

Sports

Dan O'Meara editor/591-2312



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City champions

Falcon girls, Hawk boys take titles

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

The annual Farmington track and field city meet featured a thrilling, down-to-the-wire victory by the Farmington High girls Wednesday, and Harrison used its exceptional depth to defeat the Falcons in the boys competition.

The girls contest couldn't have been more suspenseful since the winner was not decided until the contestants in the 1,600-meter relay had covered the last inch of track.

Harrison won that event, but the more important race — in terms of deciding the overall winner — was between Farmington and North

Farmington.

The Falcons, leading in the team standings 64-63 going into the last event, needed the three points that go with second place to stay ahead of the Raiders.

AMY TRUNK, running the final leg of the 1600 relay, brought Farmington from behind and edged her North rival at the tape following an exciting foot race to the finish line.

With that effort, the Falcons finished with 67 points, the Raiders 63 and Harrison 34.

"If you ever had to bet on somebody, you can put your money on Amy Trunk all the time," Farmington coach Bruce Brown said. "She's

just a tiger."

Despite host Farmington's number of first places in the boys half of the competition, Harrison posted one of the larger margins of victory. The Hawks had 88 points, the Falcons 69½ and North 17½.

"In 1986, Farmington beat us by that much," said Harrison coach John Schumacher, demonstrating the closeness of the meet by holding a thumb and index finger less than an inch apart. "Last year, it was about the same thing only we edged them out."

A MAJOR FACTOR in the Farmington girls' success was the fact

they won three relays. The Falcons had five individual firsts in addition to other key contributions, which made for plenty of people for Brown to single out.

"I can go right down the line," he said. "So many came through for us."

Trunk was an obvious key since she also won the 400 dash. Kristi Devine took the discus despite a sore back that nearly kept her out of the meet.

Carrie Maier, who also plays soccer as does Trunk, raced to first place in the 200 dash, dependable Julie Lawton won the high jump and Jennifer Kiel nipped North's Lisa Rives by .05 in the 3200 run.

Freshman Shellie Gaul provided "a huge surprise" by finishing second in the 100-meter hurdles, an event Brown didn't expect the Falcons to score.

"AND SOME PEOPLE, like Julie Lawton, do it time after time," he said. "And you begin to take them for granted — and that's not right either."

North got two of its victories in the field events where Suzi Butcher won the shot put and Ginger Denoghe the long jump. DeDe Newman was the 100 dash winner, and Rives found her way into the winners circle by breaking the ribbon in the 1600 run.

In addition to winning the final relay, Harrison had three individual winners: Jane Peters in the 100 hurdles, freshman Elizabeth Tucker in the 800 run and Maria Chalogianis in the 300 hurdles.

"I keep telling them (the meet) doesn't mean as much, because both teams are in the conference now and we have the dual meets and conference meet," Brown said.

"But one of the girls said: 'Coach, it means a whole lot.' I guess it does, because there's a lot of tradition and you're running against teams in your community."

SENIOR SPRINTER Aaron Yaverki's four first places is a good starting place when looking for reasons why the Hawks won the boys meet. He won the 100, 400 and 200 dashes and ran the lead-off leg of the 1600 relay, which Harrison won.

The Hawks were especially tough in the hurdles. They swept the highs with Bob Conlon, Brian Soeder, Troy Soeder and Rich Esker finishing in that order, and Harrison took three of four places in the intermediates, with Brian Soeder winning it.

"Everyone did well; we didn't have an off day," Schumacher said. "I knew the talent was there. What is a good omen is that we ran well with good competition."

Schumacher also pointed to Bob

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RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Aaron Yaverki crosses the finish line to win the 100-meter dash, the first of his three victories in the sprint races Thursday.

Mercy remains perfect in track

Farmington Hills Mercy track coach Gary Servais no doubt found Wednesday's victory pleasing for more reasons than one.

First of all, the Marlins opened Central Division competition by scorching Harper Woods Regina 108½-19½ on the Farmington High track. Furthermore, it was Mercy's third straight win without a loss.

For Servais, it had to have been a satisfying win since it was achieved at the expense of his former team. He last coached track at Regina two years ago.

Sue Mello, Mary Beth Straud and Carrie Walton had three first places to lead the Marlins.

