

Sports

Dan O'Meara editor/591-2132



Thursday, May 25, 1989 O&E

(F11D)



Jennifer Kiel, running here in the annual city meet earlier in the season, was regional champion in the 3,200-meter run and runnerup in the 1,600. As Farmington captured the team championship, Lisa Rives of North Farmington (right) was fourth in the 1,600.

Falcons shuffle lineup to win regional crown

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

Coach Bruce Brown could easily point to any number of individuals who made key contributions to Farmington's first regional title in girls Class A track and field.

But two who were especially instrumental were Jennifer Reed and Shell Gaul as the Falcons captured the team championship at Southfield High School Friday, edging runnerup Farmington Hills Mercy, 67-62.

Farmington has prided itself on its excellence in the sprint relays, but the team was minus two of its top runners, Carrie Maler and Amy Trunk, both of whom played for the school's No. 1-rated soccer team that night.

Brown had to juggle his lineup to compensate, and that's where Reed and Gaul entered the picture as more than adequate replacements in the 800-meter relay.

"They combined with the other regular members of the unit, Nicole Tocco and Angie Forge, to not only win the race but set a school record of 1:46.1. The old mark, set last year, was 1:48.5."

To put the team together, Brown took Gaul out of the 300 hurdles and asked Reed to turn around and run the relay after finishing the 100 dash.

"IT WAS A pleasant surprise how well the relay teams worked," said Brown, giving assistant coach Reggie Giesborn credit for pulling it off. "I knew we had fast girls in there, but they had only one night to practice, and a lot of times those relays are won on the handoff."

Tocco took Maler's place in the 400 relay and teamed with the regular members of that unit — Reed, Gaul and Forge — to place second behind Detroit Cookey.

girls track

More track, Page 4D

After a disappointing state meet last year, Brown was especially pleased at Forge's regional success. In the 400 relay at the 1988 state finals, an opposing runner ran into Forge and knocked her down, denying her the opportunity to run.

"She said her goal was to run in the state meet, and that's what she's been pushing for," Brown said. "She was real discouraged when she found out Amy and Carrie were not going to be there."

"I said, 'Angie, I want to do everything I can to get you there.' Now she's going in two relays, and I think that's neat."

Besides the 800 relay team, Farmington also had regional champions in Julie Lawton and Jennifer Kiel.

The top two in each event, plus any others who meet the qualifying standard, advance to the state meet Saturday, June 3, at Eastern Michigan University.

"I was surprised at winning the regional, period," Brown said. "I thought we'd have some nice times and score well, but our goal was to get as many girls to state as possible."

LAWTON TIED a school record by jumping 5 feet, 4 inches in the high jump, and Kiel, who also was runnerup in the state meet Saturday, June 3, at Eastern Michigan University.

Her previous best was 12:00, but she won the regional race in 11:54.6.

Reed and Gaul excelled in other events, too. Both set school records as runnersup in the 100 dash and 100 hurdles, respectively. Reed ran 12.5 and nipped the mark of 12.6, and Gaul's 15.5 time eclipsed the old record of 15.9.

Furthermore, Brown said Gaul's second-place finish in the 100 hurdles was the biggest surprise. She bested area athletes Lisa Christensen of Livonia Stevenson and Jennifer Danner of Livonia Churchill, and Farmington teammate Susan Davidson was fifth, in boot.

"To have two girls go second and fifth in the regional was amazing to me," Brown said, adding Gaul ran a full second faster than she has this year.

"The hurdles are not real easy for (Gaul). She's only a sophomore and the only time she three-stepped the whole flight was in a relay meet. This time she did it in an open race, and it all fell into place for her."

The Falcons, who didn't enter the 200 dash and 1,600 relay, scored in nine of the 14 events in which they did compete.

Farmington, with Maler and Trunk, would have entered the 1,600 relay but had to watch and wait out a tense finish before being assured of first place.

MERCY SCORED 14 points in the last two events and moved up to second in the team standings. The Marlins were fourth in the 1,600 relay but would have won the team title with a first-place finish. Mercy's fourscore was a season best 4:16, but first scored a remote possibility since Detroit Henry Ford won the event in 4:03.4.

Murray stars again for champion Hawks

Craig Murray keeps mowing 'em down from the mound, and the Farmington Hills Harrison pitching ace set a record doing it Monday.

The senior right-hander struck out 12 batters and established a school standard while guiding the Hawks to a 13-0 victory over visiting Livonia Stevenson.

Murray's latest strikeout total gives him 81 for the season and surpasses the mark of 79 set by Tim Hammer 15 years ago. In raising his record to 7-1, he also tossed a three-hitter, which included a pair of walks and one hit batsman.

"He's gained tremendous confidence as the year has gone on," Harrison coach John Herrington said, "and he's been able to get the fastball and curveball over the plate. He's always had good stuff, but now he's throwing it for strikes."

Not to be overlooked by Murray's record-setting performance was the fact Harrison clinched a tie for the Western Lakes Activities Association title with Plymouth Salem. Both teams end league play with 12-4 records.

