

Temple eyes life after gymnastics

By Scott Adler
staff writer

Unlike some who enjoy wonderful feasts at dinner time, Kathy Temple knows when she's had her fill.

After three sterling years of gymnastics at North Farmington High School and four more years of outstanding achievements at Ohio State University, Temple is ready to hang up her performing tights and leave the world of celebrity behind her.

"It's going to feel great to graduate," said Temple, who turns 22 in March. "I am definitely ready."

With such enthusiasm for leaving you'd think she didn't enjoy the four-hour practices and the pressure of big-time college athletics.

"It was kind of rough my freshman year," she said. "The workouts were very time consuming, but I think it helped me do my homework. I didn't have much time to waste."

So were the years of hard work not worthwhile? No way, says Temple. Now that her tremendous gymnastics achievements are almost over, it's nice to relax and reflect while the taste of success is still sweet.

Even though Temple may not go on to the Olympics or open her own club, Mary Glitz, Temple's high school coach, still sees the 1981 graduate as the finest gymnast she's ever coached. And Glitz has coached her share of outstanding gymnasts in her tenure at North Farmington including Donna Kebrle, Sharon Shifra and Kim Edwards.

"She was the best I've ever coached," Glitz said. "Kathy was very easy to coach. She was always all for the team. She was a real pleasure."

TEMPLE LED her North Farmington team to the state tournament during her senior year. In fact, it was her final vault that clinched the championship for the Raiders.

"To make the event even more special to Temple, it was her 10th birthday."

"Kathy just wrote me recently and in her letter she talked about winning the championship," said Glitz. "She said it was the best day of her life."

That may have been the best day of her life, but there has certainly been some other outstanding days for Temple.

As a freshman she was the first OSU female gymnast ever named to the All-American team. She missed that honor by one point her sophomore year.

"Because I'm getting ready to graduate, I'm almost afraid to set a goal that's really specific," Temple said. "There are some things that I would like to do, like placing in the top five in nationals, but I don't want to set a goal I can't reach and then be disappointed."

Even though Temple's parents are Michigan State grads, her choice of attending OSU didn't disappoint them at all.

"I had personal ties with MSU, but they didn't offer me anything," she said. "I went to Ohio State on a full ride and I couldn't have made a better choice."

"My parents are my most loyal fans. They were very supportive of my decision (to attend OSU)."

Glitz agrees.

"I wanted Kathy to go to the school that would be the best place for her athletically and academically, because she's a very intelligent girl," said Glitz.

"OSU seemed like the best place for her."

TEMPLE FINISHED fourth in the Big Ten last year in all-around competition. She finished ninth in the uneven parallel bars in the NCAA tourney in 1983.

Like the finest cream, Temple rises to the top among her competitors. She is quick to point out, however, that her collegiate competition has been tough but educational.

"The level of competition is much higher," she said. "The team concept is a lot the same, but the pressures and the practices are more intense. I also think there are more personal goals involved."

"But the discipline is the biggest thing. I learned a lot from that, and I learned a lot from my teammates."

Temple also enjoyed traveling around the country and dealing with the many people a college athlete has to deal with.

"It made me grow up a lot faster," she said. "What would Temple do in the future that could compare with such a stellar past?"

"My ultimate dream would be to write for a gymnastics magazine," the journalism major said. "I don't think I'll coach, but if I did it would have to be at the college level because I don't think I could work with anyone who wasn't really serious about this, because that's the way I am."

As for Temple's accomplishments, she is very proud of her academics as well as her athletics. "I'm proud that I'll graduate on time and that I've kept my grades up," she said. "I'm also proud that I've improved every year in my performance."



Kathy Temple
OSU gymnast

Catholic Central grabs district mat title

By Chris McCosky
staff writer

Ho-hum, another district wrestling championship for Redford Catholic Central.

"Nothing changes," yawned CC coach Mike Rodriguez. Rodriguez was only half-serious. This season was different in some respects for the perennial state contenders from CC. Most significantly, CC is a young team and was less than aware throughout the dual-meet season (7-11-12). In fact, CC "wasn't" even ranked in among Observerland's top five.

