

Spartans win 8th in row

BY C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER

The cast, even the method used, has changed. But the results didn't.

Another year, another Western Lakes Activities Association championship for Livonia Stevenson's girls swim team. This time the Spartans scored 614 points to the perennial runner-up Plymouth Salem's 412.

North Farmington was third with 387 and Walled Lake fourth with 311, with Northville fifth (260), Plymouth Canton sixth (258), Livonia Churchill seventh (202), Farmington Harrison eighth (187), Farmington ninth (130), Livonia Franklin 10th (122) and Westland John Glenn 11th (76) (see statistical summary).

If there was a difference in this Spartan team and its predecessors — the title was Stevenson's eighth-straight and 12th in the WLAAs' 16 years of girls swimming — it was the lack of overall dominance. In the past, the Spartans would win all three relay events and would finish first in half the individual events.

"This time we had more depth," said Stevenson coach Greg Phill: "We only won five events. I don't ever remember that happening."

Indeed, the Spartans won just one relay: the 200-yard medley, with Lindsay Dolin, Marti McKenzie, Katie Clark and Jessica Makowski combining for the victory in 1:53.59. Walled Lake collected top honors in the other two relay events, with Sheryl Wrobel, Megan Sparling, Jessica Martin and Laura Kaznecki teaming to win both the 200 freestyle (1:40.26) and 400 freestyle (3:43.24).

What Stevenson did different-

SWIMMING

ly was find more ways to score — 34 ways, to be exact. The Spartans had 36 total entries in the meet: 34 of them scored points.

"That's never happened before," said Phill. "I've never had that many kids score. In the past we've had a few people score a lot of points. Our younger sophomores, swam really well. But so did everybody."

There were three individual event double-winners in the meet, including Stevenson senior Julie Kern, who was first in both the 200 (1:58.55) and 500 (5:06.10) freestyles. Other double-winners were Harrison's Lindsay Peters, in the 200 individual medley (2:12.43) and 100 breaststroke (1:09.03), and Walled Lake's Kaznecki, in the 50 free (24.41) and 100 backstroke (58.37).

The Spartans also got firsts from Clark in the 100 butterfly (1:01.17) and Makowski in the 100 free (55.72).

What Stevenson didn't get was more first-place finishes than anyone else. Walled Lake also had five, with Harrison getting

the other two. In addition to Kaznecki's two wins and the firsts in the free relays, diver Toyne McCarthy was a winner (4:27.70 points).

For Salem, which has been second to Stevenson three consecutive years, it was a typical performance: No single outstanding swimmer, but a lot of good ones. The runner-up team managed just six top-six performances in individual events, with two of those coming in the 100 fly (Lorissa McKay was second, Lindsay Hartz was fifth). Besides that, they had a third (April Aquino in diving), a back (Kari Foust in the 100 back) and two sixths (from Sarah Rogers in the 200 and 500 free).

They weren't overwhelming in their relays, either, with two fourths and a fifth.

Salem finished second because of its depth. Like Stevenson, there were a lot of Rocks who scored — 30-of-36 entries.

"I was real pleased with the way we swam," said Salem coach Chuck Olson. "Trying to get close to Stevenson is obviously very difficult. We've been up there behind them for a while."

That isn't likely to change in the near future.

WESTERN LAKES SWIMMING & DIVING

WLA GIRLS SWIM FINALS

Nov. 6-7 at Plymouth Salem

Team standings: 1. Livonia Stevenson, 614; 2. Plymouth Salem, 412; 3. North Farmington, 387; 4. Walled Lake, 311; 5. Northville, 260; 6. Plymouth Canton, 258; 7. Livonia Churchill, 202; 8. Farmington Harrison, 187; 9. Farmington, 130; 10. Livonia Franklin, 122; 11. Westland John Glenn, 76.

200-yard medley relay: 1. Livonia Stevenson (Lindsay Dolin, Marti McKenzie, Katie Clark, Jessica Makowski), 1:53.59; 2. North Farmington, 1:54.55; 3. Plymouth Canton, 1:55.99; 4. Plymouth Salem, 1:50.97; 5. Northville, 1:57.77; 6. Farmington Harrison, 2:01.98.

Consolation: 7. Farmington, 2:04.60; 8. Walled Lake, 2:05.69; 9. Livonia Franklin, 2:07.30; 10. Westland John Glenn, 2:13.02.

200-yard freestyle: 1. Julie Kern (Livonia), 1:58.55; 2. Julie Kluka (FH), 2:00.70; 3. Angela Simatkovsky (LS), 2:01.44; 4. Meghan Mocer (LS), 2:01.54; 5. Adrienne Doyle (LS), 2:02.48; 6. Sarah Rogers (PS), 2:04.76.

