

Swimming

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"Adam is one of the most talented kids we've had in our program," Duthie said, "and he has the potential to do a lot of good things. It depends how hard he wants to work."

Juniors Dan Goshorn, Craig Paske and Loughlan Rycroft are good swimmers who contributed last year.

Paske was ninth in the 500 freestyle and 11th in the individual medley in the WLAAs championships and will figure in relays, too.

Rycroft was 11th in the 500 freestyle and can also swim the 200 and 100. Goshorn is a third-year swimmer who will help in sprint freestyle.

The sophomore members are Sermet Alver, a freestyler who made an immediate contribution last year, Brian Clayton and Steve Pearce.

The new additions are freshmen Douglas Anderson, Mohamed Bachrouche, Glenn Legacki, Lucas Digia, Jeff Mataya and Eric Weiss.

The Raiders were 8-0 in dual meets last year, but Duthie doubts they can go undefeated again with Grosse Pointe North on the schedule along with WLAAs powers Plymouth Salem and Livonia Stevenson.

"Hopefully, we can be competitive with the rest of the schedule," Duthie said.

North, which finished third in last year's WLAAs championships, was fourth in the pre-season relays in December.

"I thought the kids had a pretty good relay meet, but they're getting a little practice weary (after the long holiday break)," Duthie said. "These kids need to compete and we're going to start. We really need to get going."

Some swimmers could have

big years if they work hard to reach their potential, he added.

"I think we have a couple individuals who, if they want to go to work, are very capable of having some outstanding achievements," Duthie said. "But I'm not seeing the job being done as it should be done. We have some kids with some potential. We'll see if we can get that turned around."

"I'd like to see if we can do the same things we've done in the past, and that's to have kids accomplish the things they can do and be as successful as they can be."

"Basically, I call that doing your best. If kids do that, you have to be pleased with them. We'll see if we can't get there."

Farmington/Harrison

Farmington High and Farmington Harrison have pooled their talent and combined to form one team starting this season.

The move was prompted by low participation numbers at both schools, but the new unified team has 27 members.

"Both had small teams and it was hard to get the enthusiasm up when we just struggled to get all the events filled," co-coach Mark Holdridge said.

"Now we have enough kids for a normal-size team. It's not a huge team by any means. But we have competition for all the positions, and that makes the kids work a little harder," co-coach

Holdridge, who coached the Harrison team last year, is coaching the team along with Ross Bandy, the former Farmington coach, but it's not the first time they've worked together. Holdridge assisted Bandy with the Farmington boys team seven-

al years ago and the Harrison girls team.

"He and I have worked together a lot, so it's easy for us to do this," Holdridge said, adding the two have different strengths as coaches.

"He's a high-yardage guy, and I'm more of a sprinter. It's a nice blend and the kids get a little bit of both. Both of us are better coaches when we work together."

Holdridge was an All-America sprinter at Michigan State (1966-70), and Bandy was a Mid-American Conference champion in the butterfly at Ohio University in the mid 1970s.

Combining the two teams went smoothly, and the athletes from both schools have gotten along well from the start, according to Holdridge.

"It was easy for this team," he said. "Last year they shut down the Farmington pool in January, and they had to find a place to practice. Since we only had 10 kids, we offered to let them use our pool. We had separate workout, but the kids shared a locker room and all knew each other."

Giving the combined team a strong base, each school returns its top swimmer from a year ago — seniors Devin Hopper of Farmington and Danny Price of Harrison. They are co-captains of the new team.

Hopper, who was a state qualifier in the backstroke, was third in that event in the WLAAs finals work a little in the 1M. He's also a good freestyler, according to Holdridge.

Price, who just missed qualifying for state, finished sixth in the 500 freestyle and ninth in the 200 in the WLAAs championships. He can swim sprint freestyle but is best in the 500.

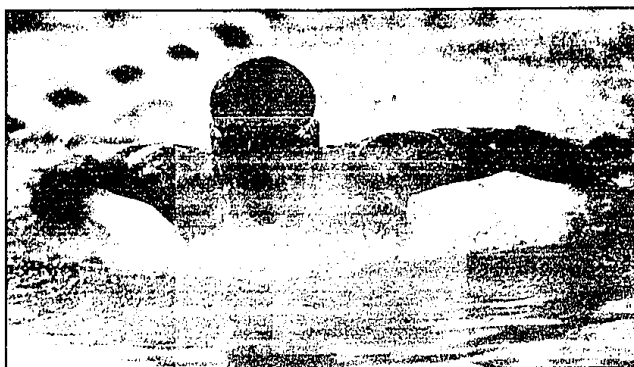


PHOTO BY BOB BAKER

Event winner: Farmington/Harrison freshman Brandon Goad won the butterfly and helped the Eagles win the 200-yard medley and 200 freestyle relays Tuesday night.

"They're providing good leadership, too," Holdridge said. "They have good work ethics. They do a lot by example. It's nice to have those two guys there, because they work hard every day."

The other seniors are Max Suttles, Kris Wong and Aaron Scheid. Suttles is a sprinter who was 12th in the 100 freestyle and will participate in relays; Wong swims distance freestyle and the breaststroke, and Scheid is an all-round freestyler.

