

Who can top Borgess in Observer meet?

By Brad Emens
Staff writer

Is anyone capable to overhauling speedy Redford Bishop Borgess in Saturday's 14th running of the Observer-Land Boys' Track Relays?

The defending champions aren't quite a lock to repeat, but area coaches are conceding that it will take a monumental effort to dethrone the Spartans.

"I'd say they're tough," said a smiling Fred Price of Livonia Churchill, whose school will host the meet for the second straight year. "On paper you've got to give it to Borgess."

Plymouth Salem coach Gary Balconi

calls Borgess a "heavy favorite."

Under the coaching of Gene Grewe, Borgess has become a team loaded with speed and strength. The Spartans, however, refuse to get complacent.

"We have a few injuries that we're concerned with in the long jump and pole vault," Grewe said. "They'll be out for the meet, but they've been on and off all spring."

The big question mark for us is the field events. The long jump (relay) could be crucial. We have two good discus and shot put throwers, but we all know you need three."

BORGESS not only has the meet's

top sprinter in Fred Owens, the 1984 Observerland Trackman of the Year, but they also have a strong supporting cast in hurdler Marlon Montgomery, sprinter Marlon Pittman, middle distance runner Ivan Colman and shot put standout Jim Rzepka.

"I haven't seen all the teams in action yet, but it certainly looks to me that Borgess is in great shape to repeat," said John MacKenzie, in his 14th year as meet director. "There are not many teams that can cut into their strength. Half of the events are speed events. I expect a few records to fall."

A more interesting battle may be

shaping up for second place between

host Churchill, Farmington and Plymouth Salem of the Western Lakes Activities Association (WLAA), along with Redford Catholic Central, which lost by only five points to Borgess in a dual meet earlier this year.

"Fred Price has been successful in everything he's done at Churchill," Balconi said. "And Dave Catherman (at Farmington), year in and year out, is so tough. And Mr. (Kevin) Kavanagh at CC with his distance people — anyone who does well at the Observerland meet can feel real good about their team."

LOOKING TO IMPROVE their

standing in the 15-team field is Livonia Bentley, which is much improved under first-year coach Fred Hanert.

Rounding out the Observerland contingent is Livonia Franklin, Livonia Stevenson, Redford Union, Redford Thurston, Garden City, Plymouth Canton, North Farmington, Southfield-Lathrup and Northville.

Churchill, which won the title two years ago, boasts a pair of outstanding individuals in the field events — discus/shot put king Dave Mize and high jumper Mike Mehan, who has cleared 6 feet, 8 inches.

"We have to perform well in the field events to do well in the meet," said

Price.

Garden City's Dave Homann, the state's individual race cross country champion, returns to defend his 1,600-meter crown. He has clocked a 4:25.1 in that event already this year.

Salem, meanwhile, is bolstered by long jumper Mike White, who has gone 22-2, and sophomore sprinter Brian Neuhardt, who hopes to push Owens.

FARMINGTON boasts a strong distance team and fine all-around performers in Ab Hazen and Brian Looser.

The field events get underway at 3 p.m. with the final heats starting at 7 p.m. Churchill is located on Newburgh Road, just north of Joy.

Hawks end skid, defeat Bentley

It's been an up and down situation for the Farmington Harrison softball team this season, but that doesn't come as any big shock to coach Mike Teachman.

Teachman has said right from the beginning that he expected his young team to play close to 500 ball and after eight games his team is 3-5, 2-2 in the Western Lakes.

After winning a 9-8 thriller over Livonia Churchill Friday, the Hawks got crunched in a Saturday twin-bill by West Bloomfield, 17-4, 13-3.

The bad news continued for the Hawks on Monday, as Walled Lake Western beat up on them 15-2. Ah, but the resilient Hawks got back on track with a 7-4 win against Livonia Bentley Tuesday.

Dawn Culbertson was the stopper for the Hawks Tuesday. She scattered four hits and walked eight in seven innings. She also struck out seven.

Heldi Reyst (1-for-3 with two RBIs) and Collette Cashin (1-for-2, two stolen bases) led the Hawks eight-hit attack.

