only one error in 24 sets. She recorded 15 assist kills.

Ladywood's coming match against Lake Orion will be a contrast of styles.

"We rely on blocking, passing and serve reception," Teeters said. "We run a faster attack."

"Lake Orion is not tall, but a very good defensive team. I think we got the best end of the draw. Any four teams can win it, but hopefully we can handle Lake Orion while Bedford and Stevenson are beating up on each other."

TEMPERANCE-BEDFORD is playing real well right now. And Sterling Heights Stevenson is one of the best blocking teams in the state. It should be a very interesting tournament.

Teeters is hoping his team's season-long No. 1 ranking will pan out. "To get here you need a lot of hard work and a little luck," he said. "We're in good condition and it's paying off."

## Tankers rely on confidence

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"In the 200, my best the previous year was 2:12.9, and I went 2:07.44. I did that out of the blue. When I swam it, I never knew I was going to do that fast. I thought I would go another 2:12."

BUT SUBWOOLSKY'S confidence waned in the 100. Inexperience hurt him, as he explained, when asked how he thought he might do. "I have no idea. I'll tell you right now, I don't know how well I'm swimming. There's a lot of experience in this race, and I don't have it."

Seeded sixth, Subwoolsky qualified 12th (2:30.04) and finished 11th (2:05.05). And he would've you know it — illness did strike the night prior to the 200, weakening Subwoolsky physically and mentally.

"But I'm still a great swimmer," Subwoolsky said. "I've already planned my summer around a team get-together by Old Coach Pete Finck's."

He won't have much time to rest, though, as he'll be back in the water at the state meet. "I'm really excited about this year's season," he said. "I'm really excited about this year's season."

## Harrison tankers capture 10th place in state competition

Farmington Hills Harrison capped a fine swimming season by finishing 10th in the Class B meet Saturday.

The Hawks were led by Scott Farabee, who placed fifth in the 200-yard freestyle and 100 butterfly, and Brian Fitzgerald, who was sixth in the 500 freestyle.

Harrison's freestyle relay team of Farabee, Fitzgerald, Jeff Whitehead and Marc Froesch was seventh with a 3:17.48 time. Only the top six in each event received medals, however.

Whitehead also placed in the consolation bracket (seventh to 12th places) in the 50 and 100 freestyles, and sophomore Carl Johnson was 10th in the diving. Froesch competed in the 100 free, also.

Coach Pete Leonhardt called Johnson's performance phenomenal. After finishing eighth in the league meet, he "came out of nowhere" to have the highest finish by a freshman or sophomore diver in the state meet, according to his coach.

"I was really pleased with the way the guys came through," Leonhardt

## swimming

said. "The way the free relay performed was the highlight."

The Hawks were third in the relay, when Farabee entered the water on the anchor leg, and Harrison ended up finishing first and winning the consolation race.

Farmington's Jim Vik was 12th in the 50 freestyle and 14th in the butterfly. He and teammates Scott Hawkins, Adam Krause and Brad Moore also qualified and competed in the freestyle relay.

North Farmington senior Jerdy Greenstein swam a personal best of 1:02.12 in the breaststroke and finished 13th in the Class A meet.

The Raiders' medley relay team of Bruce Goina, Greenstein, Steve Turney and Chuck Chuba also went to state and posted a 1:42.18 time in the preliminary rounds.

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