

## Sports

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Thursday, December 22, 1988 O&amp;E

(F1C)

## Hoffman triggers Raiders

It's no secret how important point guard Matt Hoffman is to North Farmington's basketball fortunes. He proved his value Tuesday at Walled Lake Western, even though he was still under par.

Hoffman popped in three three-pointers in the first quarter to lead the Raiders on a 17-4 breakaway, which lasted the whole way in North's 71-52 squashing of the Warriors.

Hoffman, according to coach Tom Negoshian, is still "only about 75 percent" after spraining an ankle five weeks ago. This was just his second game since returning, and — even hobbled with his bad ankle — he showed his worth in the first quarter by scoring nine points.

Hoffman finished with 13 for the game and 10 assists.

"He got off fast," said Negoshian of Hoffman's outburst. "Unfortunately, he couldn't sustain it for too long."

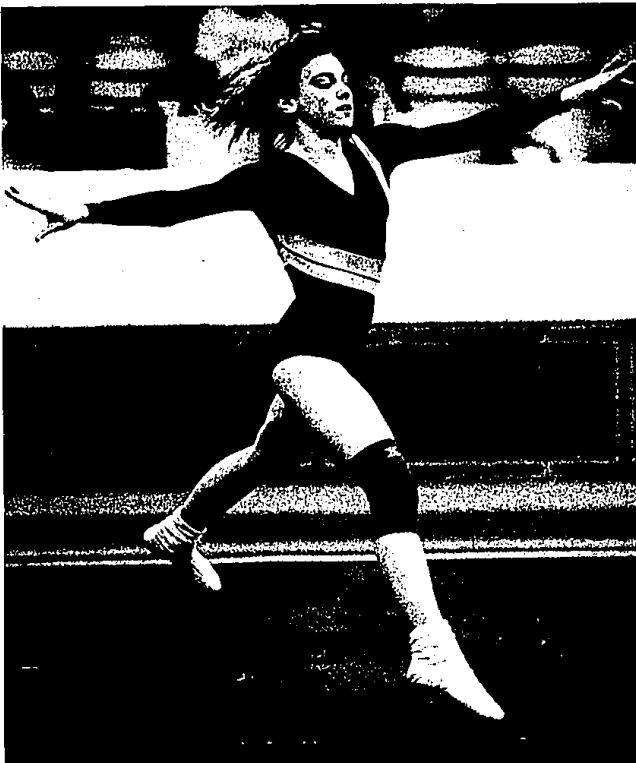
Still, a Hoffman at 75 percent was better than no Hoffman at all. "It helps having him back, period," said Negoshian.

Brian Temple's 16 points topped North, which improved to 2-3. Chris White added 12 and Bill Chwalik had eight points and eight rebounds. Kevin White's 10 points was best for Western (0-5).

FARMINGTON FAILED to handle Livonia Churchill's transition game and it cost the Falcons in a 61-49 loss at Churchill Tuesday.

The defeat dropped Farmington to 0-5; the Chargers are 2-4.

The Falcons had an 11-8 lead after one quarter, but Churchill coach Fred Price increased the



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Freshman Christine Oates, who just moved to the school district from Ohio, finished first in four events in Farmington's opening win.

## Freshman lifts Falcons to win over GP North

By C.J. Risak  
staff writer

Mary Beth Schornhorst could hardly hide her excitement, although she gave it a supreme effort.

"It was a nice win," the Farmington gymnastics coach said. "It was very good. We were real pleased with it."

What pleased Schornhorst was, first of all, the victory — 120.15-91.8 over Grosse Pointe North Monday at Farmington; second, the Falcon point total, a solid score for the first meet of the year; and third, the performance of freshman Christine Oates, who won three events outright and tied for first in the other.

Oates transferred into the area last summer from Ohio, and when she did she immediately upgraded the Falcon gymnastic program.

"Oates will be our No. 1 all-arounder," predicted Schornhorst. But she isn't the entire show for Farmington. Seniors Debbie Ford and Julie Lawton are also solid performers.

