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Recycling To REBUILD LIVES

Celebrate the grand opening of
Huntington Cleaners' newest expansion, and
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YOU ARE INVITED TO A SPECIAL OPEN HOUSE
ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1999.
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM AT
HUNTINGTON CLEANERS,
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Recycling To Rebuild Lives works with dry cleaners and other businesses to help them dispose of goods for which they no longer have use. Recycling To Rebuild Lives finds organizations and arranges transportation of these goods to those who need them the most. Bring gently used women's and children's clothing and/or outer wear, sheets, towels or blankets to the celebration and

receive 2 complimentary tickets to a Detroit Vipers hockey game at The Palace of Auburn Hills. Huntington Cleaners will clean all items and deliver them to the domestic violence shelters I.A.V.E.N. in Oakland County, Turning Point in Macomb County, and My Sister's Place in Wayne County. Attend the open house and meet members of the Detroit Vipers!

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Together, we are working towards Recycling To Rebuild Lives

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was eighth in the 50 freestyle and ninth in the butterfly at this league meet.

Rycroft is a distance swimmer; Munroe can swim wherever needed but will focus on the freestyle and IM; Pennington is primarily a freestyle swimmer.

The Raiders have a good group of divers in Lebovic, Goodwin and junior Jared Goldman, who placed ninth, 11th and 17th in the league meet, respectively.

Head of the junior class are Brandon Digio, Jim Gabriel and Jon Zald. Digio scored in the 100 freestyle (fifth) and 200 (eighth) at the WLA meet. Gabriel, an all-around swimmer, was eighth and qualified for state in the backstroke, and Zald was 12th in the breaststroke.

Veterans Dan Bowman (free/back), Chris Clayson (free/breast) and John Kern (free/back) and newcomer Jon Lenze (breast/free) round out the junior class.

Sophomore Craig Paske also can swim most any event and was eighth in the 100 freestyle in the league. Sophomores Adam Farber, Dan Goshorn and Lough Rycroft contributed last year and are experienced swimmers. Freshmen Sernot Alver, Brian Clayson and Stephen Pearce are mostly freestylers.

The Raiders, who defeated Ferndale 139-46 in their only December dual meet, hope to qualify a couple relays for the state meet, too.

The medley relay with Gabriel (backstroke), either Jon Zald or Farber in the breaststroke, Wachberg (butterfly) and Matt Zald (freestyle) is probably the best bet, according to Duthie.

"I definitely think the talent is there," he said. "We'll see if people are willing to work hard enough to get where they want to go."

Harrison Hawks

Mark Holdridge, who replaces Lisa Collins as head coach, has been involved with Farmington swimming for nearly 30 years.

He began his teaching career at Harrison when the school opened in 1970 and coached the Harrison boys team through the 1976 season.

Holdridge coached the Farmington High girls from 1976-82,

returned to Harrison to coach the girls and has been an assistant to Harrison boys coaches Pete Leonhardt and Collins.

"I've been around the block," said Holdridge, who will be assisted by Eric Newton, the coach of the Michigan Stingrays.

The Hawks lost eight swimmers to graduation, including state-meet scorer Matt Walker and state qualifier Justin Baringer, and have just 10 on the team.

"We didn't get a lot of kids out this year, so we're going to have our struggles," Holdridge said, "but the kids are working hard and we'll see where it all falls into place."

"It's not hard to work with a team that's rebuilding if everyone is willing to work hard, and these guys are there every day and putting in the time."

"We're going to have a lot of success with time improvement and, by the time the conference meet comes around, I'm sure we'll do well as individuals and let the points fall where they may."

The top returning swimmer is junior Danny Price, who scored in the 200 and 600 freestyle in the league meet and is a potential state qualifier, according to Holdridge.

The senior captains are Adam Bander and Rick Olivero. Bander swims breaststroke and several other events while Olivero focuses on backstroke and freestyle.

Juniors Max Butties and Kris Wong will be key swimmers, too. Butties, who scored in the 50 freestyle, begins only his third year of competitive swimming.

"He'll do well for us in the shorter races," Holdridge said. "He's a tall, muscular kid and is well suited for being a sprinter."

"Wong has come a long way also since his freshman year. He'll be a meaningful part of any success we have this year in all the freestyle events."

Due to the low number of swimmers, even the new members will have the swim four events, he added. The newcomers are freshmen Reno Olivero, Noah Bander, Dan Coats, Kyle Chamberlain and Tony Aleo.

Holdridge said he's "a little

disappointed in the numbers, (but) we'll take it one year at a time, do the best we can in every dual meet and try to have the kids improve their times as we go along."

Farmington Falcons

The Falcons are young and inexperienced, too, with 16 boys on the team, only five of whom are returning members.

The top returnee is Devin Hopper, the team's lone junior. Hopper broke Scott Brown's school record in the backstroke with a 56.65 time, finished fourth in the WLA meet and was a state qualifier.

"He's a very valuable asset to the team," said coach Ross Bandy, who retired at the end of last season but decided to return for his 15th year.

The senior captains are David Hartmann, Mike McCormick and Alex Vuknich.

McCormick was a member of the sprint relay teams, and Vuknich is a utility swimmer who helped in close meets with his versatility.

Hartmann, according to Bandy, had a "great" league meet and dropped a "ton" of time in the breaststroke, finishing in 1:05.9 (ninth).

"We've got a lot of young faces," Bandy said. "It's just a matter of hard work and perseverance. It depends how hard they want to work and what their expectations are."

"Of the new people, I don't really know what their talent levels are, because I haven't worked with them long enough."

Bandy believes there are more potential swimmers out there who could help the Falcons, who lost a December dual meet to West Bloomfield and were slated to swim Tuesday at Berkley.

"It took me approximately eight years to really develop the team I had," he said, adding the Falcons had second- and third-place finishes in the WLA a few years ago.

"After building that and watching it deteriorate that quick, I really believe there are a lot of good athletes walking the halls at Farmington High and not participating in athletics. I just can't believe we can't get more than 16 people out for the team."

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