

Lathrup hopes to improve track record

By TOM BAER

Southfield-Lathrup's track team surprised a few people in the Metro Suburban Association last season. The Chargers, who lost all nine dual meets in 1972, came back to log a respectable 5-4 season, good for a second-place tie with Utica Eisenhower in the MSA.

Some of the strongest elements of last season's team are back this spring, and coach Gerry Mineweaser is hoping for even better things.

"I'd like to do even better than our tie for second place last year," Mineweaser said. "We're looking to improve and break a few records. Our kids have some personal goals."

SOME RETURNÉES include Mark Feldstein, a senior, who will run the mile, Rick Driscoll and Steve Foley are also distance runners. Bill Breslin will handle the high jumping, while Brian Bolin, Brian Gould, Keith Wunderlich and Mike Driscoll will do the sprinting.

Mitch Joseph has an especially rough job — he must take over for Matt Hepler, the team's star shot-putter last season. In the hurdling events, Mineweaser is counting on Bob Goldschmidt. Andy Theodorou, Jim Yee and Rick Shepherd.

"We're concentrating on a good sound foundation of conditioning," Mineweaser said. "Then we'll ease

into some more rigorous training, especially with our speed work. I'm a little reluctant to go heavy on any speed work when the weather is so brisk."

LATHRUP OPENS its season March 30 at the Huron Relays, an indoor meet at Eastern Michigan University. The Chargers begin their dual meet season at home against Waterford Mott on April 8. The MSA season starts April 10 at home against Rochester Adams.

"Birmingham Groves has to be a real tough team," said Mineweaser of the MSA this spring. "They're the defending league champions and they have quite a few of those kids back."

Last year, several girls turned out for the boys' team. This year, the girls will have their own team coached by Mike Murphy. More than 30 girls have come out, according to Mineweaser.

The girls' track schedule will be announced at a later date.

The Observer & Eccentric

SPORTS

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Monday, March 25, 1974

LATHRUP TRACK	
March 30	T Huron Relays
April 6	T Spartan Relays
April 8	H Michigan State
April 10	H Waterford Mott
April 12-13	T Mansfield Relays
April 18	H Royal Oak Kimball
April 22	H Oak Park
April 25	T Utica Eisenhower
May 2	H Birmingham Groves
May 4	T Observer Relays
May 7	H Waterford High
May 9	H Royal Oak Dondero
May 11	H Eccentric Relays
May 16	T Bloomfield Hills Lathrup
May 18	T Regionals
May 20	T Farmington High
May 22	T Waterford Kettering
May 24	T MSA Meet
May 24	T Rochester Adams
May 24	T Oakland County Meet
May 30	H Hazel Park
June 1	H Southfield High
June 1	T State Meet
June 1	T Flint Northern

Blue Jay trackmen face rebuilding year

Southfield High track coach Chuck Balog realizes that he's going to do some rebuilding this year — but when he loses runners like Tom Bakerman, Bill Bangert and Dan Henry, the rebuilding becomes a wholesale renovation.

"It'll take a little rebuilding," said Balog, whose team finished second in the Southeastern Michigan Association last season.

"It's not going to be as good as last year, but we hope to win a few. It's a

small crowd — maybe 25 kids. That's about what you end up with, but it's the smallest group I ever started out with."

A PROMISING senior, Ken McNamee, should be a real workhorse for the Blue Jays this season. He can perform in the hurdles, the 220-yard dash and the long jump.

Other returnees include Roger Philip (shot put), Mike Olds (pole vault), Tony Lieder (sprints), Prince Miles (half mile) and Mark McKinney (sprints). There also are some sophomores like Gary Miles and Scott Stone.

For the distance events, Balog also has sophomores Art Hundick, Mark Volante and Glenn Wingblad. All were runners on Southfield's winless cross country team last fall.

"I think they're fairly promising, so we'll get our hopes up for them again," Balog said. "Maybe they can get it together this spring."

THE JAYS will participate in the Huron Relays at Eastern Michigan University on Saturday (April 30) before moving to East Lansing for the Spartan Relays on April 6. Again this year, Southfield will run in the Mansfield (Ohio) Relays April 12-13.

Southfield's first dual meet is scheduled for April 22 at home against SMA foe Berkeley High. Royal Oak Kimball, last season's league champion, should take the crown again, Balog said.

"It'll probably be Kimball again this year. They're the perennial favorites," he said.

Southfield High plans a separate girls' track team if there is enough interest. Sherri Gordon will coach the team.

Southfield Track	
May 30	T Huron Relays
April 6	T Spartan Relays
April 12-13	T Mansfield Relays
April 22	H Berkeley High
April 29	T Hazel Park
May 3	T SMA Relays
May 6	H Ferndale
May 11	T Eccentric Relays
May 18	H Royal Oak Kimball
May 20	T Regionals
May 22	T Farmington High
May 24	T Birmingham Seaholm
May 28	T Oakland County
May 28	T Hazel Park
May 28	T MSA Meet
May 30	T Southfield-Lathrup



Brian Bolin is one of many returnees from last year's Lathrup track team. (Photographed by Gary Friedman)

Farmington seeks past glory

By KEN SCHIFF

Farmington High's track team is out to regain the dominance it once held in the Inter Lakes League.

Before last season the Falcons had won the league title five out of the last six years but last year finished fourth with a dual meet record of 5-9.

North Farmington, which finished with a 4-1 dual meet record last season, has 15 returning lettermen and should have a good shot at the Northwest Suburban track title. Harrison High School, only in its fourth year, has a predominantly sophomore team and finished last in the Western Six last season.

