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first-year coach and a 1991 alumna. "They're just not seasonal players. They play year-round and that makes a difference."

Central won three of four slugs titles.

At No. 1, top seed Jennifer Clack, the Ann Arbor regional champion from Plymouth Salem, missed the tournament due to illness.

That opened the door for Central's Rachel Clanton, who won the flight with a 7-5, 6-1 victory over Northville freshman Jackie Moore.

"Usually my forehand is my strength, but today it was my backhand," said Clanton, a junior with only two losses all season. "The key to beating her (Moore) was to keep moving her around."

Moore had the first set tied at 5-5, but Clanton regrouped and won eight of the next nine games. "She (Moore) was getting a lot of balls back and they were good balls," Clanton said.

Clanton, however, was disappointed that she didn't get a chance for a rematch with Clack.

"Rachel was kind of upset because she wanted the opportunity to beat her, which she was capable of doing," Geelhood said. Clanton's career record against the Salem junior ace is 2-2.

"I lost to her a couple of weeks ago because I was nervous, and I was shaky," Clanton said.

At No. 2 singles, sophomore Danielle Geelhood of Central beat North Farmington junior Allison Walkon in the finals, 6-1, 6-2. (Geelhood's only loss of the season came against Bloomfield Hills' Lahser's Lisa Powers at the regional).

Becky Clanton, Rachel's ninth-grade sister, took the No. 3 singles crown with a 6-2, 6-3 victory over North's pesky freshman Lauren Jones in a match that ended in darkness.

Farmington's Karin Szabo broke Central's domination in singles when she topped Central's top seed, Nevada Brenier, for the No. 4 title, 6-4, 6-2.

At No. 1 doubles, Farmington Harrison's top-seeded duo of Amy Tobe, a senior, and Sara Klooster-

man, a freshman, completed a 14-0 WAAA campaign by defeating Farmington's Devon Woodruff and Leslie Britz, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3.

Plymouth Salem's Katie Sullivan and Julie Coyle also won a three-setter to capture the No. 2 flight against Farmington's Lauren Tucker and Krissy Mahon, 4-6, 7-5, 6-4.

At No. 3 doubles, junior Erica Schwellter and senior Chean Chau scored a 6-2, 6-4 triumph over Northville's Julie Weix and Chrissy Kapusky.

In the biggest surprise of the doubles draw, unseeded Erica Brown and Heidi Walkon claimed the No. 4 flight with a 6-3, 6-1 win over Central's Sarah Leonhardt and Jody Main. Brown and Walkon pulled off a 6-3, 6-4 second-round upset over Northville's top-seeded duo of Abby Semyan and Jennifer Monk.

But the day belonged to Central, which completed an unbeaten dual meet season (12-0 overall) and a second-place regional finish to go along with a Western Lakes title.

Farmington, Mercy gain state

By STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Farmington High and Farmington Hills Mercy have each earned berths to Friday's Class A state girls tennis meet in Midland.

Farmington placed second at last Friday's Southfield-Lathrup regional with 20 points, one behind champion Birmingham Marion. Mercy took third place with 19 points. See statistics, page 5B.

Farmington coach Brenda Payne played tennis for the Falcons in 1980 and as far as she knows, this is the school's first trip to the state meet.

When Payne played at Farmington, her mother Ellen Zankay was the coach. One of Payne's teammates was Karen McWilliam, the sister of current Falcon Laura McWilliam.

Farmington just missed qualifying for the state meet last year with a third-place regional finish.

"We are really hyped," Payne said. "I don't expect miracles but the girls are very excited and should do just fine. They're a

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great bunch of girls and they deserved this."

In past years, only the top two teams at each regional advanced to the state meet. But Mercy is going because of the Murphy Rule, which stipulates a team with at least 16 points and in third place gains an invitation to the state meet.

This will be Mercy's second-straight state meet appearance and seventh in the last 10 years.

"Three teams were equally balanced and it made for a good regional," Mercy coach Jim Kerwin said.

The Falcons had one flight winner in singles and one in doubles.

Beth Wilson remained undefeated in 16 matches at No. 2 singles, beating Brinn Foley of Lathrup, 6-7 (7-4), 3-0 in the final. Foley had to retire in the final because of an injury.

The No. 1 doubles team of De-

von Woodruff and Leslie Britz beat Marian's Cheryl Caponigro and Shannon Siwiec, 6-1, 6-1, in the final.

Mercy's two champions were No. 3 Anjali Thakur and No. 4 Susie Milas. Thakur defeated Farmington's McWilliam, 7-5, 6-1, in the final of No. 3 and Milas held off Birmingham Grover Rachel Seligson, 6-2, 6-4 in the finals of No. 4.

Milas defeated Farmington's Karin Szabo, 6-3, 6-4, in the semifinal to reach the championship round.

The No. 3 singles flight was the last decided and Thakur's victory over McWilliam kept the Falcons from tying Marian in the final team standings.

Farmington's doubles team of Lauren Tucker and Krissy Mahon lost in the final at No. 2 to Marian's Mercy Lobanoff and Amy Matthews, 6-2, 6-2. Mercy's Michele Uller and Dana Fischioni lost in the final at No. 3 doubles to Marian's Jana Chappell and Melissa Coury, 6-1, 6-4.

NFWB pony team wins 5th straight

The North Farmington-West Bloomfield Vikings Pony football team won its fifth straight game, 26-12, over the Redskins from Dearborn Heights.

Running backs Brent Rogers and Brandon Rogers accounted for three rushing touchdowns behind the blocking of Robbie Madvin, Michael Farnick, Eric Venclik and Ned Stojkovic. Quarterback Pat Judge also completed a

60-yard touchdown pass to Aaron Diamond and an extra point pass to Robert Belke.

Troy Szopko led the defensive charge with four sacks. Chris Petersen, Chris Compo, Lee Relf, Brian Hickman, Grant Bahri, Michael Bowman, Michael Judge, Brian Johns and Rick Myers also stood out on defense.

The Ponies are 5-1 overall, 5-0

in the division.

The NFWB junior varsity blanked Dearborn 16-0 as Michael Livernois scored on a 71-yard run and Matt McCoy scored on a nine-yard scamper. McCoy's TD was set up by an interception deep in Dearborn's end of the field by Rand Salter.

Salter led the defense with eight tackles and an interception.

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