The Hawks pulled off an unusual double-play in the sixth inning to choke off a Bentley threat. The Hawks picked off both Bulldog runners attempting a double-steal.

The only bright spot in Harrison's loss to Walled Lake Western was a 2-for-4, two RBI hitting performance by Dana Dinkins. Dinkins is hitting at a .474 clip this season.

Kim George banged out five hits in the West Bloomfield double-header. But, in the Hawks' last three losses, they have given up 45 runs.

SALEM 10, FARMINGTON 3: Eleven walks led to the Falcons' demise in this Western Lakes contest.

Salem broke the game open with a six-run third inning off Falcon starter Jenny Wischmeyer. Five walks and a two-run double by Patty Naskak triggered that outburst.

Farmington (1-6) scored all three runs in the sixth.

Super duo lifts Raider kickers

When you talk of winning combinations, Trammell and Whitaker, Hall and Oates, Baskin and Robbins, Johnson and Johnson, bread and butter are a few that immediately come to mind.

Add Anzlovor and McMin to the list, if you will. Jean Anzlovor and Kristi McMin, a pair of North Farmington soccer players, have been on a tear of late. In North's last three matches, the pair have combined for 12 goals — McMin sets them up and Anzlovor scores them.

"The way these two pass the ball between them is just awesome," said North coach Cathy Cole.

Indeed, Anzlovor scored four goals Monday (with four assists from McMin) to lead North past rival Farmington Harrison, 6-1. It was the Raiders' third straight victory.

Suzi Mattoon and Chris Diebold also scored for North.

"Our subs came off the bench and played real well," Cole said. "The girls are starting to come together as a team."

Michelle Wise scored the lone Hawk goal. Actually, Wise's shot deflected into the net off a Raider defender.

North outshot Harrison (0-6-1) 27-3.

North (4-3) has its work cut out for it this week. The Raiders hosted Livonia Stevenson Wednesday, travel to Plymouth Salem Friday, and take on Stevenson again Saturday.

FARMINGTON gave 9-1 Livonia Churchill a run for its money Monday, falling 6-3.

The score at the half was 2-2.

"We played them up and up," said Farmington coach Ed Bartram. "My team was very aggressive in the first half. We had a letup in the second half. But, it was by far our best game of the season."

Katie MacIntosh and Laurie Dineen scored for the Falcons in the first half. Carey House, on a pass from MacIntosh, scored the third Falcon goal.

Kim Montgomery paced Churchill with a pair of goals.

The Falcons are 0-5 on the season.

tennis

ANN ARBOR TENNIS INVITATIONAL
Saturday at Pioneer

TEAM RESULTS: 1. Redford Catholic Central, 25 points; 2. Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, 21; 3. Ann Arbor Huron and Toledo St. Johns, 15; 4. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 14; 5. Bloomfield Hills Lathrup, 10; 7. Traverse City, 7; 8. Berkley, 4.

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Boys, 1 singles: Shawn Gussert (St. Johns) def. Steve Hentschel (Huron), 6-4, 6-2.
No. 2: David Drew (Cranbrook) def. Mark Agah (St. Johns), 6-2, 6-1.
No. 3: Phil Eggleston (CC) def. John Galt (St. Johns), 6-2, 3-6, 6-2.
No. 4: Bob Helmreich (CC) def. Erik Binkitz (Cranbrook), 6-4, 7-6.
Boys, 1 doubles: Steve Kotze-Bob Lipnik (Pioneer) def. Steve Noschuk-David Williams (Cranbrook), 2-6, 6-3, 6-2.
No. 2: Jim Gillespie-Dave Campbell (CC) def. Neil Bross-Ed Noriega (St. Johns), 6-4, 3-6, 6-2.
No. 3: Mario Hurtado-Bobby Iton (Cranbrook) def. Walt Bartlett-Mark Friedrich (CC), 6-3, 6-0.
No. 4: Randy Jank-Fab Trancou (CC) def. Tim Gammon-Adam Cassel (Cranbrook), 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.
Girls, 1 singles: record: 3-0.

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