"**LAST SEASON** was a rebuilding year for us," said Farmington coach Gerald Young. "We didn't have a good group of seniors.

This season we have 13 returning lettermen and if we keep injuries to a minimum we should be in the thick of things again. It should be a three way battle for the Inter-Lakes title between us, defending champion Livonia Stevenson and Pontiac Northern."

Farmington has some excellent returning trackmen, notably senior Mike McGuire, the defending state champion and record holder in the two-mile. His record time in last year's finals was 9:12 and he's run 9:14.5 already this season while winning the event at the indoor championships at Michigan State University two weeks ago.

"He should break nine minutes this season and he's also run a 4:21 mile," Young said. "He can only run one of the events in a dual meet and we

have another two-miler. Bruce Taylor, who runs it in 9:47."

AT NORTH FARMINGTON, coach Ron Holland has 50 trackmen to work with.

"We should have a pretty good shot at the title," said Holland. "Our hurdlers finished second and third last year in the Northwest Suburban and our 100 and 220 men — Dan Kramer and Brad Pense along with Steve Koticki and Bob Patek — won the Observer shuttle relays last year."

Pense is also a long jumper and came in second in that event last year in one of two chartered buses and the field men are Bob Moore in the shot put, Bob Reed and Bill Laugh in the high jump.

Distance runners for North Farm-

ington are senior Pat Hebler, juniors Pat Sheehan and Dave Weiland, and junior Keith Bailey in the mile.

FARMINGTON HARRISON coach Larry Fortner may not have such a good team this year, but what they lack in talent and experience, they make up in enthusiasm.

"Last year we only had 20 guys on the team and we finished in last place. This year we had 40 guys and a dozen girls come out and our program is picking up. We should break five or six school records and depending on our sophomores we should finish in the middle or near the top of the Western Six."

Co-captains on the team are seniors Mike Perrone, who runs the 100, 220 and 440 and Tim Turney who should break the school record in the shot put.

Fortner said that Ian Goldbaum and Dave Thorn would be his utility men this year. He said Thorn should break the long jump record and is his best 440 man.

"We have a lot of enthusiasm but as a team we're unproven," Fortner said. "We have some guys out for track for the first time. For example, we have five pole vaulters and not one of them has ever vaulted before coming out."

All three schools open their seasons with the Huron Relays on March 30. Farmington has its first dual meet April 4 at Waterford Mott. North Farmington opens on April 9 at home against Walled Lake Central, while Harrison's first meet is April 2 at home against Andover.

THOUGH THE competition dragged on through the night, a hardy band of Troy supporters stayed right in their seats, rooting their team to the title. More than 200 people, many of them arriving in one of two chartered buses and wearing white shirts with a black T emblazoned on them, gave the girls the special lift they needed when things got tough.

"The Troy fans were just great," said coach Miller. "We brought the best team and the best fans to East Lansing. It just shows what a great community spirit and school backing that we have at Troy."

The title was the first state championship for the school in any sport. A student assembly was called Monday as the team members were presented with medals commemorating their effort. A banner reading "Home of the 1974 State Girls Gymnastics Champions" is to be placed in front of the high school.

So in only its third year of operation, the Troy gymnastics team has proven that it doesn't take a lot of time, but it does take a lot of effort to be successful. In this case, that success is measured in the form of a state championship.

Troy gymnasts win crown

By JIM BOCHENEK

Just as it's been all season long, the Troy High girls gymnastics team had an easy time winning a meet last week. But this time, the meet that was won by the gymies of coaches Sandy Smith and Marilyn Miller was the final one — and the biggest of them all, the Class A state championship.

Troy finished an unbeaten year by scoring 134 points in easily outdistancing the host school, East Lansing High, by 14 points. The last two years that the state meet has been held, the winning margin in the team standings was less than two points, thus showing the strength that Troy possessed this year.

THOUGH IT TOOK a complete team effort of the 14 girls entered in 44 events, it was the showing of a tiny Troy freshman that brought down the house.

Lori Boes, all of four feet, 11 inches and 89 pounds, finished first in an amazing four of the six individual events and, needless to say, took the all-around championship as well.

Miss Boes scored 8.9 points in winning the balance beam event, 8.6 in taking the uneven bars competition, 8.4 in finishing first in floor exercises and 8.0 for the tumbling title.

SHE FINISHED second in the

bault with a score of 8.1 as another Troy freshman, Kathy Brisson, took the event with a score of 8.5.

Miss Brisson came in second to Miss Boes in the floor exercises, second again in tumbling and third to Miss Boes and senior teammate Vicki Cowan on the uneven bars. Sophomore Nancy Simmons placed sixth in the all-around championships while freshman Vikki Wiegand finished right behind in seventh place.

Troy dominated the meet so thoroughly that most of the other competitors were for second and third place honors most of the way.

NORTH FARMINGTON finished third behind Troy and East Lansing with a score of 116 points. Ludington was fourth with 113 while defending state champion Taylor Kennedy finished fifth with 110.

A total of 58 teams entered the competition and the vast number of competitors caused a lot of problems for meet officials. Warmups began at 9 a.m. Saturday, the actual meet began at noon and was not concluded until nearly midnight.

"The kids from all of the teams were really tired at the end," said coach Miller. "One judge told me that it just wasn't humanly possible to rate so many girls at one time. Something will have to be

done in cutting down the number of entries. Maybe we'll have regional competition next year before going to the state meet."

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Tony Lieder - Southfield High sprinter