Consolation: 7. Sarah Paske (NF), 2:02.51; 8. Lori McKay (PS), 2:03.33; 9. Lauren Turner (FH), 2:05.57; 10. Meghan Lennus (LS), 2:05.58; 11. Melissa Nevas (NF), 2:06.55; 12. Jess Hala (PS), 2:06.66.

200-yard individual medley: 1. Lindsay Peters (FH), 2:12.43; 2. Katie Clark (LS), 2:16.44; 3. Linda McEneaney (NF), 2:17.58; 4. Stephanie Cummings (LS), 2:19.56; 5. Deirdre Schwing (NF), 2:20.43; 6. Neva Alver (NF), 2:22.21.

Consolation: 7. Jessica Koch (LS), 2:23.24; 8. Kari Foust (PS), 2:24.05; 9. Jaclyn Bernard (PC), 2:24.29; 10. Jennifer Bendick (NF), 2:24.36; 11. Alex Evans (PS), 2:25.09; 12. Kristin Derwick (LC), 2:27.70.

500-yard freestyle: 1. Julie Kern (LS), 5:06.10; 2. Jessica Makowski (LS), 5:18.38; 3. Megan Sparling (WL), 5:25.99; 4. Marti McKenzie (LS), 5:27.50; 5. Sheryl Wrobel

(WL), 5:28.64; 6. Stephanie Sabo (NF), 5:28.88.

Consolation: 7. Toni Hanson (PC), 5:30.33; 8. Kathy Kelly (PS), 5:30.95; 9. Monica Giewski (PS), 5:31.11; 10. Kathryn Onigren (NF), 5:31.22; 11. Amy Smith (LF), 5:31.48; 12. Amanda Polkowski (LS), 5:31.81.

Diving: 1. Toyne McCarthy (WL), 434.70 points; 2. Key Balleente (LS), 379.20; 3. April Aquino (PS), 321.95; 4. Melissa Melroy (WL), 319.45; 5. Angela Anelos (LC), 313.80; 6. Michele Kain (LS), 307.20; 7. Kristy Diaz (LC), 286.25; 8. Suzanne Dupuis (NF), 275.05; 9. Shiloh Wint (LF), 275.00; 10. Lauren Ouellette (NF), 269.95; 11. Jennifer Down (AG), 256.40; 12. Julie Johnson (NF), 244.90.

100-yard butterfly: 1. Katie Clark (LS), 1:01.17; 2. Lorissa McKay (PS), 1:01.77; 3. Toni Hanson (PC), 1:02.10; 4. Danielle Drysdale (PC), 1:03.22; 5. Lindsay Hartz (PS), 1:04.25; 6. Kristen Burke (NF), 1:04.22.

Consolation: 7. Lauren Turner (NF), 1:04.55; 8. Jessica Huvank (NF), 1:05.94; 9. Kristin Derwick (LC), 1:07.14; 10. Emily Yembasky (LS), 1:07.27; 11. Lindsay Dolin (LS), 1:07.34; 12. Michelle Rilton (PC), 1:08.99.

300-yard freestyle: 1. Jessica Makowski (LS), 5:57.22; 2. Stephanie Sabo (NF), 5:57.97; 3. Megan Sparling (WL), 5:58.01; 4. Julie Kluka (FH), 5:58.17; 5. Tara Grider (NF), 5:58.83; 6. Sheryl Wrobel (WL), 5:59.15.

Consolation: 7. Kathy Kelly (PS), 5:57.48; 8. Jaclyn Bernard (PC), 5:57.69; 9. Amanda Polkowski (LS), 5:57.70; 10. Monica Giewski (PS), 5:57.88; 11. Jessica Koch (LS), 5:59.12; 12. Amy Smith (LF), 5:59.55.

600-yard freestyle: 1. Julie Kern (LS), 5:08.10; 2. Angela Simatkovsky (LC), 5:14.08; 3. Meghan Mocer (LS), 5:20.43; 4. Adrienne Doyle (LC), 5:25.34; 5. Meghan Lennus (LS), 5:30.29; 6. Sarah Rogers (PS), 5:31.23.

Consolation: 7. Sarah Paske (NF), 5:25.71; 8. Kristin Derwick (LC), 5:30.24; 9. Jess Hala (PS), 5:40.20; 10. Taylor Good

(FH), 5:41.39; 11. Monica Black (NF), 5:44.87; 12. Jenny Taylor (PS), 5:50.54.

