

# Sports

Dan O'Meara editor/591-2312

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(F1C)

## Farmington still talented

By Dan O'Meara  
staff writer

In the big meets last year, nobody could match Farmington's girls track and field team, which won Western Lakes Activities Association and regional championships.

The Falcons might not duplicate that success this year, but Farmington, with enough top-flight athletes returning, will be among the WLA contenders again.

The Falcons, however, must get along without some key members of the last team and will have a thin lineup that lacks the depth needed for dual meets.

"We're optimistic, we just have a lot of unknowns," coach Bruce Brown said. "But we've got some definite knows. We have some kids who are going to do well. We'll show up with what we've got and see how it goes."

The top returnees include senior distance runner Jennifer Kiel, junior hurdles Shelli Gaul and Susan Davidson, senior sprinters Carrie Maier and Amy Trunk and junior thrower Kerri Owczarzak.

BROWN EXPECTS Kiel to have another good year. She qualified for state in the 1600- and 3200-meter runs and holds the school record of 5:17.0 in the former. Kiel was regional champion in the 3200 and runner-up in the 1600.

Farmington's success in girls cross country has always had a carry-over effect in track, and other members of the WLA championship cross country team will help to make distance running a strength.

Junior Jenny Derwinski, an all-area cross country runner, Gretchen Clappison and Cheryl Casaroli and sophomores Carrie Walter, Allison



Jennifer Kiel  
regional champion



Jenny Derwinski  
distance runner

Davis and Jodie Van Ord offer support for Kiel. Joan Muller is a freshman prospect.

The Falcons were hurt most by graduation in the sprints.

Jennifer Reed, who is competing for the University of Michigan women's team, Angie Forge and Nicole Tocco helped to make Farmington's 400 and 800 relays the best in the area and were good in open events, too. Those three also combined with Gaul to win the 800 relay at the regional.

"The great unknown is really our sprints," Brown said. "We lived off Angie Forge for four years. I don't know what we can do, but we'll see what life is like without Angie."

"You could always count on Angie, and we were fortunate when Jennifer Reed moved in (for her senior

year). We can't look back on it. We just have to have younger kids come through."

MAIER AND Trunk ran on the sprint relays when available the last three years, but they also play soccer at Farmington. They missed the league and regional meets because of the soccer team's extended run in the state tournament.

"They'll help us if we don't have a conflict," Brown said. "Last year we had enough depth that we could work around that. Right now we don't seem to have that depth."

Brown hopes junior Kristy Bodary will help in the 200 and 400 and sophomore Sheri Ylitalo in the 400. Sophomore Mattie Kinsey is another possibility, but her workouts are limited by a sprained ankle.

### girls track

Gaul was the WLA champion in the 100 hurdles and runner-up in the regional with a school-record time of 15.5. Davidson was sixth in the same event at the regional, and Dawn Montrose placed sixth in the 300 hurdles in the WLA.

"I'd say hurdling has to be one of our strong suits," Brown said.

Farmington lost one of the area's top high jumpers in Julie Lawton, but Gaul has jumped 5 feet. Clappison adds depth in that event.

OWCZARZAK was fifth in the regional in the shot put (31-0) and sixth in the discus (94-0). Junior Deanna Curcio competes in both events, also.

"Kerri usually takes a place for us," Brown said.

Gibson has long jumped more than 14 feet, but she plays soccer, too, and might not be available for all meets.

The relay situation, especially with the loss of the sprinters, is up in the air, according to Brown.

"It just depends who we have on a given day," he said. "We don't have enough Jennifer Kiels. I'd like to run her in six events."

The Falcons, with a 4-1 record, were runners-up in the Lakes Division of the WLA and were 6-1 overall last year. Livonia Stevenson, which won the Lakes title, should be the team to beat, according to Brown.

Farmington's season begins Wednesday with the annual city meet at Harrison High School.



RANDY BOST/Staff photographer

Shelli Gaul was league champion in the 100-meter hurdles and holds the school record of 15.5 seconds.

## North duo earns repeat honors



Kym Heller  
N. Farmington



Heather Kahn  
N. Farmington



Courtney Gonyea  
Salem

By Dan O'Meara  
staff writer

THIS YEAR'S ALL-AREA gymnastics team looks very much like an all-state team.

Observant fans will note a strong showing in the state finals March 17 at Saginaw Valley State University, and many of the top performers in that meet are members of the 1990 all-area squad.

The leader is Plymouth Salem freshman Kim Miller, who won the all-around state championship and helped the Rocks to a third-place showing in state competition.

Miller scored 36.30 in the all-around competition to earn the title won by Westland John Glenn's Wendy Minch a year ago. Miller also was the individual winner on bars with an 18.25 total in the two-day competition.

North Farmington won a regional championship and was fourth in the state and is represented by Heather Kahn and Kym Heller on the all-area team, which once again was determined by area coaches.

Plymouth Canton also was a regional winner and finished fifth at state. Canton's Dawn Clifford,

### all-area gymnastics

Johanna Anderson and Heather Murphy are all-area repeaters as are Heller, Kahn and Westland John Glenn's Christine Prough.

Kathi Kinsella, who led Salem to its first Western Lakes Activities Association title and the best showing among area schools in state competition, was named coach of the year.

#### FIRST TEAM

Heather Kahn, junior, N. Farmington: Kahn was second in the state as an all-around competitor, scoring 36.00 in the finals. She also finished fifth on vault, seventh on bars and tied for eighth on floor.

Kahn was the WLA champion on vault (9.20), was second on bars (9.20) and beam (9.25) and was third on floor (9.25).

