

NFHS tops WL Western

North Farmington's Debbie Somerville was a double winner as the Raiders defeated Walled Lake Western, 121-49, in nonleague girls' swimming last week.

Miss Somerville won the 200-yard Individual Medley (2:45.2) and the 100-yard Butterfly (1:14.2). She also swam on the winning 200-yard medley relay. North Farmington had three other double winners in the victory.

North Farmington swims next on Thursday (Sept. 26) at Thurston High. The meet begins at 4 p.m.

NFRHS-WL Western
200 Medley Relay — North Farmington, (Petrone, Brinkman, MacLaren, Gasser)
2:11.9; 200 Freestyle — Petronio (NFHS)
2:27.1; Clancy (NFHS), Manderfield (NFHS); 50 Freestyle — Gasser (NFHS)
26.8; Petronio (NFHS), Fry (NFHS); 300 Individual Medley — Somerville (NFHS)
2:45.2; Mazzyński (Walled Lake Western), Knock (NFHS); Diving — Carruthers (NFHS) 154.8 points; Johnson (NFHS), Bias (WLW); 100 Butterfly — Somerville (NFHS) 1:14.2; MacLaren (NFHS), Backker (WLW); 100 Freestyle — Gasser (NFHS) 1:02.0; Stokes (NFHS), Nissen (WLW); 5 — Freestyle — Clancy (NFHS) 7:02.7; Manderfield (NFHS), Carson (WLW); 100 Backstroke — Hurst (WLW) 1:21.0; Petronio (NFHS), Knock (NFHS); 100 Breaststroke — MacLaren (NFHS) 1:51.1; Brinkman (NFHS), Merrill (NFHS); 400 Freestyle Relay — North Farmington (Petrone, Clancy, Somerville, Gasser) 4:21.3.

Spartan life

John Daubenmeyer, a 1974 graduate of North Farmington High School, has earned a spot on the Michigan State University football squad.

Daubenmeyer, a 6-3, 200-pound freshman, has been working out at the defensive end spot for MSU head coach Denny Stolz and the Spartans.



Stags head coach Johnny Wilson will find himself in familiar territory when he gets behind the bench for the new Detroit hockey club.

Wilson takes over young Stags

By GAYLE JACOBSON

Whether we needed another hockey team, or any other type of professional athletic organization in Detroit seems of little consequence, what is important is that we do have another one, by no choice of our own, and the Michigan Stags, like their new coach are here to stay.

Their new coach, for those who don't know, is Johnny Wilson, one time coach of the Detroit Red Wings.

Since his firing by the Wings management back at the end of the '72-'73 season, Wilson has been assistant general manager of the Atlanta Flames of the NHL and seen action as coach of the Indianapolis Racers of the WHA.

But now, entering his 24th year in professional hockey, Wilson is right back where he started, in Detroit.

Coming back to Detroit wasn't as simple as it might seem. In order to join the Stags, Wilson had to break a long term contract with

the Racers. He wanted to be relieved of his coaching obligations, and they wanted some sort of compensation in return.

Asked to help find a suitable replacement for himself, Wilson made some suggestions, none of which were used. Finally, after much time and many phone calls, the Racers agreed to terminate the contract.

Wilson feels the Stags have assembled a good group of players. Yet, as he put it, "Although we look good on paper, we'll still have to prove it by defeating the opposition on the ice."

Having two hockey teams in Detroit affords the public an opportunity to be a little more selective. There are enough hockey fans to support both teams, Wilson feels.

He also believes that one nice feature about the Detroit fan is that he is very knowledgeable, and enjoys watching all sports. He likes being entertained.

Is he out for revenge against his former employers? Johnny said no. "I'd like to see both clubs successful. Between the two of us we'll be able to be successful. With us moving in here it will stimulate the Wings. They'll not only be competing with other teams in the NHL, but with us as well. Maybe we'll take some fans away from the Wings. Some will probably switch off between the two of us."

To Wilson, hockey is one of the most exciting sports existing today. Hockey is a game with a great deal of glamor, where the fan can blend in with the pulse of the game.

Where other sports such as basketball and football offer opportunities to boys of a certain physical build, hockey offers a boy of normal stature a chance to participate. This, added to the fact that more and more facilities are being built for hockey are just a couple of reasons Wilson feels kids are turning out for hockey quicker than they are for football.

Wilson's own playing career was nothing to laugh about. He played on four Stanley Cup teams, helping greatly in the winning of one of them. Johnny also set a record of the most games played consecutively, 580, which won him the Iron Man title. During his 11 year span as a player, he belonged to four different teams; the Red Wings, Toronto Maple Leafs, Chicago Black Hawks, and the Los Angeles Kings.

MAC honor

Gerry Heiss, former captain of the Southfield High golf team, was among 28 Eastern Michigan University athletes honored by the Mid-American Conference for achievement in the classroom and in athletics during the 1973-'74 school year.

The MAC honor roll is composed of students with a grade-point average of 3.25 or better with a minimum of 24 semester hours during the school year. Heiss compiled a 3.40 grade-point average during his senior year.

After his retirement as a player, Wilson became interested in the coaching aspect of the game. So much so that he felt he could help hockey players in that capacity. In 1963 his coaching career began at Princeton University as the Varsity hockey coach, after which came a head coaching job with an L.A. Kings farm team, and then of course the Red Wings job.

Of that, Wilson said, "When I arrived the team was a disaster. I got things in a respectable manner. I thought they were going along all right. Frustration suddenly instilled with that organization and I don't think they sat back and thought before making a decision."

The decision Wilson spoke of was his firing by the Wings. A spokesman in that organization stated that Johnny Wilson had been fired because the Red Wings' hierarchy "felt he hadn't done the job he was hired for."

Practices for the Stags begin on September 23 at the Yost Arena on the University of Michigan campus.

Wilson plans on two practice sessions a day for the first ten days of their pre-season training, cutting the number of sessions down to one a day for the remainder of the scheduled practices.

Regular season play begins October 17 in Indianapolis. The Stags will play 6 games on the road, coming back to Detroit for their season home opener at Cobo Arena on October 29 against the Fighting Saints of Minnesota.

The WHA season goes on into the beginning of April when the breakdown of the playoffs begins.

For Wilson, April is too far away to worry about. His concern is with the present . . . and the Stags.

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Sophomore girls to cheer Groves

All 96 sophomore girls at Groves High School will participate in a pom pom routine during halftime of the Groves-Utica Eisenhower football game Friday. They will perform with the Groves band.

The routine is part of the girls' physical education class activity and is directed by Sally Sippell, gym instructor.

JOHNNY WILSON

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