Wrestling

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The Falcons, who start the sea-son tonight with a dual meet at Harrison, were 3-8 last year. "Obviously, we're geing to try and improve on that 3-8 record Beyer said, adding Farmington is still a young team with only three seniors.

seniors.
"Our team goal is to finish in the top three in the WLAA. We'd like to take at least six to the state meet. One went last year and a couple others were protty close."

North Farmington
The Raiders have a new coach, but he already knows the school (and certainly wrestling) as well

as anyone.

Zeim Cunmulaj graduated from
North in 1989 after an outstanding career in football and wres-

ing career in football and wresting.

In his senior year, he placed third in the state among Class A heavyweights following a fifth-place finish the previous year.

Cummulei, an all-area linebacker for the Raiders, played noseguard for two years at Grand Rapids Community College and two more as a Division I scholarship player at East Carolina University.

"I think we need to get more guys out first of all," Cummulaj said. "I think we can move to the next level. We have kids with talent. They just need someone to work with them."

The Raiders have only four sen-

The Raiders have only four sen-iors among their 16 wrestlers, but three of the best are junior Sam Safedin (126) and seniors Fred Lumaj (160) and Nick Grant (215).

"I think Fred has a chance to go pretty far," Cummulaj said. "He's atrong and willing to work hard. It hink he'll be one of the toughest kids in the league at that weight." Grant wrestied at 171 last year but should have no trouble aljusting to the higher weight. "Nick is a real aggreasive wrestler who can do well at 216. That's a more natural weight for him. He cut a jot of weight last year. If he

wrestles smart, he can win a lot of matches."
Others with experience are sentors Jerson Lubin (142), Elliott Szirtes (161) and Jeff Light (170), junior Steve Acton (185) and sophomore Mike Spisz (119).
"I expect them to set personal goals for themselves," Cunmula, said. "We'll wrestle hard every match and take it from there."

Farmington Harrison

Coach Darrell Tharnish is hap-py with the football team's suc-cess but thinks the wrestling pro-gram usually suffers because of a

gram usually suffers occur-lack of interest. Football isn't the only reason why the Hawks faced a major re-building task. Tharnish believes it's a mix of changing attitudes and wreatling being a difficult

sport.
"I really can't put a reason on
it," said Tharnish, who only has
15 boys on the team. "It's a combination of factors, but the numbers have been decreasing everywhere."

The Hawks weren't helped by a The Hawka weren't helped by a flock of grapplers leaving. Regional qualifiers Mare Leaperance and Derek Jaeger transferred to Novi and Farmington, respectively. Charlie Jaeger, a 20-match winner as a freshman, also is at Farmington.

Also gone is John Amayo, who graduated after finishing second in the league at 189, Another veteran moved to Pennsylvania, while yet another opted not to return.

while yet another opted not to re-turn.

"You begin licking your chops when you see what you have com-ing back, but then anything can happen; it's part of being a cach." Themish said. "We would've been competitive, but now we have to begin a rebuilding process."

Harrison's returnees include

process."
Harrison's returnees include
junlors Jeff Gutlerrez and David
Eaton. Both are currently at 142
pounds, so Tharmish expects one
to increase or decrease in weight.
Also coming back are junlors
Cott Hines (170) and Marzel
Hightower (160) and sophomores

Huron Yatey vs. M. Lutheran, 7:30 p.m. Setarday, Dec. 10 Eagle Classic at PCA, 1 & 2:30 p.m. Mich, Lutheran Yournement, 2 & 3:30 p.m. MEDY'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Seturday, Dec., 10 Schoolcraft at St. Clar CC, 7:30 p.m. Madonna at St. Francis (II.), TBA.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saturday, Dec. 10 Schoolcreft at St. Cler CC, 5:30 p.m.

THE WEEK AHEAD

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Voteran matman: Farmington junior Matt Michalski executes an escape move in regional tournament competi-

1126).
A group of promising freshmen are Shawn Mayberry (160), Adam Noe (100) and Brian Peltier (126). The Hawks have no one in the 185 or heavyweight divisions.

