

Mercy regional runner-up

Farmington Hills Mercy nearly repeated as regional champion in girls track and field, but the Marlinas had to concede their title to Farmington High in the end.

Mercy excelled in the middle- and long-distance runs, the relays and the weight events but came up five points shy in the final tally, 67-62. North Farmington was 12th in the 18-team meet at Southfield High School last Friday.

Farmington Hills Harrison had its best regional finish in the Class B meet at Dearborn, taking third place in the 18-team field.

"We had a real good shot at it," Mercy coach Gary Servais said. "It would have been disappointing if the kids didn't run well. But they did and we still had a shot at it going into the 1,600 relay."

The Marlinas had two individual winners in Charese Sanders, who defended her regional title in the shot put, and Jeannette Turner, who stepped up from second place last year to win the discus.

MERCY'S HIGHLIGHT in the running events was the record-setting performance of the 3,200-meter relay team.

Kathleen Gerigk, Heather Sullivan and Carrie Walton were on the team that won the regional championship and set the school record of 9:58 at last year's regional, and the same three combined with Lauren Hood to win that event again in record time, 9:53.

Gerigk, Sullivan and Hood also teamed with Megan Lombardi for fourth place in the 1,600 relay, and Mercy's Adanna Amanze, Yvonne Bostle, Nyasha Glass and Kim Cook took fifth place in the 400 relay.

girls track

Walton was an automatic qualifier for the Class A meet on Saturday, June 3, at Eastern Michigan University by finishing second in the 3,200 run. The top two in each event and anyone else who meets the qualifying standard go to state.

Mercy freshman Heather Nell in the 3,200 and Gerigk in the 1,600 also will compete at state despite finishing third. Both ran faster than the cut-off times in those events. Nell's 11:59.6 time was 11 seconds better than her previous best, and Gerigk was seven seconds faster at 5:29.9.

Helping to boost Mercy's point total with a trio of third-place finishes were Nell in the 1,600, Hood in the 400 and Sullivan in the 800.

"This is the first time we've beaten (Livonia) Stevenson this year, and we beat all the Detroit schools, which was kinda surprising since we're not real strong in the sprints," said Gerigk. The Marlinas failed to score in the 300 hurdles and all events of lesser distance, the high jump and the long jump.

North's Lisa Rives was fourth in the 1,600 run, Adrienne Nocello fifth in the discus and Joy Web sixth in the 800. The Raiders also were fifth in the 3,200 relay.

HARRISON TRAILED only defending state champion Detroit DePue in the Class B meet. DePue scored 111

points, the Spartans 53 and Harrison 50.

"We've got a couple seniors who score pretty well," Harrison coach Mark Babcock said, "but this is a young team and this is the time of the year you hope they come around."

Jane Peters, one of the key seniors as are Maria Chalagianis and Alimee Jarvenpaa, won the 300-meter hurdles in 49.8, and she was second in the 100 hurdles with a career-best time of 10.7.

Also in individual events, Jeannette Klotzer was third in the 3,200 run (13:18), and Chalagianis was fourth in the 300 hurdles (50.0).

The Hawks demonstrated their team strength and competitiveness by scoring in all four relays.

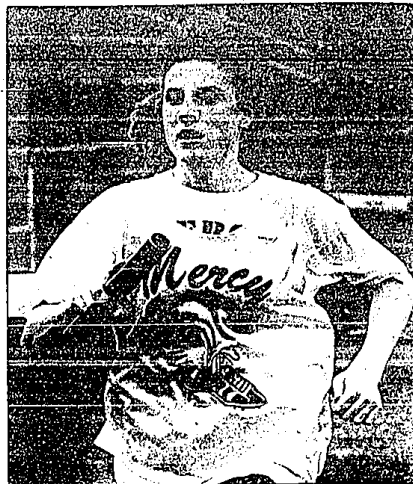
Harrison's best showing in the relays was in the 1,600 in which Chalagianis, Nivim Hakim, Audra Cockerham and Peters were second at 4:17.7 and automatically qualified for the state meet on Saturday, June 3, at Jackson Northwest High School.

The Hawks added a pair of thirds as Cockerham, Carrie Hentnik, Hakim and Peters posted a season best of 1:50 in the 800 relay and Tracy DelBasso, Julie Ritter, Joanne Hannawa and Nikki Hiesano had Harrison's best time of the year in the 3,200 at 10:52.

The 800 team was four tenths of a second off the school record and half a second away from the state qualifying standard.

Lastly, the 400 relay unit of Heather Conley, Nicole Lee, Hentnik and Hakim placed fifth place with a 3:3.0 time.

Harrison had several near misses in terms of possible points. Finishing seventh were Jarvenpaa in the shot put, Jill Rosenthal in the discus, Hiesano in the 800 run and Jill Murany in the 1,600 run.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Kathleen Gerigk of Mercy was part of the first-place and record-setting 3,200-meter relay team in the girls regional at Southfield. She also was third in the open 1,600 for the runner-up Marlinas.