Other veteran swimmers who played key roles for their respective teams last year are juniors Robbie Gundlach and Steve Marano and sophomores Mark Benivene, Rono Olivero, Colin Hopper and Kyle Chamberlin.

Rounding out the team are sophomores James Arpi, Noah Bander, Mike Batkie, Dan Coats,

Konstantin DiDenko, Jason Law, Mike Richardson, Nick Schoops (diver), Dave Seley, Mario Tani and Chris Vukovich and freshmen Brandon Goad, Charlie DeMattia, Tom Eason, Nick Israel, Joe Mizzi and Nick Wassner.

The Eagles were sixth in the WLAAs Relays last month, and Holdridge would like to see the team finish as high as fifth in the league meet later this year.

"We still don't have the depth to compete with Salem or Stevenson or the more powerful teams," he said. "North still has too much depth for us, but we'll see how that plays out."

"We'd like to get a couple state qualifiers and maybe a relay. It all depends how the kids come together."

"We're just looking for them to work hard, try to win more

meets than we lose and be competitive with anybody we swim."

FARM. UNITED 122, BERKLEY 62: The unified Farmington/Harrison swim team ended its dual meet record at 1-1 Tuesday with a victory over Berkley at North Farmington.

Danny Price won the 200 freestyle (1:56.89) and the 500 (5:20.82). He also helped the Eagles win both freestyle relays.

Mark Benivene and Price combined with Max Suttles and Brandon Goad in the 200 freestyle relay (1:30.2) and with Rob Gundlach and Devin Hopper in the 400 freestyle relay (3:35.04).

Hopper also won the backstroke (57.49) and was the lead swimmer on the winning medley relay team. Goad, Gundlach and Suttles teamed with Hopper for a 1:50.57 relay effort.

Goad was first in the butterfly (1:03.92), and Suttles was first in the 50 freestyle (24.15). The Eagles are at Livonia Churchill tonight.

Mercy grad leads Hornets to Madonna tourney championship

With a host like this, what team wouldn't want to play in their tournament?

Madonna University's women's basketball team proved very gracious at its own Madonna Hoopa Classic last week. Twice the Lady Crusaders found themselves embroiled in tight,

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down-to-the-wire games; both times, they came out on the losing end.

Thursday's 80-76 loss to Walsh University in the consolation final dropped Madonna to 6-5

overall. Walsh improved to 5-4.

In the tournament final, Kalamazoo College — which defeated Madonna 68-63 in the tournament's opening round — topped Indiana-South Bend 66-58 to improve to 8-2. The Hornets are coached by Plymouth Canton graduate Michelle Fortier.

Kristi Fiorenzi, another Canton HS grad, was named to the six-member all-tournament team; the junior forward led Madonna in rebounding, reaching double-figures in both games (21 total) while scoring 37 points.

In Thursday's consolation

game against Walsh, the Crusaders led 41-33 at the half but, with three of their best inside players sidelined with injuries (Kathy Faganin, Lori Enfield, Stephanie Uballe), were down in the second half.

After converting just 13-of-33 first-half shots (39.4 percent),

the Cavaliers hit 17-of-34 in the second half (50 percent), including 5-of-14 three-pointers (35.7 percent). Walsh was 1-of-9 from three-point range in the first half.

Madonna, led by Chris Dietrich's 23 points (including 5-of-7 on three-pointers), took a 76-76 lead with 1:23 left after Dietrich's fifth triple of the game.

But a basket by Theresa Pridemore with 48 seconds to play regained the lead for Walsh, and two free throws by Melanie Scheetz and another by Tiffany Arendas down the stretch insured it.

Dietrich also had six rebounds and two steals. Jennifer Jacek added 22 points, and Fiorenzi totaled 17 points, 10 boards and two steals.

Scheetz's 25 points paced the Cavaliers; she also had four assists. Arendas collected 13 points, nine rebounds and four steals, and Pridemore had 12 points.

Scheetz was also named to the all-tournament team. The tourney Most Valuable Player was Kalamazoo's Amanda Weishuhn; Farmington Hills Mercy graduate Mary-Jane Valade led the Hornets in the final with 16 points.

BASEBALL

■ The Wayne State University Baseball Winter 2000 Development Hitting Camp, conducted by the school's baseball coaching staff, is open for all baseball hitters in grades seven through 12 who reside within 100 miles of WSU.

The philosophy is to teach and develop secondary school hitters in the fundamentals of hitting.

There are three sessions held on four consecutive Saturdays: Jan. 22 and 29 and Feb. 5 and 12. Session I: 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.; Session II: 10 a.m. to noon; Session III: Noon to 2 p.m.

Each session is limited to 20 campers on a first-come basis. Cost is \$100 per camper. Call (248) 477-8590 for more information.


■ Avery's All-Star Hitting Camp, conducted by Oakland University coach Mark Avery, is for ages 11 through 18. Wooden bats will be used.

The camp costs \$210 per player and runs five consecutive Saturdays or Sundays, beginning Jan. 15 or 16.


Bruce Fields, a former Major League player now managing the Grand Rapids Whitecaps Minor League team, is one of Avery's instructors.

There is a four-to-one camper to coach ratio.

Call Avery at (810) 523-1953 or Andy Fairman at (248) 672-1819 for more information.





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