Livonia Ciarenceville
Senior Steve Spiar (160) returns as a Class C-D state qualifier effer going 20-11 last season.
He finished third in the MetroOther top returness for secondyear conch Grant Gordon include
senior Dan Gasser (161), who took
second in the Metro, and junior

John Rose (172), who was fourth.

"Our numbers are down, and we also had a couple of kits are shawn Mayberry (160), Adam knee (100) and Brian Feltier (125). The Hawks have no one in the Hawks have sophomore Pat Smith (161), senior Kevin Ayknoyd, sophomore Eric Ledda (134), senior Matt Miotke (160), sophomore Austin Roddy (134), sophomore John Raffin (151) and one of the few female grapplers in the state, senior Stacy Bishop-Rick (119).

Stevenson top team in area, maybe state

BY BRAD EMONS
FORTHWEST
This looks like it could be the
year for the Livonia Stevenson
High wrestling team.
Everybody is back for the Spartans, who captured five tournsment wins in 1994, including the
Observerland and Western Lakes
Activities Association, and had
an 11-1 dual meet record that
ended with a team regional semifinal loss to Brighton.
"We have some very experienced seniors who won a lot of
honors last year, but they haven't
won anything this year," cautions
Stevenson coach Don Berg, whose
team opens its season Saturday at
Trenton, "We have four guys with
state (meet) experience, but
you've got to win at least seven
matches (out of 13) to win, so who
knows?
"Nobody is coinct to rive them

"Nobody is going to give them to us. We're going to have to earn it."

Most coaches would like to have Berg's problems. His biggest concern is filling the 100-pound and heavyweight positions.

But the Spartans are solid in the other 11 spots, led by defending 189-pound state champion or craig Martin, a senior who signed with Central Michigan University.

Martin was the only undefeated wrestler in Observerland last year, going 41-0. His career record is 90-19.

This season, Martin will move up into the newly created 215-

In season, main wan up into the newly created 215pound class.
"He's comfortable at that
weight," Berg said. "He was
around 210 for football."

Dave Ross, a regional qualifier
as a heavyweight with a 28-10
record, is most affected by the
weight classification change.
He dropped nearly 60 pounds to
play football and now is trying to
get down to the 185 class.
Berg said football player Jim
Townsend (6-4, 255) might move
into the heavyweight slot, but the
senior lacks experience.
Three other first-team all-ares

Three other first-team all-area picks, all seniors, also return for Stevenson.

Stevenson.

Chris Jaztrembaki moves up from 135 to 160. He was 32-10 a year ago, winning the WLAA, Ob-

WRESTLING

Berverland and district meeta.

Chris Mullett, 31-9 last season, is up to 161 from 145. He was seed, and district tourneys.

Scott Goldman, an eighth-place finisher last year in Class A, is now at 142. He was 34-11 at 140 and Observerland champ.

Yet another standout returnee is senior Ben Lewis, a state qualifier at 171 last season. He finished 37-5 and is slated to be at 185 or 172, according to Berg.

Other leading returnees include junior Jon Sata (134), who was 27-14; sophomore Mick 1606-121, 15-11; sophomore Nick 1640-121, 15-11; sophomore Nick 1606-121, 15-11;

Westland John Glenn

The Rockets graduated a pair of second-team All-Observer picks in Anthony Underwood (119) and Mike Henry (135). Heavyweight Shawn Arbogast is

also gone.

But one of the area's top wreatiers returns in senior Brian Kolb,
(160), who finished sixth in Class,
A with a season record of 41-12.
He was WLAA champion, secondat Observerland and fourth in the
regional.

regional.
Other Glenn senior returnees include Jason Carpenter (142-51), Rob Pace (134-42), Mike Lewis (142-51), Zahn Bozanic (185), Ryan Cretans (160) and Brian Harpster (160-72).

Livonia Churchill

Livonia Churchill
Third-year coach Brent Withington lost Jim Stojanowski and
David Zlober to graduation, bureturns first-team all-area. pick
Josh Banks (126).
Banks, a senior captain, finished 26-7 last year and qualified
for the state Class A meet. He finished first at Observerland and
bild in both the district and regional. Banks is 66-24 in three
years.

years.
Another standout is junior Eugen Barbu (185), He's coming off a 19-13 record which earned him third-team all-area honors.









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