"She has the ability to keep things in perspective and is really steady," coach Jeff Dwyer said. "She has a real mature outlook in the sense she stays level-headed. I never saw her get upset. Her consistency — that's been the name of her game."

Kym Heller, senior, N. Farmington: Heller was the state co-champion on vault, scoring 16.85 in the two-day competition and tying with Kristie Kelly of Freeland.

Heller was sixth in the state as an all-arounder with a 35.60 total and fourth in the WLA with a 35.70 score. She was third on vault (9.00) in the league meet, eighth on bars (8.65), fifth on beam (9.00) and fifth on floor (9.06).

"She peaked at the right time for the league, regional and state meets," Dwyer said. "She's better when the competition is better."

"She's a real tough athlete who doesn't like to give up, and we're going to miss that next year. There was never a mist when she put the pressure on to her."

Dawn Clifford, sophomore, Canton: Clifford had high scores of 9.0 on vault, 8.85 on bars, 9.1 on beam, 8.5 on floor exercise and 35.00 in the all-around. She also has All-American averages of 8.84 on vault, 8.69 on bars, 8.93 on beam and 33.98 in the all-around.

Clifford was sixth in the state on beam (17.70) and was third in the Rockford Invitational in that event. In the WLA meet, she was fifth in the all-around (35.00) and fourth on beam (9.10) and

Please turn to Page 2

### gymnastics

1990 ALL-AREA  
GYMNASTICS TEAM  
FIRST TEAM

Heather Kahn	N. Farmington	Kym Heller	N. Farmington
Dawn Clifford	Canton	Heather Murphy	Canton
Kim Heller	Canton	Kim Heller	Canton
Johanna Anderson	Canton	Kim Heller	Canton
Kathi Kinsella	Salem	Courtney Gonyea	Salem
Christine Prough	John Glenn	Jennie Kapp	John Glenn
Jennie Kapp	Canton	Jenny Tesesco	Canton
Kelly Jacobs	Wayne	Danielle Kiro	Canton

COACH OF THE YEAR

Kathi Kinsella	Salem
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#### SECOND TEAM

Audrey Burch	Salem
Kristin Szulanski	N. Farmington
Jameelah Gaiser	N. Farmington
Elizabeth Schuch	John Glenn
Cheri Croston	Wayne

#### HONORABLE MENTIONS

Salem: Jenny Wong, Arnee Wong, Jenny Skyles, Sue Farmer, Stefanie Angulo, Theresa Guzman, Wayne, Shannon Riedel, Jennifer Laskey, Teresa Griffin, Farmington: Nicole Goralowski, Michele Finner, Sheri Ylitalo, John Glenn: Gina Martin, Amy Finley, Nichole Coombs, Canton: Sandi Sherwin, Jana Shocking, Laura Anderson, N. Farmington: Cate Pook, Kathy Williams, Ellen Kipper, Harrison: Amy Solomon, Michelle Davis, Colleen Hernandez, Walled Lake Western: Julie Dibble, Amber Baker, Clareville: Robert Wiggie, Elm Mague



Dawn Clifford  
Canton



Jennifer Kalpio  
Clarencville



Heather Murphy  
Canton

## Youth dominates Mercy team



RANDY BOST/Staff photographer

Maureen Paulin will play second base and help with pitching.

By Ray Setlock  
staff writer

The Farmington Hills Mercy girls softball team will be young, but coach Suzanne Brown refuses to use that as an excuse.

The Marlins will have just two seniors on their roster, compared to four last season when Mercy finished with a 26-12 record and second place in the Catholic League.

"We have a young team," Brown said, "but I don't see why we cannot be as good as we were last season."

Mercy lost its top pitcher and hitter Amy Edward to graduation, but Brown said the Marlins will rely on a group of pitchers to overcome that loss.

"We have a six-person pitching staff, consisting of three freshmen, one sophomore and two juniors," Brown said. "They provide us with a lot of depth."

FRESHMEN MINDY Misan, Krista Miller and Katie Heffernan, along with sophomore Andrea Thibodeau and juniors Angela Mastroloni and Maureen Paulin will make up the Marlins' pitching staff.

"We have the luxury of having a three-pitcher rotation," Brown said.



### Marlins don't have Edward to do pitching

"I feel that will add to the effectiveness of the pitching staff. Nobody will get overworked. All the arms will be fresh."

Miller, Paulin and Mastroloni will make up the Mercy starting rotation. Thibodeau will be the Marlins' primary relief pitcher.

Paulin will also start at second base for Mercy, while Mastroloni will start at third base. Heffernan will be the shortstop.

"The way our rotation works, all 14 players will get to play in a double-header," Brown said. "When some of these girls are pitching,

they'll need somebody to fill in at their position."

Returning behind the plate for Mercy is junior catcher Kim Reichard. She is also expected to help the Marlins offensively.

"Kim has really turned herself into a solid catcher," Brown said. "She is also a good hitter. She'll bat fourth or fifth in our lineup."

Sophomore center fielder Kathleen Berrigan will lead a solid group of outfielders for the Marlins.

"KATHLEEN is extremely quick," Brown said. "She is definitely going to be one of the keys to our success this season."

Seniors Amy Miller and Jenny Shalal, along with sophomore Marcy Eastman, will make up the remainder of the Mercy outfield.

Also expected to contribute for the Marlins this season are juniors Colleen Nowicki, second base; Mary Beth Moran, first base; Jenn Dennison, first base; and Maureen Phenehy, designated hitter.

"All the girls have excellent attitudes," Brown said. "I don't let them have room for bad attitudes. It should be a fun season."

The Marlins travel to Livonia Franklin today to open the season.



RANDY BOST/Staff photographer

Kim Reichard returns as the starting catcher and will be one of Mercy's key hitters.