

Girls track from page B1

"It looks like we have some talent. It's just a question of getting it all sorted out and seeing what develops."

FARMINGTON HARRISON
The Hawks, who won the public school city championship and were runners-up to eventual state champ Detroit Renaissance in a Division II regional, have the makings for another good team.

The pole vault should be a good event for Harrison with two state qualifiers — juniors Julietta Larina and Laura Uridge — and sophomore Sarah Sargol returning. Larina was the regional champion and Uridge the runner-up.

"She's stronger and in better shape than she was a year ago," said coach Mark Babcock of Larina. "So we're hoping for some good things this year."

"All three of them have some experience; they vaulted in some big meets and should do well, especially Julietta."

Junior Angela Fodor is the defending regional champ in the 100 hurdles. Juniors Laura Burrell and Ashley McElmurry and sophomore Jamila Fair compete in both events, and Babcock believes freshman Tabeta Fischer will give the Hawks added depth in the hurdles.

Harrison lost sprinters Angel Todd and Lisa Remington to graduation but returns sophomore Melanie Banks.

"Other than her, we're kinda young, although we have some talented kids coming up," Babcock said.

"The rest are going to be fairly new, even though I think a couple will come on and help us by the end of the year."

The Hawks have some good quarter-milers, which should bode well for their 1,600 relay team.

Sophomore Laura Glynn was eighth in the 400 in the conference meet, and senior Ria Hill and junior Corinne Pickett are quality runners at that distance, too.

Babcock, who begins his 21st season at Harrison, said he has the best group of distance runners he has had in some time.

The group includes senior Lauren Liebowitz, juniors Christine Metry and Clara Fletcher and sophomore Kori DeHuff — all of whom are cross country veterans.

DeHuff, who was the No. 1 runner for Harrison in the state cross country meet, is sidelined by a hip injury at the present time, however.

The Hawks will be helped by senior Taylor Goad, who also does double duty as a member of the girls soccer teams, as does Liebowitz.

"Those two prepared themselves for it," Babcock said. "To a lot of kids, I would say 'no,' but these two are great kids. They got themselves in great shape and earned the right to do it."

In the throwing events, the Hawks are counting on junior Debi Hicks and sophomores Tarrin Dick and Maggie Condell. Senior Gilette Yehuda specializes in the discus.

"We should be able to hold our own there," Babcock said. "All are pretty capable, and we have some experience there."

Condell, Fair and sophomore Shelly Grubick, who is fulfilling a commitment to her club gymnastics team and has yet to join the track team, will be the top

long and high jumpers.

The Hawks were 3-3 in dual meets, losing two close ones, and last in the Western Lakes Activities Association meet.

"I don't know how well we'll do compared to (Livonia) Stevenson and some of those people, but I think we'll be competitive," Babcock said. "The girls worked extremely hard this winter to get themselves ready."

"I hate to jinx it, but I think we're capable of doing pretty well. We have good leaders on this team and a veteran group in most areas. When you have those elements, things usually go well, and that's what we're hoping."

FARMINGTON HIGH

The Falcons have two of the area's most outstanding track athletes in junior Kate Bouschet and senior Kristel Stricker, and one of the best distance crew.

Bouschet was second in the WAAA championships in the long jump and sixth in the 200 dash. She also was runner-up in the long jump in a Class A regional and qualified for the state meet.

"Kate can run seven events and be all right," said Bernie Call, who takes over the head coaching duties from Ann Badyniec this year. "We'd like to use her in all three relays, but that's impossible."

"Her best event is probably the 400. She should be one of the better quarter-milers in the conference. We'll probably use her in the 100, 800 relay and open quarter. It just depends where we think we can score the points."

Stricker was a state qualifier, too. She was second in the 100

and 300 hurdles at the regional, and she was fourth and third in the WAAA, respectively. Stricker was second-team, all-area in the 300.

"Kristel is going to help us in a lot of places, too," Call said. "She'll probably run the mile relay along with the hurdles. We might also use her in the 800 or 400 relay."

The Falcons are depending on seniors Danielle Miller, who is another good quarter-miler, and Amanda Phillips for depth in the hurdles.

Farmington also returns senior Lindsey Mergener in the long jump, helping to make that a solid event.

"Kate was over 16 feet last year and Lindsey was in the 15s," Call said. "Both are back and looking pretty good. That could be one of our better events this year."

In the half mile and greater distance events, the Falcons are led by sophomore Claire Czaplicki and juniors Megan Annarino and Kristin Balla.

Czaplicki was all-area in cross country last fall after leading Farmington to a regional title, and Annarino and Balla earned the same honor in cross country the previous year.

Lending support in the long-distance races are seniors Julie Power and Sarah Grubart, junior Emily Darnbrook and freshmen Rachel Button and Angie Shoener.

Senior Heather Friedli and junior Jocelyn Atkins, who placed in the shot put at the WAAA meet, are the top throwers.