IN THE WIN over North, Oates won the vault (8.15), uneven parallel bars (7.75) and floor exercise (8.5) and tied teammate Amber Arbuckle for first in the balance beam (8.0).

Ford was second in the vault (7.85) and bars (7.65) and third in the floor exercise (7.4), while Lawton took second in the floor exercise (7.8) and third in both the bars (7.05) and beam (7.25). Meredith Stump finished third for Farmington in the vault (7.8).

"We have a little more balance, a little more depth this year," a cautious Schornhorst said. "(Oates) is

## gymnastics

going to have a definite influence." Does that mean Farmington can challenge some of the other local powerhouses, like city rival North Farmington? "No predictions," insisted Schornhorst.

"I'm real excited to see that score because we'll only get better. This is the strongest team I've had since I've been at Farmington," the six-year veteran coach added.

NORTH OPENED its season last Thursday in a quad meet with Ann Arbor Pioneer and Hartland at Livonia Clarenceville. The Raiders finished on top, scoring 122.75 to Pioneer's 119.4, Clarenceville's 118.1 and Hartland's 117.9.

Heather Kahn emerged as the star of the meet. Kahn led North with three firsts and a tie for second.

Her wins came in the bars (8.3), beam (8.5) and floor exercise (8.4). She tied teammates Mimi Gater and Rita Dunn for second in the vault (8.3), an event won by Pioneer's Carrie Cunningham (9.1).

Other Raiders to finish in the top three were Gater, third in the bars (7.55), and Dunn, third in the beam (8.4).

Lisa Granfeldt topped Clarenceville's effort with a second in the beam (8.45) and a third in the floor exercise (8.05).

Both North and Farmington are idle until after the holidays.

## all-area swimming

## OBSERVER ALL-AREA SWIM TEAM

## Individual events

Christie Duthie, N. Farmington 200 freestyle  
Kerry Doran, N. Farmington 500 IM  
Karen Neyer, Mercy 50 freestyle  
Jenny Raschella, Churchill 400 free  
Audra Martin, Churchill 100 butterfly  
Laurie Oswald, N. Farmington 100 freestyle  
Nicole Drake, Canton 200 freestyle  
Julie Jensen, John Glenn 100 backstroke  
Jennifer Knapp, Stevenson 100 breaststroke  
Lauren Wasy, Farmington 400 IM

## Relays

200 medley relay — Katie Westhoff, Katie Knipper, Liz DeMatia, Karen Neyer, Farmington Hills Mercy.  
200 medley relay — Gina Benetti, Jennifer Knapp, Dawn Gurney, Jane Whitney, Livonia Stevenson.  
400 freestyle relay — Laurie Oswald, Christie Duthie, Kristin Coko, Kerry Doran, North Farmington.  
400 freestyle relay — Ellen Lesica, Tara Dickhoff, Katie Hamann, Audra Martin, Livonia Churchill.

## Honorable mention

(The following list includes all state qualifiers from the Observer area. Following each name is the event in which they bettered out for state meet.)

Farmington: Katie Kohl (400 free relay, 50 free, 100 free); Tonya Baker (diving); JJ Hawkins (400 free relay, 100 free); Miley Kendall (400 free relay).  
Plymouth-Canton: Cassie Cummins (200 IM, 100 back, 400 free relay); Lori Englehuber (50 free, 400 free relay); Val Cicchusa (200 medley relay); Orih Lang (200 medley relay); Tami Santorano (200 medley relay); Kelly Fische (400 free relay).  
Redford: Thurston: Tanya H. Leck (200 free, 500 free).  
Hills Mercy: Polly Tanuta (500 free); Cindy Grush (500 free, 400 free relay); Michelle MacFarther (400 free relay); Becky Wozniak (500 free, 200 free, 400 free relay).  
Livonia Churchill: Angie Hewitt (100 breast); Michelle Barry (200 medley relay); Jennifer Danner (200 medley relay); Stacey Tomaszewski (200 medley relay).  
Farmington Hills Hartford: JJ Muray (200 IM).  
North Farmington: Jilliane Markey (200 medley relay); Cady Camko (200 medley relay); Amy Duthie (200 medley relay).  
Plymouth-Bloom: Trish Hill (200 medley relay); Erin Olson (200 medley relay); Sarah Andrews (200 medley relay); Julie Hickey (200 medley relay); Tami Hickey (400 free relay); Dawn Shaw (400 free relay); Nicole Bosay (400 free relay); Stacie Anderson (400 free relay).

