

CC, Falcons top guns at Bloomfield

Redford Catholic Central and Farmington represented Observersland in grand fashion Saturday at the annual West Bloomfield Invitational cross country race.

Catholic Central won the Division III race, scoring 145 points. Wren De La Salle (151), Grand Lodge (161) and Birmingham Brother Rice (179) rounded out the front-runners.

Farmington placed third in Division II, considered the toughest of the two divisions, with 124 points. Milford Lakeland won the division with 99 and Swartz Creek was second with 114.

Farmington's Chris Inch won the

Division II race with a swift 16:04 time. Teammate Al Stebbins was third (16:19) despite a torn stomach muscle.

"We didn't run too bad," said Farmington coach Jerry Young. "We could have done a lot better, though. I think our division was tougher."

Said CC coach Kevin Kavanagh: "I think Jerry is right; our division had the bigger schools but the other division was better. I know we wouldn't have beat Milford Lakeland, and I don't think we would have beaten the other two either."

CC's top finisher was sophomore Chris Lutz, who took 21st with a

cross country

17:01. But the rest of the Shamrocks' pack crossed soon after: Jeff Fedewa was 23rd (17:04), Greg Bolter was 28th (17:12), Jim Padilla was 36th (17:22) and Dave McConville was 37th (17:23).

"A lot of people beat us up front, but we bunched real well," Kavanagh said. "We need to get more people up front, though."

Ron Smedley was Farmington's third-best runner taking 27th (17:15). Matt Walter was 38th (17:31) and Ken Dunneback was 54th (17:53). Other Observersland competitors were Westland John Glenn (18th in Division II) and Garden City (24th in Division II).

THE FARMINGTON GIRLS team

also had an impressive outing Saturday. The Falcons took second with 85 points, three points behind Portage Northern. Grosse Pointe North was third (128) and Grosse Pointe South was fifth (141).

"We had a really nice spread," said Farmington coach John Barrett. "We finished between fourth and 30th, but the Portage Northern girl was running third until the very end. She kicked in and won the race. That cost us a couple points. Then, Nicole Jelley got pushed way to the back at the start of the race. She had to fight from about 80th place to 10th, and it just took too much out of her. She

lost about three places at the very end of the race."

Also, Farmington freshman Jennifer Kiel won the Junior varsity race with a fine time of 21:37. That would have placed 22nd in the varsity race and would have given Farmington the title.

"Coming second was nice, but coming that close to first was a bit tough to take," Barrett said.

Bonnie Stecker placed fourth overall with a 20:47 clocking. Jelley was 10th (21:12). Freshman Amy Trunk was 21st (21:35). Judy McKeever 23rd (21:38) and Leslie Martin 30th (21:52).

Harrison kickers making noise

Look who's making noise in the mighty Western Lakes soccer conference.

Farmington Harrison, the league's perennial doormat, is making its opponents take notice.

First a hard-fought 4-2 loss to the state's No. 1-ranked team (according to the coaches' poll), Livonia Churchill. Then Monday, a narrow 2-1 loss to defending state champion Livonia Stevenson.

Here's what people are saying: "This was the best Harrison team we have ever played," Churchill coach John Neff said.

"I will tell you, they were way up for us," Stevenson coach Pete Scerri

said. "They were one step ahead of us the whole game. They are a very, very improved team. They have new coaches, and they have done a good job. It is a lot better for everyone in the league. Nobody likes to go in there and win 10-0 all the time; not them, not us, nobody."

Head coach Glen Bruhan and assistant Mario Sold have made tremendous progress with the Hawks.

"A lot has to do with how the players are communicating with each other and the positive attitude," rookie coach Bruhan said. "We've worked very hard on changing the attitude. Everybody had been hussling and playing very well. The kids

were just amazed that they were in the game against Stevenson, let alone ahead."

Harrison took a 1-0 lead at the half on a goal by junior Craig Bailey. Stevenson countered with second-half goals from Pete Galea and Lars Richters. Richters now has scored eight goals in four games.

Harrison had a goal called back in the second half.

The driving force behind Harrison's improvement has been an experienced and stingy defensive unit. Fullbacks Scott Kay, Pete Van Vleet, Todd Whittemore, Dave Quarterman and Mike Yoerg have played well in front of goalie Gary Wegner.

Offensively, Bailey and Ed Dzyngel have been impressive.

