

# Falcons 5th at Glenn meet

## JOHN GLENN INVITATIONAL RESULTS

Team standings: 1. Romulus (R), 185; 2. Westland John Glenn (JG), 139; 3. New Boston Huron (NBH), 129; 4. Plymouth Salem (PS), 115; 5. Farmington (F), 111; 6. Birmingham Brother Rice (BR), 101; 7. Wayne Memorial (WM), 100; 8. Lincoln Park (LP), 85; 9. Plymouth Canton (PC), 81; 10. Mt. Clemens (MC), 80; 11. Garden City (GC), 66; 12. Southfield-Lathrup (SL), 58; 13. Woodhaven (W), 56; 14. Dearborn Edsel Ford (EF), 46; 15. Livonia Churchill (LC), 22; 16. Livonia Stevenson (LS), 17.

### Championship matches

58-pounds: Robert Symans (NBH) pinned Darryl Hooley (JG), 1:59.  
105: Richard Symans (NBH) def. Dave Hovey (F), 2-1.  
113: Bob Okunowski (JG) pinned Scott Glasgow (NBH), 3:02.  
119: Dan Gibson (JG) def. Kevin Freeman (PS), 27-1.  
126: Dave Dameron (PS) def. James Rickman (MC), 13-4.  
132: Ed Fowler (WM) pinned Jay Polard (PC), 1:04.  
139: Tim Mitchell (WM) def. John Montroy (R), 8-4.  
145: Dan Ziegler (NBH) def. Dave Sabree (WM), 1-1 (overtime criteria).  
155: Scott Lucas (JG) def. Eric Retting (PS), 4-6.  
167: Ab Hazen (F) pinned Kent Scharbonneau (W), 5:25.  
185: Dominic Macerero (BR) pinned Clay Rose (NBH), 1:01.  
198: Scott Wyka (EF) pinned Phil Abdo (MC), 3:55.  
Heavyweight: Tracey Cline (R) def. Lyle Burrell (MC), 4-1.

Romulus proved you can lose the battle and still win the war. The Eagles captured only one of the 15 weight divisions in the 16-team Westland John Glenn Invitational Wrestling Tournament last weekend but still garnered enough points to take home the championship trophy with a 185-139 win over second-place Glenn. New Boston Huron captured third place honors with 129 points and Plymouth Salem finished fourth with 113. Rounding out the field were Farmington (111), Birmingham Brother Rice (101), Wayne Memorial (100), Lincoln Park (85), Plymouth Canton (81), Mt. Clemens (80), Garden City (66), Southfield-Lathrup (58), Woodhaven (56), Dearborn Edsel Ford (46), Livonia Churchill (22) and Livonia Stevenson (17).

Despite the Rockets second-place finish, they managed to capture three individual championships in the 112, 119 and 155 pound weight classes and a second place finisher at 98 pounds. "I was very pleased with the way my kids wrestled," Glenn coach Tom Buckalew said. "Naturally I would have liked to have won it, but I was very pleased with our performance." New Boston Huron captured third place honors with 129 points and Plymouth Salem finished fourth with 113. Rounding out the field were Farmington (111), Birmingham Brother Rice (101), Wayne Memorial (100), Lincoln Park (85), Plymouth Canton (81), Mt. Clemens (80), Garden City (66), Southfield-Lathrup (58), Woodhaven (56), Dearborn Edsel Ford (46), Livonia Churchill (22) and Livonia Stevenson (17).

however, as it claimed an individual title at 125 pounds. Dave Dameron wrestled very well for the Rockets collecting a pin and a superior decision en route to the finals where he defeated James Rickman of New Boston Huron, 13-4. Ab Hazen (167) claimed Farmington's only individual championship with a pin of Kent Scharbonneau of Woodhaven in 5:25. Hazen also stuck his first two opponents. Birmingham Brother Rice's lone champ was Dominic Macerero at 185 pounds. Macerero pinned Clay Rose from New Boston Huron in 1:01. Ed Fowler of Wayne Memorial was voted the tourney's outstanding wrestler for his four pins en route to the 132 pound title.

# Ex-Falcon star joins hall of fame

By Scott Adler staff writer

If Will Rogers never met a man he didn't like, then Mark Churella never met a man who didn't like him. Churella, who graduated from Farmington High School in 1975, was one of those special athletes whose outstanding physical talent was outshone only by personal qualities of leadership and esprit de corps. "He would show up in his varsity letter jacket at the novice meet and cheer on the first year wrestlers," his high school coach, Dick Cook, said. "Wrestling is an individual sport, but he made it a team sport. He had the kind of leadership that made everybody else do well."