Senior Sarah Nallett returns to track and field after a season of playing soccer and is the leading jumper on the team.

Phillips, senior Sarah Van Buren and sophomore Courtney James have experience in the pole vault.

"We're in such a tough conference the only thing we can hope for is the girls improve every week and, by conference time, we get up there and get some places," Call said, adding the bigger schools dominate the WAAA. "We have a better chance of doing something in the regional than we do in the conference."

"I think we have several indi-



Race to the finish line: Rebecca Abela (right) will be competing in the sprint events for the Raiders again.

viduals who should do well in the conference. Everybody else has been working hard. We have a lot of young kids; maybe we'll have some nice surprises out of them."

NORTH FARMINGTON

The Raiders had a good team last season, finishing third in a Class A regional and fifth in the tough WAAA, but many of their top athletes are gone.

Sprinters Dayna Clemons, who also competed in the hurdles, and Nicole Taylor and the distance duo of Heidi Frank and Holly Stockton have graduated, and junior Tasha O'Neal, who was second-team, all-area in the shot put, is attending the prestigious Interlochen Academy for gifted students this year.

North also lost thrower Debby Chen to graduation, but junior Susan Hand, who was third-team, all-area in the discus, does return and will be backed up by senior Jenny Chen.

Junior Kristin Ulewicz is one of the team's top athletes and the only returning long jumper. Coach Bill Pinnell has hopes for junior Eli Dragolova and senior Busayo Obayan in that event. The Raiders have no one in the high jump currently.

Lauren Turner, the school record holder in the pole vault, also graduated, but North does return juniors Kiersten Cummings and Jesse Thiel.

Senior Rebecca Abela is the

top returning sprinter but is trying to overcome a sore knee. Senior Erika Rives, sophomore Christy Stockton and Dragolova will help in the short races. Senior Laura Hirzel, junior Tina Frank and Ulewicz are combination 200-400 runners.

Junior Anne Lieberman also runs the 400 in addition to the 800, and Pinnell is hoping for a big contribution from her following a good cross country season.

Despite the loss of Frank and Stockton, the Raiders should still be strong in the distance events with juniors Kelly Kuo, Kristen Stambouljan and Nicole Moundros, sophomores Susan Barrows and Amy Miller, freshman Katie Milan and Lieberman returning.

"They've been working hard, and they're looking really good right now," Pinnell said. "Unfortunately, our conference is tough in that area."

"I'm very confident in the group we have, and I know they're going to be very solid for us."

"With our returning people and the quality and quantity we have, that will probably be one of our stronger areas."

In the hurdles, North returns junior Jennifer Jary and Tina Frank, and freshman Iai Kawashima, who also runs the 200 and 400, is a promising newcomer.

Soccer from page B1

the ball, but it was kicked out. Julie Gottlicher sent it back in, and this time Roso put it in the South Lyon net.

The Falcons had control of the game, firing 28 total shots in the direction of the opposing goal. Farmington goalie Katie Johnson made five saves; her South Lyon counterpart made 12.

The Falcons also had five corner kicks and one direct kick; the Lions had one corner and seven indirects.

"There were moments when it went back and forth, but most of the time we had possession," Montgomery said, adding the ball stopped twice on the South Lyon goal line.

"Our offense did a good job controlling the ball, which is what we're trying to work on. We just have to figure a way to get the ball into the back of the net. That's what we're going to work on now — the finish."

"Shanna Barkume played very well at stopper, and Molly Judd did a good job at sweeper. Maggie Vaillancourt ended up playing the last 10 to 15 minutes on defense and did a very good job."

"Erin DeRoos played very well at outside mid. She didn't have the ball as much as she wanted, but she was a key player in keeping possession."

Mercy defeats Regina

Mercy started the season and Catholic League play Thursday with a 3-1 victory over visiting Harper Woods Regina.

Carrie Denton scored an unassisted goal off a corner kick, and Katie Espar assisted on goals by Angie Trudeau and Kaitlin Risk.

Mercy goalkeeper Monisha Berkowski made five saves.

Coach gets 100th win

Livonia Stevenson gave sixth-year coach Jim Kimble his 100th

victory Thursday in a season-opening 1-0 girls soccer triumph over visiting Saline.

Melissa Dobbys scored the game-winning goal five minutes into the first half on an assist from Danielle Lewis.

Junior goalkeeper Katherine Koch, who stopped four shots, notched the shutout.

The Spartans played without all-state striker Lindsay Gustick, who set out the third game of a three-game suspension dating back to last season after participating in a non-sanctioned tournament (Adidas Cup).

Meanwhile, the Spartans will be without returnee Katie Beaudoin until mid-June. She suffered a knee injury in January.

"Saline was a fast, physical team; it was a good test for us," said Kimble, who has guided the Spartans to two state championships and one runner-up finish.

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