



First team 200 free relay: Salem's (standing, from left) Fred Locke, Eric Seidelman, Dave Bracht and (seated) Joe Ervin.



First team 400 free relay: And also the second team 200 free relay, Catholic Central's (from left, standing) James Leslie, Paul Magoulick, Steve Reinke and (seated) John Zarow.



First team 200 medley relay: North Farmington's (standing, from left) Drew Sopha, Phil Zald, Jason Speed and (seated) Karl Kozicki.

Tankers save best for last

By C.J. RISAK
AND STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITERS

It takes only a cursory examination to realize this was one of the most powerful seasons ever in Overland swimming.

Three teams in the top six at state should say enough. But add into the mix four first-place finishes, two seconds, two thirds and three relays in the eight in both the 200-yard and 400-yard freestyle events and you have an impressive group.

Most of the scoring done at state meet by area swimmers came in the free events. North Farmington's Jon Kershaw had the best day, with first in the 100 and 200. But Plymouth Salem's Fred Locke wasn't far behind, finishing first in the 60 and third in the 100.

Then there's Redford Catholic Central's James Leslie, second in both the 200 and 500; Plymouth Canton's Jeff Clark, third in the 50 and sixth in the 100; and CC's Paul Magoulick, fifth in the 50.

The Class A state meet is the showcase event every year, and this year the Overland teams showed themselves very well.

But our choice as Overland's coach of the year is Ross Bandy of Farmington. His 10th season as the Falcons' coach was the team's best. They were 9-2 in dual meets, won the Western Lakes Activities Association Relays meet to start the season, and finished second to Salem in the WLAA finals.

1ST TEAM INDIVIDUALS
Jon Kershaw, N. Farmington, 200-yard freestyle: A repeat selection on the first team, Kershaw capped his senior season with a championship in both the 200-yard freestyle (1:41.09) and 100 free (46.74) at the Class A meet. He leaves North with records in those two and the 100 backstroke, and also was a member of a team record-setting 200 medley relay team that placed 12th at state.

"Jon is a strong and talented swimmer," North coach Danny Knipper said. "He can still develop his skills and strength and continue to improve his times."

Karl Kozicki, N. Farmington, 200 individual medley: Kozicki was a double winner at the Western Lakes Activities Association meet. A senior, he also helped the Falcons finish in a sixth place tie at state with a fifth in the 200 IM (1:57.06) and seventh in the 500 free (4:39.05). He has school records for both.

"Karl is a versatile swimmer, everything a coach could ask for," Knipper said. "He is very dedicated and knows exactly what needs to be done to accomplish his goals."

Fred Locke, Salem, 50 freestyle: The swimmer was one of the busiest in the state, taking first in the 50 free (21.18) at state meet and first as a member of the 200 free relay team (1:28.47). He was third in the 100 free (47.07) and swam on the 400 free relay team that took eighth (3:14.99).

For these efforts, he was named Salem's most valuable swimmer for the second straight year.

His best times in the 50 (21.04) and 100 (47.04) free are Salem records. The 200 medley and 200 free relays which he swam on also hold school records.

"Fred has had a great career at Plymouth Salem, but he's not finished yet," said coach Chuck Olson.

John Hovey, Harrison, diver: Hovey finished his senior season with eighth at the Class A meet (391.50 points). He was second in the regional, fourth in the WLAA and seventh at the MISA meet. The 1993 Oakland County champion, Hovey placed second at the state meet.



Second team 200 medley relay: Stevensen's (standing, from left) Brian Butrico, Falk Roeding, Chris Teeters and (seated) Jeff Buckler.

