

Churella, Chisholm finish among leaders

Local wrestlers shine in state tourney

By KEN SCHIFF

Farmington and North Farmington High Schools were well represented at the state high school wrestling tournament held recently at Calvin College in Grand Rapids.

Farmington's Mark Churella was runner up in the 155-pound class, and North Farmington's Brian Chisholm took a third in heavyweight.

For a heavyweight, North Farmington's Chisholm isn't all that big. His size (5-9, 195 pounds) makes him one of the smaller heavyweights in the state tourney. But he did win a 290-pounder enroute to taking his third place in the tournament.

Chisholm, who finished with a 33-7 record, was the first Raider wrestler ever to place in the state meet. He finished third in his regional, but the two wrestlers ahead of him didn't score at state.

His only loss in the finals was to the

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eventual heavyweight champion, who weighed 320 pounds.

"CHISHOLM'S BEEN outweighted just about all season," said North Farmington coach Jim O'Leary. "The kid who beat him in the state tournament outweighted him by 125 pounds, and you just can't do much against that."

O'Leary called Chisholm one of the most dedicated wrestlers he's ever coached.

"Last year, Brian told me he was going to place in this year's state finals, and he did," the coach said. "He's a fanatic when it comes to desire. He worked out with weights after two hours of practice, and he came in to workout on Sundays."

Several colleges have expressed interest in Chisholm, who also stars in football for the Raiders.

"Most of the colleges weren't interested in Brian because of his size,"

O'Leary said. "But after they saw him in the finals, they all want him for the 190-pound class. High schools don't have that classification."

ANOTHER AREA wrestler to score in the state finals was Farmington High's Churella. The 155-pound junior finished second in his division, winning three and losing one in the finals.

The 5-9 Churella, called "unbelievably dedicated" by his coaches, had a perfect 35-0 dual-meet season. Throughout the season, he came in early for extra work.

"He's agile, quick and he doesn't choke at all," said Farmington assistant coach Dick Burgess. "He works and prepares for a match - and he goes in very confident."

Churella helped the Falcon matmen to win the Inter Lakes League wrestling crown this season with a 7-0-1 record.



MARK CHURELLA
Farmington High runner up

BRIAN CHISHOLM
North Farmington heavyweight

Raider gymies place in league

Kennedy High School's girls' gymnastic team scored 117.0 points and finished first in the 1960 Suburban League meet. North Farmington High scored 115.65 points and finished second. Claremont took third with 104.55.

Other teams in the meet included Farmington High, Birmingham Grapes, Farmington Harrison, Oak Park, Taylor Center, Taylor Truman and Trenton High.

Top All Around honors went to Kennedy's Debbie O'Jibway, who finished first in five of the six events. She finished with a total of 29.20 points.

North Farmington's sister combination of Laura and Diane McCallum took second and third place respectively in the All Around category.

Laura McCallum finished first on the balance beam with 7.40 points. Diane McCallum claimed second place with 6.80 points.

Kennedy's Miss O'Jibway finished first in the trampoline (8.85 points), tumbling (8.30, uneven parallel bars (7.75) and a new conference record).

vaulting (7.6) and floor exercise (8.05). Diane and Laura McCallum finished second and third respectively in the floor exercises.

Meet Results

All Around - Debbie O'Jibway (Kennedy) 29.20 points, Laura McCallum (North Farmington), Diane McCallum (N. Farmington), Debra Jacobs (Taylor Truman), Maria Schaefer (Claremont), Leah Stedman (Farmington).

Balance Beam - Laura McCallum (N. Farmington) 7.40, Diane McCallum (N. Farmington), Carol Winkler (Kennedy), Maria Schaefer (Claremont), Sue Carroll (Kennedy).

Trampoline - Debbie O'Jibway (Kennedy) 8.85, Alison Danner (Claremont), Debbie Weiss (Trenton), Maria Schaefer (Claremont), Cindy Newlin (Trenton), Donna Jacobs (Trenton).

Tumbling - Debbie O'Jibway (Kennedy) 8.30, Laura McCallum (N. Farmington), Katy Mink (Claremont), Gail Ryan (N. Farmington), Micky Angelo (Farmington), Diane McCallum (N. Farmington).

Uneven Parallel Bars - Debbie O'Jibway (N. Farmington), Laura McCallum (N. Farmington), Laurie Starr (Farmington Harrison), Susan Viskoch (Kennedy), Kim Sanders (N. Farmington), Lisa Jackson (N. Farmington).