If there's one thing that Churella could do, it was lead by example. In his three years of varsity wrestling at Farmington, Churella compiled an incredible 23-7 win-loss record that included 94 pins and one state championship in the 155-pound weight class. He was 80-1 over his junior and senior years. "HE WAS probably the best anybody ever saw in Michigan," Cook said. "And that's not just because I coached him. He was extremely competitive and had an incredible desire to win."

Churella's career accomplishments didn't stop with his high school graduation either. He went on to become a four-time All-American and three-time NCAA Wrestling Champion at the University of Michigan. As a freshman at U-M, he finished third nationally.

Recently he received yet another honor — he has been inducted into the Michigan State Amateur Hall of Fame in Mt. Pleasant. "It feels fine," the 27-year-old Churella said about his induction. "I guess I was a little surprised, but I'm happy about it."

After his incredible career at U-M, Churella went to the University of Nevada at Las Vegas to take over the reins as wrestling coach. He stayed there for five years until the wrestling program was dropped in compliance with Title IX.

CHURELLA RETURNED to Michigan in August and went to work with his father in the family insurance, mortgage and brokerage business in Farmington. He has also taken up coaching again at his alma mater, U-M, as an assistant. "I wanted to stay active in wrestling, and I'm very pleased with how things have worked out."

## Salem matmen pound Bentley; Farmington sticks Stevenson

The Plymouth Salem wrestling team stayed unbeaten in dual meet competition by pounding Livonia Bentley 54-18 Tuesday night. The Rockets were the recipients of 18 uncontested points as Bentley voided three weights: 98 pounds, 132 and 155. The match of the night came at 126 where Salem's Dave Dameron and Bentley's Anwar Yaffai — two of the area's best — went at it. Dameron won the tussle by a close 8-4 decision. Another close match came at 145 as Salem's Bill Morely decisively Brian Dwyer 8-7.

Other Salem winners were: Denis Dameron (105) pinned Dave Wojelchewski in 23 seconds; Kevin Freeman (119) pinned Paul Gedeist in 32 seconds; Brian Wobbe (130) pinned Bob Stepp in 1:50; Greg Woodchuck (167) pinned Dave Zenas in 1:18; and Marc Cygan (heavyweight) pinned Tracy Scott in 4:39.

For Bentley, Salem Yaffai (112) won on a void; Mark Zenas (185) pinned Jamie Woodchuck in 2:26; and Marty Altounian (198) pinned Brian Johnson in 4:22. Salem is 3-0, while Bentley falls to 1-5.

FARMINGTON 38, STEVENSON 15: The Farmington Falcons won their fourth meet in 5 tries Tuesday with an easy victory over Livonia Stevenson. Dave Hovey (105), Mike Cody (138), Mike Merem (145) and Dave Cunningham (155) all stuck their opponents in less than 1:30. Hovey pinned Mark Maksimowicz, Cody nailed Mike Duffy, Merem stuck Shawn Erickson and Cunningham pinned Ray Abramson.

## Raiders rout Chiefs in pool

North Farmington, led by the power swimming of Mike Buatti, pounded Plymouth Canton 123-49 Tuesday in the Canton pool. Buatti won the 50-yard freestyle (23.47) and the 100 free (51.80). In addition, he anchored the 200 medley relay. He, along with Brian Goins, Chris Heintzman and Mike Tunney, won the event in 1:46.02. Scott Silas was a double-event winner taking both the 200 individual medley (2:13.0) and the 500 free (5:16.6). Tunney set a pool record and qualified for the state meet with his 54.40 in the 100 butterfly. Goins, an All-American, set a pool record and qualified for state in the 100 backstroke (57.49). Craig Burland won the 200 free in 1:58.24. Heintzman won the 100 breaststroke in 1:08.72. For Canton, Andy Flower took the diving with 251.65, a personal best.

## sport shorts

Sugar Loaf Mountain Resort will host the 1995 Michigan Special Olympics State Winter Games Feb. 5-8. Competition will take place between more than 600 mentally impaired athletes in a number of different sports, including alpine skiing, skating, showboote, cross-country skiing and wheelchair racing. In addition, athletes will participate in sports training sessions and clinics, along with cultural, social and recreational activities. Competition will take place in junior (8-15 years) and senior (16-over) age divisions. The goal of Michigan Special Olympics is "to have all athletes involved in the Michigan Special Olympics program enjoy the experience of becoming physically fit, participating in sports training and achieving through sports competition." The special Winter Olympics are mentally impaired individuals 8 years or older with an I.Q. of 75 or less. For more information, call (517) 774-3911.

