

SPORTS

B

FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Veteran coach retires

Dave Catherman, a familiar face at Farmington track meets for 31 years, has retired from coaching.

He spent the first seven years at Dunkle Middle School and the last 24 at Farmington High—13 as boys head coach and 11 as assistant to Jerry Young.



The 53-year-old Catherman, who will continue to teach at Farmington High, wants to spend time watching his son, Steve, a sophomore at Harrison, compete in sports. He also plans to serve as a track starter and official.

"It was time to let someone younger come in and do the job," Catherman said. "I just want to be a supportive parent and look at sports from the other perspective."

His teams always had winning records in dual meets and won five Lakes Division championships in the Western Lakes Activities Association. He also spent 23 years coaching football and was inducted Saturday into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame.

The track highlights Catherman cited included Nat Durham winning the 1972 state championship in the pole vault and being the first to clear 15 feet; Ron Short breaking the 14-foot mark in the 1960s; distance runner Mike McGuire's prep and college career (Michigan); and the relay team of Ron Smedley, Chris Inch, Al Stebbins and Brandon London winning the 1987 state title in the 3,200 meters.

"We've always been real pleased with our tradition at Farmington High and emphasized a well-rounded program," Catherman said.

Mercy runner on tour

Eileen O'Connell of Northville, a junior at Farmington Hills Mercy High School, will travel to Australia this summer as a member of the Sport For Understanding cross country team.

Athletes and coaches will live with volunteer host families during their four-week stay.

Marlins set course to capture another league soccer title



BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

There is nothing ambiguous about the Farmington Hills Mercy soccer team's objective for the 1994 season.

The Marlins are setting course to win a fourth-consecutive Catholic League championship, and they just might have the talent to do it.

Coach Deepak Shivraman begins his fourth year at Mercy with 12 players returning from a team that was 10-1 in the league and 13-5-1 overall.

"We want to get another championship," he said. "Another goal — and we've already emphasized it with our players — is we definitely have to do better in the district."

"All the other teams in the league have gotten stronger and can challenge us on any given day. There's always (Birmingham) Marian but also (Livonia) Ladywood and (Madison Heights Bishop) Foley. Last year I think we reached parity in the Catholic League."

The Marlins, who edged Ladywood 3-2 in a shootout to win the league title but lost in the first round of the district tournament to Birmingham Seaholm, are missing some key players from last year.

Margaret Wirth, who was the leading scorer (14 goals/11 assists), transferred to Livonia Churchill, and center-halfback Carrie Dziadosz and

sweeper Beth Ziobro have graduated. Dziadosz, a four-starter for Mercy, is playing at Temple University, and Ziobro will play for the University of Michigan when women's soccer becomes a varsity sport in the fall.

At the forward positions, Mercy returns senior Theresa Ciesco (seven goals) who was hurt late in the season and missed the playoffs, junior Heather Richards (11/seven) and senior Anita Wilhelm.

With Heather and Theresa up front, we should do OK," Shivraman said. "Anita may not score a lot of goals, but she does a good job of setting up people."

The Marlins also have six freshmen on their 18-player varsity roster, and Betsy Gignac could figure prominently in the lineup at forward since Shivraman plans to start three.

"We're going to switch people around and see what happens," he said. "We'll see if the freshmen can play at this level. They come with good credentials; we just have to see how well they do in live action."

The loss of Wirth caused Shivraman some concern originally, not so much because of her offensive production but the fact "we pushed her back at times and she was a big part of our defense."

See MARLINS, 2B



Field general: Senior Flannery Campbell will be at the center of things, coordinating field play for the Marlins.

Talented trio leads North; Falcons boast star jumper

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Three school record holders is a good place to start when assessing the outlook for the North Farmington girls track team in 1994.

The Raiders had a successful season last year, and senior Keegan Keefeover, junior Alisha Gordon and sophomore Heather Burcar were reasons why North was co-champion of the West Bloomfield regional.

Gordon was primarily a hurdler at the start of last season, but she also was one of the team's top throwers by the end of it.

She shares the record in the 100-meter hurdles (16.5) and placed sixth in the Western Lakes Activities Association, but she made the all-area second team in the shot put.

Though she started throwing with only four weeks left in the season, Gordon was second in the WLAA and regional and will try the discus this year, too. Her best in the shot was 34-10 1/4.

"We won't use her that much in the 300 (hurdles); we'll run her on one sprint relay and two field events," North coach Bill Pinnell said.

Keefeover holds the record in the 800 run (2:23.8) and was second in the WLAA. She is also one of North's top discus throwers with a personal best of 103-9.

