

Lathrup track preview

A hopeful sign lies in the past

By TOM BAER

The results from last year's Metro Suburban Association league track meet show why Southfield-Lathrup may have a chance for a better season this year.

Last year, Lathrup finished fourth in the league meet and fourth in the six-team MSA with a 2-3 league record. But several Chargers turned in outstanding performances in the 1974 league meet, and they're all back this season.

Senior shotputter Mitch Joseph, for example, finished second in the league meet. Senior Jim Yee was runner up in the long jump, and Bill Breslin took second in the high jump. Brian Bolin and Brian Gould were members of Lathrup's 440 and 800 relays, which both won last year.

"It's hard to say how well we'll do from one year to the next," said Lathrup coach Gerald Mineweaser. "We have a few kids we're counting on, but it remains to be seen if they can improve on what they did last year."

Mineweaser is working with 40 trackmen this season. More than 30 saw service last season. Some other prospects are seniors Steve Foley and John Harding. Foley is a two miler with a lot of cross country experience, and Harding is a miler trying track for the first time after a very successful cross country career.

"WE'RE GOING to need good years from all of them," said Mineweaser, who is beginning his seventh year as Lathrup's track coach. "Joseph should have a good year, and Breslin has been jumping well."

"We have another kid, junior Mike Driscoll, who placed in the quarter mile last year. He's a real strong kid and we're looking for him. I just hope we have enough depth in some of the field events. We really have only one

high jumper with any experience." Lathrup will participate in the Huron Relays at Eastern Michigan University March 29. The Chargers' first dual meet is scheduled for April 9 at Waterford Mott. Lathrup opens its Metro Suburban season April 17 at home against Bloomfield Hills Lakeside. Lathrup will host the MSA league meet this year.

The MSA has been in existence only three years. Birmingham Groves has dominated the track competition for the first two years and this season should be no exception, most coaches feel.

"I think Groves will be strong again," Mineweaser said. "They have to be the favorite. After Groves, I think it'll be an even race."

Mineweaser will have two new assistant coaches this season. They are Jim Kourakis and Bob Herrm.

Lathrup Track	
March 29	Huron Relays Eastern Michigan University T 1 p.m.
April 5	Michigan State Michigan State T 1 p.m.
April 9	Waterford Mott Waterford Mott T 4 p.m.
April 17	Bloomfield Hills Lakeside Lakeside H 4 p.m.
April 22	Oak Park Oak Park H 4 p.m.
April 24	Rochester Adams Rochester Adams T 4 p.m.
May 1	Utica Utica H 7 p.m.
May 3	Observatory Relays Redford Union T 1 p.m.
May 6	Waterford Twp Waterford T 4 p.m.
May 8	Birmingham Groves Birmingham Groves T 4 p.m.
May 10	Lakemont Lakemont T 4 p.m.
May 13	Royal Oak Royal Oak T 4 p.m.
May 16	State Regional Farmington High Farmington High T 1 p.m.
May 20	MSA League Meet Lathrup Oakland County H 4 p.m.
May 23	Waterford Waterford T 4 p.m.
May 27	Waterford Kettering Waterford H 7 p.m.
June 2	Observer & Eccentric Relays Lakemont T 1 p.m.
June 4	Southfield High Southfield High T 7 p.m.

Raiders lack speed, boast field strength

Wanted: sprinters at NHFS

North Farmington's chances for a successful track season depend a lot on how fast coach Ron Holland can develop some younger sprinters to replace those who have graduated.

"We don't have any fast speed right now," said Holland, who is beginning his 14th year as Raider track coach. "We don't have any sprinters with good times."

Most of North Farmington's returning

lettermen are specialists in the field or distance events. "I think we'll be real strong in the field events with Tom Moore in the shot put and Bill Lough and Bob Reed in the high jump," Holland said.

"And we're going to have a good kid in all the distances — the quarter, half, mile and two mile."

Some other returning lettermen at North Farmington include quarter miler Keith Bailey, pole vaulter Dave Marchetti and Mike Solida, and sprinters Bob Paetz and Irv Lichtenor.

Last year, North Farmington completed a 7-2 overall record in dual meets, and finished third in the Northwest Suburban League. Thurston High won the league, and Westland John Glenn finished second.

North Farmington will open its season April 11 at Waterford Mott. The Raiders will skip the Huron Relays and the Spartan Relays — the traditional openers for prep track teams — because they fall during spring break.