## State qualifers headline squad

By C.J. Risak  
staff writer

Every swimmer scored. Every swimmer selected to the 1988 Observer all-area team scored points at the Class A girls state meet. Among the most successful were Livonia Churchill's Audra Martin, North Farmington's Kerry Doran and Westland John Glenn's Julie Jensen. Each finished in the top six in two individual events.

No state champions resided in Observerland, but in three events at the state meet local swimmers finished second.

In other words, it was another strong season for female swimmers from the area.

Coaches selected 10 individual performers and four relays to the first team. Also, all those listed for honorable mention were state qualifiers, a distinction worth noting.

North Farmington coach Pat Duthie was named the Observer's coach of the year. The Raiders won the Lakes Division dual-meet championship, then finished fourth in the Western Lakes Activities Association meet.

Their best performance came a bit later, when North placed sixth in the state, higher than any other Observerland team.

Here are the all-Observer swimmers for 1988, listed in order of their events.

Farmington Hills Mercy 200-yard medley relay (Katie Westhoff, Katie Knipper, Liz DeMatia, Karen Neyer); All four medley Marinas scored points in individual events at state meet, a good reason why Mercy placed second in the medley at state in a school-record 1:50.76. They also placed second at the Oakland County meet and won at the Catholic League, tying the meet record.

Livonia Stevenson 200 medley relay (Gina Benetti, Jennifer Knapp, Dawn Gurney, Jane Whitney). The Spartans best race came at the WLLA finals, in which they placed second to Northville. Stevenson's best clocking was a state-qualifying 1:56.50.

"This relay tried at year to make

state," said Stevenson coach Greg Phil, "and they did an excellent job at the conference meet to drop 3½ seconds to take second."

Bennetts qualified for state in the 100 back and Knapp placed second in the 100 breast.

Christie Duthie, North Farmington, 200 freestyle: A junior, Duthie did just what every good swimmer aims to do — race their best at state. Duthie's best times both came at the Class A finals, in the 200 free (1:58.51), in which she finished 12th, and in the 100 butterfly (1:00.33), in which she took money team.

In addition, Duthie recorded her best split in her 100 free leg of the 400 free relay (53.69) at state. North placed fourth.

Kerry Doran, North Farmington, 200 freestyle: Doran was never out of the running. She won the 200 IM at the Oakland County meet (and was second in the 100 breaststroke) and was second at the WLLA meet (and was also second in the 100 breast).

At state, Doran placed third in the 200 IM in 2:08.66 and was fifth in the 100 breast in 1:08.39. She, too, was on North's fourth-place 400 free relay team. Doran has team records in the 200 IM, 100 fly and with the 400 free relay. Best of all, she's just a sophomore; her brightest days are ahead of her.

Karen Neyer, Farmington Hills Mercy, 50 freestyle: Neyer was only fifth listed in the 50 at the Oakland County meet, but she got better fast. The junior won both the 50 and 100 free at the Catholic League meet, then finished seventh in the 50 (24.68) and 12th in the 100 (55.24) at state.

Karen has grown so much this year in her self-confidence, her training, her will to win," said Mercy coach Chuck McClune. "She is the most natural splitter I've ever worked with. How fast can she really go? I'm not sure, but I think her (200 medley) relay split of 23.70 gives you an idea."

Jenny Raschella, Livonia Churchill, diving: Raschella's story may be the most unique of the season. Until this fall, Raschella had never dived in competition. She got her training in gymnastics, and made the most of it.

Raschella, a junior, won the WLLA title and had 11 firsts in dual-meet competition. At the state regionals she placed seventh, and at state she was 16th. Not too shabby for her first year.

Audra Martin, Livonia Churchill, 100 butterfly: Martin holds five individual

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Please turn to Page 4