Floor Exercise - Debbie O'Jibway (Kennedy) 8.05, Diane McCallum (N. Farmington), Laura McCallum (N. Farmington), Gail Ryan (N. Farmington), Micky Angelo (Farmington), Diane McCallum (N. Farmington).

Vaulting - Debbie O'Jibway (Kennedy) 7.6, Kim Sanders (N. Farmington), Rhonda McLean (N. Farmington), Mona Leasing (Kennedy), Nancy Lory (Trenton), Diane McCallum (N. Farmington).



Raiders' Laura McCallum performs floor exercise

N. Farmington wins league meet

North Farmington High scored 283 points to win the Northwest Suburban League swimming championship March 8-9 at North Farmington.

Runner up Garden City East scored 224 points. Thurston High had 212. Westland John Glenn 179, Franklin High 167 and Oak Park 55.

The winners took firsts in three events. Jordan Hatch won the 200 free in 1:58.6, Mark Holcomb took the 100 back in 1:00.1, and Kevin McKinney topped the 100 breaststroke in 1:09.2.

East's Dale Sweneze set league and pool records in the 50 free (21.9) and the 100 free (50.1). Franklin's Brad Kenny and Dave Balnaves also set meet records. Balnaves won the 200 IM (2:08.2), while Kenny captured the 500 free (5:13.5).

Team Finish

North Farmington 283 points, Garden City East 224, Thurston High 212, Westland John Glenn 179, Franklin High 167, Oak Park 55.

Individual Finish

200-yard Freestyle - Jordan Hatch (North Farmington) 1:58.6, Tom Bird (John Glenn), Brad Kenny (Franklin High), Fred Smith (Thurston), Bob Pezet (Franklin High), Keith Weiska (Thurston).

200-yard Freestyle - Jordan Hatch (North Farmington) 1:58.6, Tom Bird (John Glenn), Brad Kenny (Franklin High), Fred Smith (Thurston), Bob Pezet (Franklin High), Keith Weiska (Thurston).

100-yard Freestyle - Dale Sweneze (Garden City East) 21.9, Kurt Hall (Thurston), Bob Pezet (Franklin High), Keith Weiska (Thurston), Dave Adams (Franklin), Roy Boyles (John Glenn).

100-yard Breaststroke - Kevin McKinney (North Farmington) 1:09.2, Kurt Hall (Thurston), Bob Pezet (Franklin High), Keith Weiska (Thurston), Dave Adams (Franklin), Roy Boyles (John Glenn).

100-yard Backstroke - Mark Holcomb (North Farmington) 1:00.1, Jordan Hatch (North Farmington), Kurt Hall (Thurston), Bob Pezet (Franklin High), Keith Weiska (Thurston), Dave Adams (Franklin), Roy Boyles (John Glenn).

500-yard Freestyle - Brad Kenny (Franklin) 5:13.5, Kurt Hall (Thurston), Bob Pezet (Franklin High), Keith Weiska (Thurston), Dave Adams (Franklin), Roy Boyles (John Glenn).

200-yard IM - Dave Balnaves (North Farmington) 2:08.2, Kurt Hall (Thurston), Bob Pezet (Franklin High), Keith Weiska (Thurston), Dave Adams (Franklin), Roy Boyles (John Glenn).

100-yard Freestyle - Dale Sweneze (Garden City East) 21.9, Kurt Hall (Thurston), Bob Pezet (Franklin High), Keith Weiska (Thurston), Dave Adams (Franklin), Roy Boyles (John Glenn).

Area sailor plans round the world trip

By MICHAEL KERN

In an age where the fuel shortage has caused the cancellation of many a weekend camping trip, Birmingham's Howard Rice is going around the world.

No... he doesn't own his own gas station. Rice's secret is that he's a sailing buff, and later this summer he will be challenging a world record when he embarks on his solo circumnavigation.

Nearly 20 years ago, a man named John Guzewell sailed around the globe in a boat which measured 20 feet, six inches in length. Nobody since has ever completed a solo global journey in a smaller sailboat.

"LAST SUMMER some guy tried to break the record with a 12-foot boat," said Rice. "He was reported missing off the coast of New Zealand, and I don't think he's been heard from since."

Rice's boat, the Cape Dory Typhoon, is 18 feet, six inches long. The general reaction among boaters is that no global trip can be safe in such a small boat.

"My theory," counters Rice, "is that size does not equate safety. I'd consider the trip in the 12-foot boat to be no more than a stunt."

"THIS TRIP of mine is no stunt," he emphasized. "It's a professional job being carefully planned."

It's not unreasonable for other boating enthusiasts to wonder exactly how Rice, a 20-year-old working man, can finance an around-the-world tour.

"The answer, he says, is salesmanship."