### SPORTS AWARDS DINNER

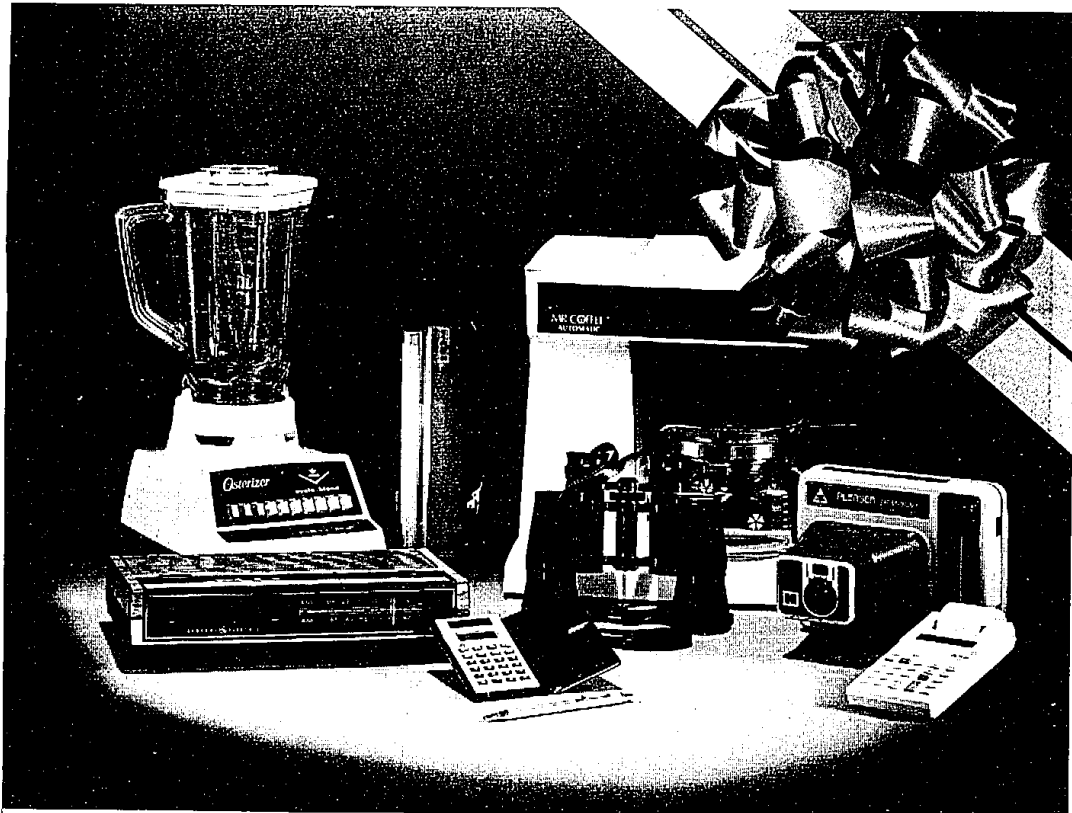
The 15th annual March of Dimes Sports Awards Dinner takes place Jan. 15 at the Main Event in Pontiac. Gary Danielson of the Detroit Lions, Tico Brown of the Detroit Spirit, Isiah Thomas of the Detroit Pistons, Steve Yzerman of the Detroit Red Wings and Mill Wilcox of the Detroit Tigers will be among the honored guests. Detroit Renaissance President Robert McCabe will be honored as "Sportman of the Year" for his involvement with the Detroit Grand Prix and Flint Central High School quarterback Jim Abbott will be honored as the "Amateur Athlete of the Year." Sports fans are invited to attend the \$35-a-plate dinner, in which all proceeds help the March of Dimes fight birth defects via medical research, educational programs and community service projects. For ticket information, call Pam Schwarzkoff at 425-3217.

### BUICK JUNIOR GOLF

A 54-hole Great Lakes Buick Junior Tournament will be played for the first time next year at the Flint Elks Golf Club. The Great Lakes Buick Junior, to be played July 1-3, will be one of some 20 stops on the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) tournament tour.

## Rama leads USA

Andy Rama, a senior all-stater from Redford Catholic Central, scored a goal and added an assist helping the United States All-Star soccer team to a 3-0 victory over the Pennsylvania State All-Stars in the Dapper Dan Soccer Classic in Pittsburgh last weekend. Rama, Michigan's most prolific prep soccer goal scorer, was one of 14 all-stars chosen nationwide to play in the classic. The game was played before some 6,000 fans at Pittsburgh's Civic Arena.



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