1994 ALL-AREA BOYS SWIM TEAM

First team individuals
200 free: Jon Kershaw, N. Farmington
200 IM: Karl Kozicki, N. Farmington
50 free: Fred Locke, Salem
Diving: John Hovey, Harrison
100 free: Steve Reinke, CC
100 free: Jeff Clark, Canton
500 free: James Leslie, CC
100 back: Steve Reinke, CC
100 breast: Randy Cobb, Franklin

First team relays
200 medley: North Farmington (Karl Kozicki, Drew Sopha, Phil Zald, Jason Speed)
200 free: Salem (Fred Locke, Eric Seidelman, Joe Ervin, Dave Bracht)
400 free: CC (James Leslie, Paul Magoulick, Steve Reinke, John Zarow)

Second team individuals
200 free: Mike Orris, Canton
200 IM: Drew Sopha, N. Farmington
50 free: Paul Magoulick, CC
Diving: Mark Strohmaler, Harrison
100 free: Mark Campbell, Churchill
500 free: Jon Reed, Farmington
100 back: Scott Brown, Farmington
100 breast: Falk Roeding, Stevensen

Second team relays
200 medley: Stevensen (Brian Butrico, Falk Roeding, Chris Teeters, Jeff Buckler)
200 free: CC (James Leslie, Paul Magoulick, Steve Reinke, John Zarow)
400 free: North Farmington (Karl Kozicki, Jason Speed, Drew Sopha, Jon Kershaw)

Team will be heard from again.

Catholic Central, 400 free relay: Paul Magoulick, Steve Reinke, John Zarow and James Leslie took fifth place at the Class A state meet (3:31.90) after a season best time in the preliminaries (3:12.32).

Three of the four Shamocks were among the Overland's best in the 100 free: Magoulick, a junior, was fourth (48.28); Zarow, a senior, was ninth (49.91); and Reinke, a senior, was just off the 50:23. Leslie was busy honing his skills in the 200 and 500 free; he placed second at state in both.

2ND TEAM INDIVIDUALS
Mike Orris, Canton, 200 freestyle: The senior set several records in four years with the Chiefs, including three pool records this season. He was wireless in big meets this season but was always in contention. He was second in the 200 IM and fifth in the 500 freestyle at the WLAA. He placed 11th in the state at the 200 free and swam on the 200 free relay that placed seventh.

"Mike is the hardest working athlete I've ever worked with," Holman said. "He has a great future in college swimming. Mike has made a great impact on swimming at Canton and his records will stand a long time."

Drew Sopha, N. Farmington, 200 IM: The junior had a personal best time of 2:01.07 that gained him 12th place at state in the IM. His best time in the 100 breast (1:02.10) was good enough to place among the top five in Overland.

"Drew is a hard worker with high goals," said North's Danny Knipper. "If he works hard next year, he will be an all-state swimmer in two events."

Pete Magoulick, Redford CC, 50 freestyle: Magoulick, a junior, took fifth place at the state meet in the 50 free (21.75). He also led off the 200 free relay which took fourth and gained All-American notice at the state meet.

"Pete is an excellent sprinter with much potential for next year," Shoemaker said. Mark Strohmaler, Harrison, diving: There were some excellent divers in Overland this season, and two of them — Hovey and Strohmaler — were on the same team. Strohmaler, a senior, was unbeaten against dual meet competition.

An academic All-American in diving, Strohmaler placed third at the Michigan Swim Coaches Association (MISA) meet, was fourth at the state regional and took third in the WLAA. "He improved vastly from last season," said Harrison diving coach Pam Heiden. "He has just begun to realize his potential."

Aaron Berlin, Salem, 100 butterfly: A senior, Berlin, jumped in a solid performance in the 100 butterfly at the WLAA meet, finishing second in 55.48. But it wasn't quite enough to get him to state meet (qualifying 55.19).

Berlin did score some points at state, as a member of Salem's 400 free relay, which finished eighth (3:14.99).

But he did break school records in both. And he was third in the WLAA in the 200 free and fifth in the 100 backstroke (58.14). "Mark worked through some tough times this season to achieve his goals," said Churchill coach Ken Stark. "Mark got real focused and dedicated to achieve his state meet goals."