Burcar was the regional champion and placed third in the WLAA in the 400 dash, and she owns the record in that event at 58.4. She also placed fourth at the league meet in the 200 and is the team's top long jumper.

"This year we're lacking depth until we see some underclassmen step up," Pinnell said. "If I knew step up, I'd say it would be a good year, and our goal is to finish in the top six in the conference again."

"As far as the regional, we need to have a real good day, and last year everything came together for us on that day. We need everyone to step up, and we have some athletes who are capable of it."

The Raiders lost all-area distance runner Emily Shively to graduation as well as sprinters Michelle Beaver and hurdler



Key performer: North junior Alisha Gordon is one of the top hurdlers and throwers in the area.

Leah Berenholz, but the biggest loss was the retirement of long-time coach Ralph Tracy, according to Pinnell.

Burcar is the leader in the long jump (15-1 1/4), and sophomore Carrie May will help in that event and make the Raiders competitive in the high jump (5-0).

"Both are stronger and will be better jumpers this year," Pinnell said.

Sophomore Devonie Pinzi was fourth in the regional (98-3) and will complement Keefeover and Gordon in the discus.

"We're looking at possibly three 100-foot discus throwers, and that will be the field event we have the most depth (in)," Pinnell said. "Alisha has gotten a little stronger and is quicker across the circle."

The Raiders are thin in the sprints since five key runners either didn't return or were transferred. Burcar, junior Allison Branton and sophomore Shannon McCoy are the leaders and will run on relays, too.

"We're not as bad off as origi-

TRACK

nally thought, but we will be lacking some depth," Pinnell said. "Our front people in other events are much improved, and this is the best I've felt about the field events in several years."

McCoy has improved so much she could take over in the 400 and free Burcar to run other events, but she is apt to concentrate on the 200, according to Pinnell.

He hopes junior Devle Lehmann can help in the 800. Keefeover can run the 1,600 but won't do so regularly. Sophomores Amanda Hough and Kerrie Simpson can run either distance events.

"We'll be able to hold our own against some teams because of what we know the girls did in cross country season," Pinnell said. "We have no one standout like Emily, so that will hurt us in big meets like the regional."

"Emily accounted for 20 of our 52 points in the regional. To make up for it, we'll have to have two or three girls in scoring position."

Of the 22 freshmen, the ones most likely to contribute, according to Pinnell, include Jaime Brenner and Meg Wolff in the distance runs, Monica Czarwinski, Ava Lala and Keesha McGough in the sprints and Amanda Whitten and Tricia Tracyk in the high jump.

The Raiders begin the season Thursday, April 14, at home against Livonia Franklin.

Farmington High

The Falcons have one of Observerland's best high jumpers in junior Andrea Salver, who was the Oakland County champion and placed second in the Western Lakes.

Salver made the all-area third team and qualified for the state meet.

"She's tied with two others for the school record (5-4)," coach Bruce Brown said. "And, hopefully, she can get her name up on the board by herself. That's something for her to shoot for."

The high jump could be a

See GIRLS TRACK, 2B

IT'S MORE THAN A GOLF SHOW... ITS A GOLF PARTY!

COME SEE WHAT'S NEW IN GOLF THIS SEASON!

ENTER TO WIN A DAY AT THE PALACE WEDNESDAY - APRIL 5, 1994

POWER RANKING PRESENTS

Bavarian Village

GOLF '94 FEST

Adults \$6 Seniors 65 And Over Free Kids \$4 Children 6 & Under FREE

OVER 200 EXHIBITS & EVENTS

DEMO DAYS

MARCH 30TH - APRIL 2ND

Wednesday • Thursday • Friday • Saturday
4pm-10pm 4pm-10pm 2pm-10pm 10am-6pm

All Paid Admissions Will Receive A

\$5 Bavarian Village GOLF GIFT CERTIFICATE

- Indoor Manufacturer's Demo
- Daily Fashion Shows AUREUS
- Top Golf Courses & Resorts
- Computer Simulated Golf
- Sign up for some great events

\$5 OFF Green Fees at Boyne USA Resorts

- Seminars on Women's Golf
- Tournament Row
- Free Golf Lessons
- Long Drive • Closest to the Pin

\$1 Off Your Admission To Golf-Fest & Demo Days

Design Goodie For One Thing: Buy One Thing With Any Other Purchase. Expires 4-4-94. Additional \$1 Off Coupon At Bavarian Village RM & Golf

Sponsored by the

Callaway Lynx TaylorMade Titleist Hogan Peerless YONEX Arnold Palmer And More...