

Sports

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classified inside



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Young heads youthful All-Area team

By Chris McCosky
staff writer

IT'S HARD to believe that Jerry Young has been coaching track at Farmington High School since 1967. He just doesn't look that old.

Physical appearances aside, though, Young is the 'ol' coach' among his younger colleagues. He has endured many a trying season with the blue and white — and some fairly outstanding ones.

But this past girls track season, the fifth for Young, was an absolute

charm. The Falcons posted a 7-1 dual-meet record, second best in the Western Lakes Division. More importantly, the Falcons tied for first with Farmington Harrison in the league meet and pulled a stunning upset victory in the Redford Union Hays, out-punting favored Pontiac Northern.

THE SEASON was capped last Saturday at the state meet. Four Falcons qualified, four Falcons scored.

"I really can't ask for anything more from the kids," said Young, who added that this was the most success his teams have enjoyed since 1971.

all-area girls' track

Because of his success this year, and because of his 17 years of dedication to his sport, the 'ol' coach will wear still another moniker — Observerland Girls Track Coach of the Year for 1984.

Young heads up a talent-laden All-Area team, selected by area coaches, which features three of his Falcon competitors. Here's a look at the 1984 Observerland girls track team:

FIELD EVENTS

Shot put: Westland John Glenn's Anna Parish has been on top of the Observerland rankings all season with her 39-foot-8 1/2-inch toss. The junior took a third place at the state meet with a 38-6 1/2 toss. She was the Northwest Suburban League champion also.

Discus: Beth Sherman of Farmington won honors here, coming on strong in the latter half of the season to overtake teammate Terri Quenneville. Sherman's best toss was 117-9 this season. She holds the Falcon record at 119-9. The senior placed fifth at state, second in the regional, and first at both the Western Lakes meet and the Oakland County meet.

High jump: Another Falcon takes honors here, Sambia Shivers, a junior transfer student from Bishop Borgess, had the rare ability to go that one step higher than the competition. Her best jump, 5-4, came in the state meet and got her a 10th-place medal. She won the regional (5-3), the Western Lakes (5-3) and the RU Relay (5-3). She was second in Oakland County.

Long jump: Lauri Runk was a critical performer for Farmington Harrison. On many occasions, she was good for 20 points a meet. As the season wore on, her strength in jumping events far overshadowed her abilities on the track. The junior's best leap was 17-1 1/2 — a Hawk record. She placed seventh in the state, and second at both the regional and Western Lakes meet.

TRACK EVENTS

110-meter hurdles: Sophomore Lisa Dominato was the leading scorer for Livonia Franklin this year. Her best time was 18.1 and none of her Observerland opponents beat her head to head. She holds three Franklin records, was the Livonia City Meet champ, the Northwest Suburban champ and took a fourth at the regional.

300 hurdles: The hurdle events are dominated by super sophomores and Harrison's Jamie Holcomb is the area's premier 300 hurdler with her best time of 45.9. She holds the Hawks' 300 record, was a regional champion and placed second at both the Western Lakes and Oakland County meets.

100 dash: Bishop Borgess was near the top of the area rankings all season partly because of an awesome sprint team. Leading that team was junior Londreann Washington. Washington's best time was 12.4 — which gave her a share of the school record. Making her second straight appearance on the All-Area team, Washington was all-Catholic, placed second at RU, third in the region and fourth in the Operation Friendship Meet.

200 dash: Terri Ford, another sophomore, can be as good as she wants to be, according to Farmington Hills Our Lady of Mercy coach Bob Kirkland. In just her first year of track competition, Ford tied the Mercy 200 record (28.3) three times. She took a first at the Catholic League meet and a third at the regional. She is a truly gifted athlete, competing in both basketball and track.