"In the Churchill game we had a mental lapse in the first half, then we won the second half 1-0," Bruhan said. "Then we had a real chance to beat Stevenson. I'm just real pleased with the signs of improvement."

N. FARMINGTON 9, W.L. WESTERN 1: Monty Najer and Zac Beim figured in seven of North Farmington's nine goals Monday at Walled Lake Western.

Najer scored three times and added an assist, while Beim scored two

goals and also recorded an assist. Pete Keller scored two goals. John Hauser and Brett Willis each scored one.

"As a team, our passing continues to get better," Raider coach Cathy Cole said.

North outshot Western 31-5. The Raiders remain unbeaten, 4-0.

CHURCHILL 2, FARMINGTON 0: Livonia Churchill got goals from Brad Mace and Brian Thomas to sneak past the stubborn Falcons Tuesday night.

The Falcons are 1-2, Churchill 2-0.

North salutes 'Doc'

To Murray N. Deighton, M.D. That's the theme of the 1986 North Farmington football season.

Dr. Deighton, who died April 13, spent 22 years along the Raiders' sidelines as the team's physician. He loved the Raiders as much as the Raiders loved him. One of the final acts of his life was to call his medical colleagues together to ensure that one of them would work the North Farmington football games.

"To Murray N. Deighton, M.D., the man, the friend, the team doctor, the teammate — we dedicate this program and our season with what we hope will be the same fervor and devotion you showed us in your 22 years with North Farmington football," reads the first page of the 1986 Raider football program — a special tribute to the man everyone called "Doc."

The Raiders have planned a ceremony in memory of Dr. Deighton at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, prior to North's home game against Walled Lake Western.

"Countless hundreds of players before us, and we, the 1986 team, love you Doc, and we shall never forget you."

Pioneers runner-up at OU spike tourney

Only one thing is better than starting a young team's season off with a home tournament, and that's winning that tournament.

Which is what Oakland University's volleyball squad nearly did last weekend. The Lady Pioneers came within a game of capturing their Oakland University Invitational, losing the last two games of their final match 15-12, 15-6, after beating Lake Superior State 15-3 in the opening game Saturday.

OU, which has only one senior starter, performed extraordinarily well despite its lack of experience. Freshman setter Kelly Williams did all that coach Bob Hurdle could ask,

collecting 72 assists in the tournament, and 6-foot-2 senior hitter Bridget Bohnet totaled 26 kills with a .398 hitting percentage.

The Lady Pioneers were unbeaten until the final, winning seven straight games. They defeated Alma in their opener 15-6, 15-10, behind the near-perfect play of Bohnet, who connected on 10-of-12 kill opportunities without an error.

OU then knocked off Macomb Community College 15-8, 15-4, to advance to Saturday's semifinals against Saginaw Valley State. The Lady Pioneers had few problems with the Cardinals, winning 15-5, 15-8, to set up the final match against

Lake Superior State.

The Lakers advanced with considerably more trouble. They defeated MCC 15-8, 10-15, 16-14, and SVSC 15-6, 11-15, 15-6, before beating Alma in the semifinals.

OU will travel to the tough Indiana-Purdue at Fort Wayne Invitational Friday and Saturday.

PIONEERS WIN SOCCER OPENER

Oakland University started its soccer season with a victory Saturday, blanking University of Windsor 1-0 at Windsor.

The Pioneers were without start-

ing goalkeeper Gino Soave, who was suspended for the game by coach Gary Parsons for disciplinary reasons. His status remains uncertain.

The game was scoreless until 62:47 of the second half, when Gray Halzel took possession of a Windsor clearing pass 30 yards out. Halzel beat two defenders down the left side and sent a perfect centering pass to forward Brian Fitzgerald, who finished the play by heading the ball into the net.

The goal was an important one for Fitzgerald. The Southfield graduate did not get his first goal until the 10th game last season, and Parsons said he needed improved scoring from the forward.

OU's defense was impressive. The Pioneers outshot Windsor 23-14, including a 15-4 advantage in the first half. Three freshmen contributed heavily to the triumph: goalkeeper Kurt Hanus, who filled in capably for Soave; defender Erik Enyedy, also from Southfield; and forward Simon Mayo, who had five shots on goal, three of which were legitimate scoring chances.

OU hosts Spring Arbor at 3 p.m. Thursday in its home opener, then travels to Cleveland State Sunday. The Pioneers have never beaten Division I CSU in four games. They last met in 1982, with OU losing 2-0 at home.

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