"We're just looking forward to our

Observer & Eccentric SPORTS

Monday, March 24, 1975 THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC (D12)

North Farmington Track	
April 11	Waterford Mott T 4 p.m.
April 17	Lexus Franklin T 4 p.m.
April 24	John Glenn H 4 p.m.
April 26	Bradley Rice Relays T 2 p.m.
April 29	Birmingham Groves T 4 p.m.
May 1	Garden City East T 4 p.m.
May 3	Observatory Relays Redford Union T 1 p.m.
May 6	Thurston H 4 p.m.
May 16	Oak Park T 4 p.m.
May 17	Regional Farmington High T 1 p.m.
May 21	NSL League Meet Hazel Park T 4 p.m.
May 23	Oakland County Oakland County T 1 p.m.
May 27	Farmington High Farmington High H 4 p.m.
May 31	State Finals T 1 p.m.

It may cost more to hit that golf ball

By RON HINGST

Fertilizer makes the grass grow on the golf course, but this season it is also helping to push green fees up on many area public courses.

"Fertilizer costs have nearly tripled from last year," said Mrs. Elaine Sadowski, owner of the Rochester Golf and Country Club — one of a few public courses which have not increased its fees. "Costs in everything have gone up."

In a telephone check with local public golf facilities, most courses plan on opening during the first two weeks of April, or when the weather breaks. Green fee increases average anywhere from 25 cents to 50 cents above last year.

OF FIVE public courses surveyed in the area, three reported green fee gains and two chose to hold the line.

Spokespersons at each course agreed operational costs have gone up. The public courses contacted included Birmingham's Municipal Courses; Glen Oaks Golf and Country Club, Farmington; Rochester Golf and Country Club; Sylvan Glen, Troy; San Marino Golf Club, Farmington and Evergreen Hills, Southfield.

A summary of starting dates and green fees for the courses is as follows:

• Birmingham: Tentative opening date is April 15 (all scheduled openings depend on the weather. Residents can obtain identification cards to play at the courses. Permits and rules have also been set down for non-resident use and businesses within the city. Green fees run anywhere from \$2.50 for residents use to \$3.50 for guests with cost adjustments for weekend and weekday use. Youth and senior citizen discounts are available.

• Sylvan Glen, Troy: Tentative opening date is April 7 (dependent on the weather). Course is open to both residents and non-residents. Green fees for residents are \$3 for nine holes and \$4.75 for 18 and for non-residents they are \$3.50 for nine and \$5.25 for 18. The prices reflect no change from last year. Reservations are taken only on weekends.

• San Marino Golf Club (nine hole course): Opening date is tentatively April 1 or when the weather breaks. Green fees are \$3.50 for weekdays and \$4.00 on weekends. Costs show a 25 cent gain over last year. Reservations are advised on weekends.

• Evergreen Hills, Southfield: Course will open as soon as weather breaks. Open to residents and non-residents when accompanied by a resident. Green fees for residents are \$3 for nine and \$5 for 18 on weekdays and \$4 for nine and \$6.50 on weekends. Non-resident rates are \$1 more. Senior citizen discounts are \$1.50 for nine and \$2.50 for 18 Monday through Friday before 2:00 p.m. Ottumwa can purchase season passes for \$30 (for rules check with recreation department). The green fees show an average \$1.25 increase over last year (except senior citizens).

THE MOST significant cost increase in course operations include fertilizer, utility rates, labor, food and beverage.

At Rochester and Sylvan Glen, administrators indicated they chose to hold the line on green fee costs because of current economic conditions.

"Our fees are the same for the simple reason there are people out of work," said Rochester's Mrs. Sadowski.

A spokesman for Sylvan Glen offered a similar philosophy.

"WITH THE current economic conditions, we felt it would be best to hold the line," he said.

Birmingham Recreation Department's Roger Fauch detailed another problem at that city's golf courses which helped pressure costs upward. A breakdown in the facility's water pump forced the course to use regular tap water — at regular tap water rates. Fixing the regular system also cost money.

The green fees reflect 25 cent and 50 cent increases.

• Glen Oaks Golf and Country Club: Course will open as soon as weather breaks. Green fees are priced at \$3.75 for nine holes and \$5.25 for 18. It is open seven days a week and reservations are usually needed.

• Rochester Golf and Country Club: Restricted to Rochester residents. The facility is open year around and green fees are the same as last year.

• Sylvan Glen, Troy: Tentative opening date is April 7 (dependent on the weather). Course is open to both residents and non-residents. Green fees for residents are \$3 for nine holes and \$4.75 for 18 and for non-residents they are \$3.50 for nine and \$5.25 for 18. The prices reflect no change from last year. Reservations are taken only on weekends.

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A golfer walks to the first tee at Evergreen Hills