400 run: Jean Arndt posed a big problem for the Livonia Ladywood coaches. Because she could run, and win, in about every event, the coaches didn't always know which four events

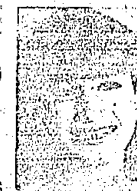
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Beth Sherman
Farmington



Sambia Shivers
Farmington



Lauri Runk
Harrison



Jamie Holcomb
Harrison



Jenny Lindbert
Farmington



Anna Parish
John Glenn



Lisa Dominato
Franklin



Londreann Washington
Borgess



Terri Ford
Mercy



RAHNDY BORST/staff photographer

High-flying Lauri Runk is Observerland's premier long jumper. As the season wore on, her strength in jumping events far overshadowed her abilities on the track. The junior's best leap was 17-1 1/2 — a Hawk record. She placed seventh in the state, and second at both the regional and Western Lakes meet.

Joan Arndt
Ladywood



Sue Willey
Ladywood



CC nipped in regional, 1-0

By Brad Emons
staff writer

The mound appeared to be a little bigger than it should have been for the battlers of Redford Catholic Central and Garden City.

Good pitching did it in both teams Saturday in the first round of the Class A baseball regional at Wyandotte's Memorial Field.

Earl Skinner tossed a three-hitter as unheralded Lincoln Park eliminated CC from state title contention with a 1-0 victory in the morning game.

In the afternoon game, junior fireballer Dan Gabriele allowed just two hits and fanned 14 before a mare of scouts at Walld Lake Western ousted Garden City, 3-1.

Western went on to win the regional 9-6. "Skinner is a strictly a control pitcher who throws curves and keeps the ball low," said veteran Lincoln Park coach Tom Nostrand, whose team is 21-5 overall. "We're a ground ball type of team."

SKINNER wasn't overworking himself, just three CC batters. But the steady right-hander continually forced the Shamrocks to beat the ball into the ground.

Lincoln Park scored the game's lone run in the bottom of the second inning. Skinner led off with a bunt single. Catcher Joe Smith then reached base safely on another bunt, misjudged and throws away by CC

baseball

third baseman John Connor, allowing both runners to move up.

David Stevens then executed a successful suicide squeeze bunt, bringing home Skinner with the game winner.

In the top half of the second, Lincoln Park leftfielder Eric Schuler kept CC from scoring when he cut down a pinch runner at the plate trying to score on Greg Ryba's single.

"We've been living on our pitching all year," said CC coach John Salter, whose team bowed out at 27-9. "It's too bad we couldn't get a few runs."

"We had our chances early, but we couldn't get a base hit when we needed it."

JOHN RODGERS, the leading pitcher, worked 5 1/2 innings and allowed just five hits. He struck out eight.

Meanwhile, Gabriele kept Garden City out of the regional championship.

With representatives from the Tigers, Chicago Cubs, L.A. Dodgers and the Major League Scouting Bureau in attendance, the 8-foot-6 Gabriele retired the first 11 batters he faced, including seven consecutive

strikeouts, until Garden City shortstop Paul Krol tagged him for a 400-foot homer in the fourth inning.

Garden City loaded the bases with two-out in the sixth, but Gabriele got out of the jam by retiring CC catcher John Bencie on a fly out to center.

Gabriele then retired the side in the seventh to raise his season record to 9-2.

"The story lies with him (Gabriele)," said CC coach Bob Drop, whose team finished 19-6 overall. "We knew he'd be tough. He throws a rising fastball and we went after a few more pitches than we should."

"We came in hoping to get a walk and move a person down. If we could have gotten a 'slicer' (base hit), we'd have been back in the ballgame. We came as close as we could (in the sixth)."

WESTERN SCORED: All three of its runs in the second inning on a lead-off single by Gabriele, a walk by Tom Nostrand, an RBI double by Greg Ryba, and a sacrifice fly by Dave Burjome's sacrifice squeeze bunt and Tim Osburn's two-scoring sacrifice fly.

That was enough to hand CC lefty Mike Roffi only his second loss in 11.3 decisions.

The junior, standout, gave up six hits and walked five.

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