Jon Reed, Farmington, 500 freestyle: A versatile swimmer, Reed, a junior, qualified for state meet in three individual events (200 free, 500 free, 200 IM) and just missed in a fourth (100 free). He ended up swimming every event this season except the 100 back and 100 breast.

In the Oakland County meet in February, Reed surprised by finishing second in the 200 free. At the WLAA championships, he was third in the 500 and fourth in the 200 IM. "Jon is a hard-working distance swimmer with speed," said Farmington coach Ross Bandy. "He has matured as a competitor and should score well in any freestyle event next year."

Scott Brown, Farmington, 100 backstroke: A junior, Brown set a school record when he placed second in the 100 back at the WLAA meet (58.51). He was also a very strong freestyle, clocking relay splits of 22.8 in the 50 and 49.5 in the 100. Brown played a role in all three Falcon relays, which also set records.

"Scott has a lot of talent," said Farmington's Bandy. "I am looking forward to a big senior year from him, and possibly all-state in backstroke and the 400."

Falk Roeding, Stevensen, 100 breaststroke: This junior's success was the most unpredictable of all. A foreign exchange student from the former East Germany, Roeding had not swum competitively in two years. He decided to give it a try and, as coach Doug Buckler said, "He told me it was the best decision he made."

That opinion was two-sided. Flooding finished third in the WLAA in the 100 breast in 1:02.42, which qualified him for state. He didn't score at state, but he posted his best time: 1:01.69, finishing 15th. "He's a real hard worker, a pleasure to coach," said Buckler.

2ND TEAM RELAYS
Stevensen, 200 medley relay: Youth ruled this Livonia Stevensen quartet: one sophomore (Brian Butrico in the 50 backstroke) and three juniors (Roeding in the breast, Chris Teeters in the fly and Jeff Buckler in the free). All but Roeding return next season.

The team actually did its best time at the WLAA finals, finishing third in 1:40.3. That got them to state meet, where a missed turn and some bad swims dropped them to 13th (1:40.34). Still, as coach Buckler said, "These kids did a great job for us — a bunch of kids nobody knew took third in the league."

Redford CC, 200 free relay: Paul Magoulick, Steve Reinke, John Zarow and James Leslie — again. The same foursome that earned first team notice in the 400 free relay was good enough for the second team in the 200 free relay.

The Shamocks were timed at 1:26.68 in the state prelims, but ended up fourth in the state (1:27.37). Their prelim time set a new CC record.

North Farmington, 400 free relay: This was a fast foursome. Karl Kozicki, Jason Speed, Drew Sopha and Jon Kershaw splashed out their fastest time in the state final (3:13.92), where they finished sixth.

Speed, a sophomore, made a major difference. Coach Danny Knipper had him concentrating on backstroke early in the season, but switched him and "he surprised us." Speed had a 49.0 split at state. The same team was first at the WLAA meet in 3:17.18.

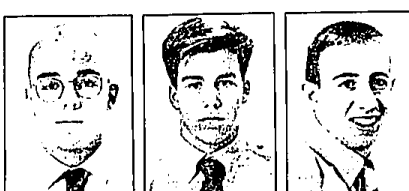
Relay at-large — Canton 200 freestyle: Special recognition is given Plymouth Canton's 200 free quartet of Clark, Orris, Jason McMan and Jason Stirling. They established a new team record by finishing seventh at state in 1:27.07.



First team 200 medley relay: North Farmington's (standing, from left) Drew Sopha, Phil Zald, Jason Speed and (seated) Karl Kozicki.



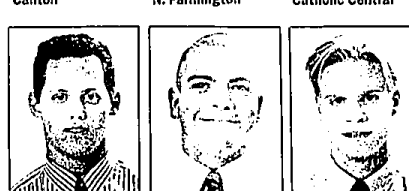
First team 400 free relay: North Farmington's (standing, from left) James Leslie, Paul Magoulick, Steve Reinke and (seated) John Zarow.



Second team 200 medley relay: Stevensen's (standing, from left) Brian Butrico, Falk Roeding, Chris Teeters and (seated) Jeff Buckler.



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