In addition to winning the 400-meter dash (1:08.0), Mello was on the 800 relay team along with Kim Cook, Benita Brown and Michelle Smith, and the 1600 foursome included Mello, Mollie Tenbusch, Walton and Straud. The winning times were 1:58.7 and 4:51.0, respectively.

Straud also won both hurdles races in 19.4 and 57.7, and Walton took first place in the 800 and 1600 runs with 2:51.0 and 6:16.0 times.

Adanna Amanzo had two firsts, in the 200 dash (30.3) and the 400 relay, which included Nikki Glass, Smith and Brown and posted a 56.08 time. Cook, also with two wins, captured the 100 dash in 13.81.

In the field events, Mercy's Jeannette Turner won the discus (89-8), Charese Sanders the shot put (32-3) and Gail Murie the high jump (4-4).

The Marlins swept the relays with Kathleen Gerigk, Heather Sullivan, Brigitte Dery and Noelle Gates winning the 3200 contest in 11:05.0.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Dawn Montrose competes in the 100-meter hurdles in the annual city meet. Montrose and her Farmington teammates won the girls

championship for the second straight year, literally edging North Farmington in the 1600 relay.

Salem deals Farmington first defeat

Prom plans pose no distraction for Rocks

By Steve Kowalski
staff writer

A handful of Plymouth Salem soccer players had a junior class prom to attend Friday night.

But they played a soccer game Friday afternoon, and it's a good thing they kept their thoughts on dribbling and passing instead of the latest dance step.

Salem shut out host Farmington 2-0 Friday in a game played before the junior varsity game because of the prom.

Junior Jill Estey and sophomore Michelle Minton scored goals for the Rocks, who improved their record to 2-1-1 overall. Sara Hayes and Teri King collected assists on those goals.

FARMINGTON, ranked No. 2 in the Class A state coaches poll, suffered its first loss after winning four games.

"I wasn't thinking about the prom during the game," Estey said. "I don't think it bothered anyone. Had we lost I would have been upset for a while, but it wouldn't have ruined the whole night."

The win was crucial for Salem. Not only did it show the Rocks they can beat one of the Western Lakes Conference's best teams, it also helped them forget the early-season nightmare they had been having.

Salem lost two games en route to last year's

soccer

Class A state championship, but (led Birmingham Marian in its season opener this year, and lost its second game to Plymouth Canton.

"I HAD TO do a lot of soul searching, and a lot of the girls were down," said Salem coach Ken Johnson, who didn't know how his team would approach the game with the prom being later that night. "But we had a good talk and a good practice Thursday. We felt good today."

"I thought they wouldn't be able to get the prom off their minds, but the funny thing is I never heard one of them mention it before the game. It seemed like they just said 'Let's get this game over with, get in the car and have a good time at the dance.'"

Johnson thought Salem passed the ball well, particularly on Estey's goal that opened the scoring with 4:40 left in the first half.

Estey picked up the rebound — after a Salem shot had hit the goal post — and drilled it by Farmington goalkeeper Debbie Westerkamp for the goal.

"We had nice passing today," Johnson said. "I was pleased with the setups, especially on that

first goal. Every attack we had was set up by three or four passes.

"It's nice to see those passes, because the last one can get the goalie to be at the player's mercy."

Farmington managed only 10 shots — three in the second half — against Salem goalie Ellen Schnackel. The Rocks, meanwhile, fired 24 shots at Westerkamp, who despite the loss, played well.

"DEBBIE PLAYED excellent," Farmington coach Ed Bartram said. "She's a little quiet back there, and I like my keepers to make a lot of noise, but she'll develop. She's only a freshman."

The shot differential was an indication of how much Salem outplayed Farmington. The Rocks played an aggressive style and might have caught the Falcons playing flat-footed.

"We played a different style than we've used to," said Farmington senior halfback Heather Glennie. "We played their game instead of sticking to ours. They played more man-to-man defense, and there was constantly somebody on you."

Bartram wasn't overly concerned with the defeat. The Falcons beat state-power Livonia Stevenson earlier this season, so he knows his players' capabilities.

"We gave it our best shot," Bartram said. "We're certainly not out of anything."

N'ville tops Chiefs

Canton's record team in Class A last week, N'ville, fell to Farmington 1-0 in a game played at North Farmington.

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