

Freshman shines in swim finals

By TOM BAER

North Farmington's Cathy, who was given a chance to win the Class A girls swimming state finals, had to settle for fifth place with 79 points. It was her last Larned, which won its fourth straight state title last weekend at Central Michigan University.

Showing up Laveria Stevenson, which led for most of the meet, scored 141 points. Birmingham Groves finished third with 128 points, and Ann Arbor Fluor was next with 131. North Farmington had a good showing with 30 team points and an 11th place finish. Other area teams in the finals were Farmington Harrison (seven points) and Southfield Lathrup (six points).

Freshman Betty Leach was a standout for coach Deloris Yager's Mercy team, which scored in seven events. Leach finished second in the 100-yard freestyle with a 54.7 clocking, and also swam on both relays. Leach's showing in the 100 free pleased the coach.

"I expected her to do well, but I didn't think she'd go that low," Yager said. "That's a terrific time. She really dropped

her time. She started out the season at 58, and now she's at 54.

If she were swimming in the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU), she'd have the fastest time of any 13-and-14-year-old girl in the state. She's swimming AAU now, but maybe she will after school's over. I hope she does because that'll mean another record for her."

MERCY'S SENIORS: Leach, Yager, Miller, Sue MacMillan, Ann Fischer and Leach finished fourth in 1:56.02, and the Marlins' 400-yard freestyle relay (Kris Johnson, Sue Kolan, Ann Fischer and Leach) took sixth place in 3:49.43.

Other Mercy scoring efforts came from MacMillan, fifth in the 100 breaststroke at 1:18.25; Johnson, sixth in the 50 freestyle at 2:33; Johnson, eighth in the 100 freestyle at 56.1; and MacMillan, 12th in the 200 individual medley at 2:19.79.

North Farmington also had an outstanding youngster in sophomore Maurine Harrison's BUDEL sisters, Cathy and Karen, were also in the state finals. Cathy, a sophomore, finished ninth in the 200 IM and 10th in the 100 butterfly. Karen, a senior, was disqualified in the 1M and finished the 100 fly in 37.15, not good enough to score.

It was an honor for both of the Budel sisters to qualify for the state meet, said Harrison coach Cathy Buchta. "Both of them are very hard workers, and they deserved the honor."

Lathrup coach Pete Biglin also had an outstanding sophomore in Lisa Hest. She finished 11th in the 100 fly (1:02.55) and 12th in the 50 freestyle (1:31.60) in the preliminaries. Teammate Laura Crosswhite, a senior, finished 11th in the IM (2:19.0) and 12th in the 100 fly (1:02.65).

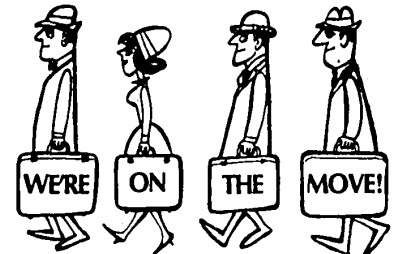
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