IN THE past, circumnavigators have usually been backed by great financial assistance. Rice knew of no such help available when he began planning his trip over a year ago.

After extensive research, he began writing letters to various segments of the boating industry to learn all he could about how to make such a trip possible.

These inquiries led to Rice's first

'I can imagine no better feeling than being in the middle of miles of open ocean with the boat as my own private world'—Howard Rice, Birmingham sailor

break—gaining sponsorship from the Cape Dory Company of West Bridgewater, Mass.

RICE MET with the company president, Andrew Vavalotis, and convinced him to back the project and donate a boat. After Cape Dory's gracious gesture, Rice said it became much easier to find other sponsors.

The Schaefer Marine Products Company of New Bedford, Mass., soon came forward to supply the boat's sail plans and standing rigging. The Boston Yacht Sail Company of Mount Clemens then donated a full suit of sails.

Just last week, Bruce King, proprietor of Birmingham's Reserve Foods, hitched onto the sponsorship bandwagon, agreeing to furnish Rice with a full complement of pre-seasoned dried foods.

THE CAPE Dory Typhoon is currently resting in the garage of Rice's friend and assistant, Jim Morris of Troy. The two men have been finishing the boat's interior and have nearly completed the job now.

Rice hopes to embark on his journey in late July or early August. He will spend the month of June testing his boat at the Schaefer Marine headquarters in Massachusetts.

The young circumnavigator expects his trip to take anywhere from one to two years.

"I'll go slow, and pick my weather," said Rice. "Setting a speed record is of no interest to me right now."

RICE WILL leave Marion, Mass., on the trip's first day and set sail for Miami. From there, it's on to South America and then to Capetown, South Africa.

After visiting Melbourne and Sydney, Australia, Rice will "island hop" in the Pacific (seeing the Philippines, Fiji Islands, and Tahiti) before passing through the Panama Canal on his way back to Miami and Marion.

In addition to preparing his boat for the long journey, Rice has been busily preparing his mind and body. His daily routine of calisthenics involve lots of running and weight-lifting.

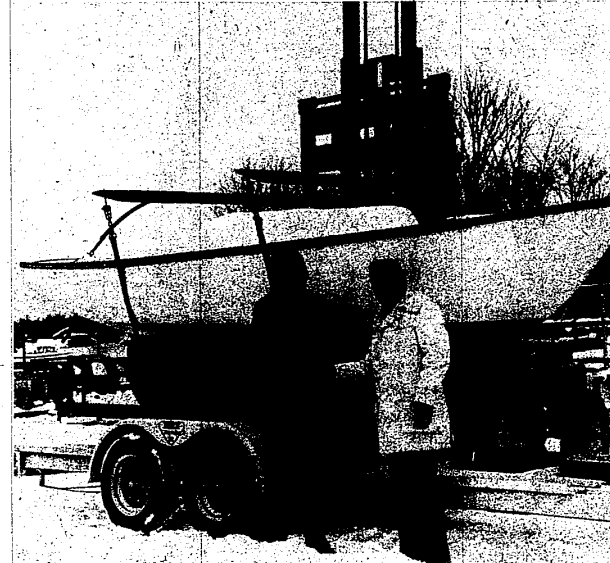
MEANWHILE, RICE is still writing letters and talking with absolutely anyone who can offer any bit of boating suggestions. He welcomes advice from interested navigators, who can call him at 878-0099.

"I've read just about every book ever written on the subject," admits Rice. "Accounts of past trips have been very candidly written so that future navigators can learn quite a bit."

ABSORBING ALL this boating knowledge is one of the trip's biggest challenges, says Rice.

"I just turned 20, and it's hard to convince people that you have the necessary knowledge to make the trip," he said.

"But I've been sailing since I was 13," he continued. "When I was in the ninth grade I built a boat, and I've had years of experience in different classes of racing."



Birmingham sailor Howard Rice (left) is greeted in front of his boat by sponsor Andrew C. Vavalotis, president of Cape Dory, Inc.

THE EXCITEMENT surrounding Rice and his venture is abundant. "It's a difficult and dangerous thing to do, but I like the challenge involved," he explained.

"On top of that, I guess you have to be nuts," he added. "I can imagine no better feeling

than being in the middle of miles of open ocean with the boat as my own private world," said Rice.

WHEN HE returns home again, Rice and Rob Snook, a Kalamazoo College student, will co-author a book on the adventures of the Cape Dory Typhoon.

Rice also has plans for buying a larger boat someday, planning other trips, and perhaps getting into the boating industry upon his return.

"But first," he says, "I'll probably kiss the ground for 10 days."