For the Hawks, who boast an overall record of 17-5, it's been a superb season that exceeded preseason expectations. Herrington was concerned about his team's hitting entering the campaign, but that hasn't been a problem.

"THEY DEFINITELY have surprised me," Herrington said. "We've done some key hitting. Dan Justice is hitting close to .500, which is a surprise."

"But, basically, pitching has done it for us. Murray, (Jason) Lichtman, (Gary) Devine and (Steve) Miller have pitched well for us, and that's what wins high school ballgames for you. All have winning records, too."

Jason Fox had two of Harrison's nine hits, and he scored three runs and drove in another. Mill Coleman, who also scored three runs, had one hit, one RBI and two stolen bases. Lichtman and Tim Horton contributed two-run singles.

Harrison's title-clinching victory in WLA play came on the heels of its success in the Southfield Lathrup tournament Saturday. The Hawks defeated Southfield 7-4 and the host team 9-3 to win the championship.

Lichtman was the star of the final game, pitching a complete game and collecting four hits in five trips. Lichtman, who scattered seven hits and struck out five, also knocked in three runs and scored two.

"He did a great job," Herrington said. "Devine hurt his ankle jogging Friday night, so Lichtman was all we

baseball

had. I had to save Murray for Stevenson."

HARRISON CLUNG to a 4-3 lead until the fifth inning when Fox and Jon Schaeffer broke the game open with a pair of RBI singles.

Senior catcher Rob MacDonald, who was named most valuable player in the tournament, was 2-for-4 and had one RBI. Fox also had two hits and an RBI, and Justice added a pair of singles.

Lichtman was the winning pitcher in the first game, too. He relieved Miller, who left after two innings with Southfield ahead 3-2, and held the Blue Jays to four hits over the next four. He struck out four and didn't give up a walk.

Horton erased the 3-2 deficit and put the Hawks ahead to stay with a two-run single in the fourth.

MacDonald had three singles and a double while going 4-for-4, and he had one RBI and scored a run. Justice had a big game at the plate, going 3-for-4, scoring three runs, driving in two and stealing four bases. Horton chipped in with a 2-for-2 day.

Harrison plays host to Oak Park in a Class B pre-district game at 3:30 p.m. Friday. The winner advances to the district tournament at Madison Heights Madison on Saturday, June 3.

NORTH FARMINGTON continued its late-season surge Monday and concluded WLA play by pasting host Livonia Churchill 12-2.

The Raiders, who finish 8-8 in the league and stand 12-10 overall, play host to Farmington in a pre-district game at 4 p.m. Friday.

Chris White led the 14-hit attack that North used to take the fight out of the Chargers, going 4-for-4. The sophomore shortstop also scored two runs and batted in two.

T.J. Orman and Mike Collins added a pair of hits. Jerry Hakala smacked a two-run double and Joe Sturtz had three RBI on a bases-loaded walk, a sacrifice fly and a single.

In addition, Collins chipped in two RBI, Orman knocked in one and scored another and Jack Herberholz crossed the plate twice and had one RBI.

Same idea.
746 more horses.

Perhaps Charlton Heston cut a more imposing figure during the chariot race in Ben-Hur.

But drivers like Danny Sullivan, Bobby Rahal and Al Unser, Jr., will make the competition just as exciting at this year's

Valvoline Detroit Grand Prix. Because a \$100,000 prize for the winner is a better incentive for a good race than a visit to the lions for the losers. And the chariots are a lot more interesting because they're powered by a few more horses.

So get your tickets now and set aside June 16-18 for the fastest action this side of the Coliseum.

Friday is FREE PRIX DAY. Watch the action from a grandstand seat (except A, B, or C) or walk the grandstand area.

1-Day Pass - Grandstand A \$10
Grandstand B \$5
Grandstand C \$5

2-Day Pass - Grandstand D, E, F, G \$15
Grandstand H, I, J, K \$10

TO PURCHASE TICKETS - Call (313) 296-7779 and charge tickets with your VISA, American Express, or MasterCard. Tickets are also available at all TicketMaster outlets.

Free Prix Day courtesy of Hudson's

General Admission - Access to circuit except for grandstands and other designated areas.

Sunday Adult \$10
Sunday Child (14 & Under) \$5
Sunday Adult \$10
Sunday Child (14 & Under) \$5

Deluxe Photo - Access to grandstand areas, three photo opens, and pin a special times. Purchasers must be 18 years or older. Tickets must be exchanged at box office for credit.

Master City Club - A unique way to attend the race. A can of Grandstand F combined with a hospitality tent featuring beer, wine and a cold buffet both Sunday and Monday. Pin VISA and MasterCard passes included.

Indy Car Paddock Pass - View the Indy Car teams in their "open-cockpit" adjacent to Turn One.

Pin VISA Pass - Provides access to pins in specially designated times each day. \$10
Barber Five Area - Call (313) 296-7779 for details.