But, last Saturday at the Class A district tournament at Walled Lake Western, Catholic Central produced three champions, placed five wrestlers in the top four and won the 19-team tournament.

"We're just now getting started," Rodriguez said. "We don't worry about what happens in the dual season. A lot of teams like to have impressive win-loss records. We don't care. This (the state championship run) is where it's at for us. I have only had one undefeated team in my 28 years of coaching. The competition makes us."

The Shamrocks amassed 131 points, besting second-place Plymouth Salem (119) and Milford Lakeland (116). See statistical summary for complete results.

SALEM AND LAKELAND were favored by most to win the district. But Rodriguez had it pegged differently.

"I figured it was between Lakeland and us. Lakeland is good. They beat us in a dual. I wasn't worried about Salem."

Perhaps Rodriguez will a bit more aware of Sa-

lem at this weekend's regional tourney at Gibraltar-Carlson. He should also keep an eye on Lakeland.

Salem and Lakeland, like CC, will have five wrestlers at the regional. (The top four wrestlers per weight class advance to the regional meet.)

Salem produced three district champs and Lakeland a pair.

"I look at how we placed and I have to believe I got out-faxed to finish second," said Salem coach Ron Krueger. "I thought Lakeland was the team to beat and we really went after them. CC got their kids out in a position to score points. They scored 18 points in rat-talls (a qualifying round prior to the actual brackets)."

Garden City, despite placing seventh as a team, will send six wrestlers to the regional.

Farmington, the fourth-place team, along with Plymouth Canton (fifth) and Livonia Bentley (sixth), will each have four representatives in regional competition. Farmington and Bentley each have a pair of champions.

Here are the Observerland wrestlers headed for Saturday's regional meet:

Catholic Central: Jason Wiebeck, district champion at 112; Mike Wilczewski, champion at 126; Geno Tokarz, champion at 132; Brendan Rock, runner-up at 98; Eric Johnson, fourth at 155.

Salem: Dennis Dameron, champion at 98; Dave Dameron, champion at 119; Andy Ward, champion at 145; Bill Morley, third at 138; Eric Rotting, third at 155.

Farmington: Ab Hazen, champion at 167; Dan Parillo, champion at 198; Dave Howe, runner-up at 105; Bill Cliche, fourth at heavyweight.



RICK SMITH/STAFF photographer

James Benda put the hammer on a few opponents during Saturday's district tournament at Walled Lake Central. The

Canton: Jim Malson, champion at heavyweight; Scott Tasker, runner-up at 155; Jeff Condit, fourth at 105; Todd Cherry, fourth at 167.

Bentley: Salem Yaffai, champion at 105; Mark Zenas, champion at 185; Anwar Yaffai, runner-up at 119; Brian Dwyer, fourth at 145.

Garden City: Ed Miller, third at heavyweight; Tom Mack, third at 126; Mike Howell, third at 145; Tim Howell, third at 167; Scott Parr, fourth at 198; Herbie Herge, fourth at 112.

North Farmington: James Benda, runner-up at 126; Brian Hood, third at 185.

Redford Union: Rob Schumaker, runner-up at heavyweight; J.B. Summers, third at 198.

Livonia Franklin: Scott Weyer, fourth at 98; Doug Sutter, fourth at 185.

Livonia Stevenson: Chuck Arakelian, runner-up at 198.

Hazel Park and Temperance-Bedford are favored to win the Class A state title. Hazel Park has sent 10 wrestlers to regional competition, Bedford six.

Catholic Central last won the state championship two years ago.

U.S. Open coupons available

The 85th U.S. Open Championship of the United States Golf Association, which will be played at the Oakland Hills Country Club in Birmingham, is a little more than three months away and ticket sales are beginning to escalate.

In fact, the U.S. Open sales of club-

house and grounds coupon books (10 clubhouse and grounds coupons), selling for \$350, will be cut off 5 p.m. tomorrow.

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