200-yard freestyle relay: 1. Walled Lake (Sheryl Wrobel, Megan Sparling, Jessica Martin, Laura Kaznecki), 1:40.26; 2. Livonia Stevenson, 1:41.64; 3. Northville, 1:43.29; 4. Plymouth Salem, 1:44.24; 5. North Farmington, 1:47.17; 6. Livonia Churchill, 1:48.30.

Consolation: 7. Plymouth Canton, 1:49.41; 8. Farmington, 1:54.97; 9. Westland John Glenn, 1:56.33; 10. Farmington Harrison, 1:59.98; 11. Livonia Franklin, 2:00.52.

100-yard backstroke: 1. Laura Kaznecki (WL), 58.37; 2. Linda McEneaney (NF), 1:01.55; 3. Danielle Drysdale (PC), 1:02.30; 4. Kari Foust (PS), 1:02.97; 5. Lindsey Bole (LS), 1:04.07; 6. Tara Grider (NF), 1:06.75.

Consolation: 7. Stephanie Cummings (LS), 1:04.77; 8. Jackie Schmitt (NF), 1:05.51; 9. Stephanie Tyler (PS), 1:05.66; 10. Heather Bruce (F), 1:06.48; 11. Rachael Maurer (PS), 1:07.11; 12. Emily Irvine (LS), 1:09.15.

100-yard breaststroke: 1. Lindsay Peters (FH), 1:09.03; 2. Neva Alver (NF), 1:09.73; 3. Deirdre Schwing (NF), 1:10.70; 4. Marti McKenzie (LS), 1:11.05; 5. Jennifer Bendick (NF), 1:13.22; 6. Elizabeth Hurst (LS), 1:14.96.

Consolation: 7. Christen Bosman (LS), 1:14.05; 8. Erin Rogala (PC), 1:14.80; 9. Tina Cavichioni (F), 1:15.64; 10. Valerie Serega (LS), 1:16.78; 11. Abenna Masud (LS), 1:16.84; 12. Alex Evans (PS), 1:16.41.

400-yard freestyle relay: 1. Walled Lake (Sheryl Wrobel, Megan Sparling, Jessica Martin, Laura Kaznecki), 3:43.24; 2. Livonia Stevenson, 3:46.77; 3. North Farmington, 3:46.86; 4. Plymouth Canton, 3:48.90; 5. Plymouth Salem, 3:49.16; 6. Livonia Churchill, 3:52.91.

Consolation: 7. Farmington Harrison, 3:54.78; 8. Northville, 4:00.07; 9. Farmington, 4:14.78; 10. Livonia Franklin, 4:16.64; 11. Westland John Glenn, 4:20.69.

Swim from C1

stroke and was just five tenths of a second off the school record set by Julianne Markey (1:01.05) in 1990.

"She's done a nice job throughout the year and has been a real key player for us," Duthie said. "When she came to us, we knew she was a good breaststroker. She hadn't swam much backstroke, but she has turned out to be a dandy backstroker, too."

"She was second to Laura Kaznecki, which is a fine accomplishment because Laura Kaznecki is one of the finest swimmers to come through our league. At this point, she's the second-fastest backstroker we've ever had at North."

McEneaney also anchored two relays. North was second in the medley (Tara Grider, Neva Alver, Kristen Burke, McEneaney), fifth in the 200 freestyle (Sara Armstrong, Lisa Scher, Lauren Turner, Burke) and third in the 400 freestyle (Turner, Grider, Alver, McEneaney).

Freshman Sarah Paske was seventh in the 500 freestyle, missing the state cut by three tenths of a second, and the 200 freestyle.

"She broke loose and did some things I anticipated her doing," Duthie said. "She was a little teary-eyed when she got out of the water, and I thought it was because she just missed qualifying. But she was so happy she swam that fast. I think that's a pretty positive attitude."

Senior Neva Alver was sixth in the IM and captured second place in the breaststroke.

"Neva has been an outstanding swimmer for four years," Duthie said. "Her IM was not as fast as she wanted, but she managed to make it into the top six, which is a good accomplishment in our league."

Junior Tara Grider, sophomore Jennifer Bendick and junior Lauren Turner also were 10th or better in two events.

"Tara didn't have quite the backstroke swim she had in the prelims, but she picked herself up for the 400 relay and gave us a great split," Duthie said.

"Like Tara, Lauren brings a lot more to the program than just athletic ability. It's fun to put Lauren out front on a relay, because you know she's going to give us a great start."

"Jennifer is a key person in our program. She had a real nice split on a B relay and is someone we'll be counting on more heavily next year."

Harrison's Julie Kluka was also a top-12 swimmer in two events. North's Burke, Melissa Nevas, Harrison's Taylor Good and Farmington's Kristel Mathie, Heather Bruce and Tina Cavichioni were top-12 in one event each.

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