

Area wrestlers wilt at state meet

Four Farmington-area matmen — North Farmington's Dan Orr and Paul Cotter and Farmington High's Bill Anglin and Mark Denny — wrestled 11 matches at the Class A state finals last weekend at Lansing Eastern High School.

Unfortunately for the local athletes, only three of those 11 bouts were winners.

North's Cotter, a 145-pound senior, won his opening match with a 10-4 decision over Harper Woods Notre Dame's Jim Call, but then lost decisions to Bay City Western's Ron Gorney (10-8) and West Bloomfield's Bob Petrillo (6-4). Cotter finished with a 31-9 won-lost record.

Orr, a 132-pound senior who missed a big chunk of the season because of injuries, lost a 5-3 decision to Farmington's Denny and then was eliminated by Niles' Claude Taylor, 10-4. Orr logged a 21-8 record.

After beating Orr, Denny dropped decisions to Grandville's Mark Peterson (6-5) and Monroe's Mike Langton (5-4). Denny closed out his prep career with a 27-7 record.

Anglin, another senior, lost his 126-pound opener to Temperance-Bedford's Roger Witaszek, 5-2, and then beat Grand Ledge's Tom Spagnuolo on a forfeit. Anglin was eliminated, losing his sixth match in 39 outbursts, by Hazel Park's Joe Fisher on a 5-2 decision.

"I was disappointed," said Farmington coach Barry Walsh. "I thought Denny would wrestle better. Anglin seemed to be nervous. This was his first state meet."

Raider spikers advance

North Farmington earned a Class A district volleyball championship Saturday with a 15-8, 15-9 showing over Bloomfield Hills Andover at Birmingham Groves High School.

North Farmington, now 14-4 under coach Sandy Lubieniecki, advances to the Flint Southwestern regional tournament Saturday to play the winner of the Midland district.

In the district final, North was led by server Betsy Lee, who was named the Most Valuable Player (MVP) (11 for 11) and Debbie Pank (10 for 11) also played key roles, Lubieniecki said.

"Our team played outstanding defense," the coach said. "We were putting back just about everything they were hitting at us. We have an adequate offense, but it's our defense that keeps us in games."

North gymnasts win again

North Farmington took the team championship — as usual — and Farmington High's Jo Smith was the individual standout in the Northwest Suburban League girls' gymnastics conference meet Saturday at North.

North won the league meet and title for the fourth year in a row with a score of 126.75. Plymouth Canton was a close second with 118.30. Northville had 115.80, Farmington 115.75, Walled Lake Central 108.85, Westland John Glenn 108.35, Walled Lake Western 106.25, Farmington Harrison 105.75 and Clarensville 92.40.

North's only first place came on balance beam, where Dona Kehrle scored an 8.2. She added a third place in floor exercise with an 8.35. Sharon Shifra, also of North, placed second on uneven parallel bars (8.25), and teammate Kim Edwards was second on floor exercise (8.05).

North's Alyene Wolf provided a third on beam (8.0) and tied for fourth in vaulting (8.2).

Smith, a Farmington sophomore, was the meet's top all-around performer with a score of 34.40. She won three of the four individual events, posting an 8.6 in vaulting, a 9.1 on bars and a 9.0 in floor exercise.

"She deserved to win," said North coach Mary Johnson. "She had some great routines."

Paula Broderick was second-in-all around (32.30), and Canton's Laura Michalik was third (32.35).

A state regional is scheduled for Saturday at Troy Athens High School. Competition begins at noon. On the following weekend, March 19-20, the state finals will be held at Plymouth Canton High School.

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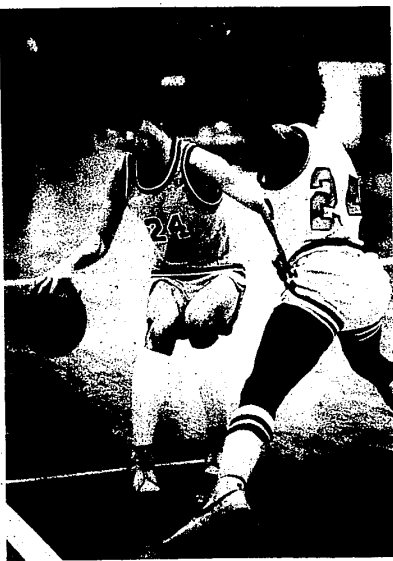
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MINDY SAUNDERS/staff photographer

On guard

Southfield's DeVoe Cornell keeps an eye on North Farmington's Mike Black (with ball) during Monday's state Class A district basketball game at Southfield. Black played a strong game, scoring 10 points, but Southfield won, 73-57.

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