Divine Child nips Mercy in league

What Farmington Hills Mercy needed, going into the last event of the Catholic League A-B girls track meet Tuesday at Madison Heights Bishop Foley, was a break.

Not only did the Marlinas have to beat Dearborn Divine Child in the 1,600-meter relay. They had to have someone else beat the Falcons.

It didn't happen. Mercy's four-somes of Heather Sullivan, Nicole Gates, Megan Lombardi and Lauren Hood finished second at 14:18.37. Divine Child took first.

Which gave the league title for Class A-B teams to the Falcons, who scored 108 points to Mercy's 103. Riverview Gabriel Richard was third (86%), followed by Redford Bishop Borgess and Detroit Benedictine (51 each) and Livonia Ladywood (35%).

"We were third last year, so we improved a place," said Mercy coach Gary Servais. "We have almost everybody coming back (next year) except (Charese) Sanders."

THE MARLINAS had two champions. Sanders captured top honors in the shot put with a toss of 36 feet 10 inches, and the team of Kathleen Gerigk, Sullivan, Judi Rosowski and Gates won the 3,200-meter relay in 10:22.0.

girls track

Mercy dominated the distance events. Gerigk was second in the 1,600 (5:31.9), with Carrie Walton third (5:38.7) and Heather Nell fourth (5:38.8). In the 3,200, Mercy runners placed third (Gerigk, 12:10), fourth (Nell, 12:18) and fifth (Walton, 12:25).

Hood took second for the Marlinas in the 400 (1:02.2) and Sullivan was second in the 800 (2:32.0). Taking thirds were Jeannette Turner in the discus (104-0) and Gail Murie in the high jump (4-8).

Murie, Jamie Robinson, Mary Beth Strand and Kim Cook combined to place third in the 400 relay (54.2), and Murie, Sullivan, Hood and Cook teamed for a fourth in the 800 relay (1:54.4).

The top three individuals in each event from the Catholic League championship will compete in the Operation Friendship meet against the top three from the Detroit PSL at University of Detroit High School Saturday.

Blue Jays coast to regional title

By Keith Postler
staff writer

Southfield boys track coach Tom Eschman downplayed his team's ability to dominate other squads, but the Blue Jays did that and more in Friday's Class A Regional Track Championships held at Southfield High.

The Blue Jays grabbed first place honors in seven events and second place finishes in six others as they led the 15-team field with 141 total points. Westland John Glenn finished a distant second with 53 points.

After the meet, Eschman explained his philosophy. "Every time that we go up against a team, we respect that team as a roadblock to success," he said. "People think I am overreacting, but there is always the possibility of a poor outing. We have to run correctly, and if we don't, anybody can beat us."

The Blue Jays ran a nearly flawless meet on the first leg in defense of their Class A state championship. They placed in 12 of the 16 events and the competition never seriously challenged them. The meet simply belonged to Southfield.

Jeff Reynolds gave the Blue Jays their first victory in the 110-meter dash, pacing the field with a time of 0:5.5 seconds. Teammate Bobby Johnson finished second at 10.8 and Lawrence Reynolds (11.2) was sixth. Southfield's other first place finishers were Cassidy Wright in the 100 high hurdles, 14.5; Jeff Gibson with 38.1 in the 300 intermediate hurdles, and Reynolds in the 200 with a time of 21.6.

THE BLUE JAYS also had a num-

Four win boys individual honors

North Farmington and Farmington Hills Harrison produced a pair of regional champions in boys track and field last weekend.

In the Class A meet at Southfield High School, North's Zaim Cannulaj won the discus and Jason Kocembo the 1,600-meter run.

Cannulaj, who also was third in the shot put, threw the discus 153-1, and Kocembo, the Observerland Relays winner at 1,600 meters, turned in a 4:28.9 time.

In the Class B regional at Dearborn, Harrison's Joe George made it two discus champions from Farmington Hills by winning that meet with a 149-3 effort, and teammate Jeff Barringer won the 3,200 run in 9:58.2.

All four advance to state competition on Saturday, June 3. The Class A meet will take place at Eastern Michigan University, the Class B event at Jackson Northwest High School. The top two individuals in each

event go to state and any others who meet the qualifying standards.

Harrison had an additional state qualifier in Chad Burgess, who was second in the 800 run and had a 1:57.9 time.

In addition, teammate Dave Foss was fifth in the 1,600 run at 4:39, and the 3,200 relay team of Burgess, Foss, Barringer and Andy Jones was sixth in 8:35.2.

"We didn't have any disappointments but a lot of average performances," Harrison coach John Schumacher said. He added the team's two shot putters, Tony Shaleb and Blaze Sarcevic, could have qualified on a good day.

Also in the Southfield regional, Farmington's Jason Gutting was fourth in the shot put and Brad Moore fifth in the 3,200 run.

ber of second place finishers: Marvin Reynolds in the 110 hurdles, 14.3; Wright in the 400, 50.5; James Robinson, 1:58.2 in the 800; and Ricky Duncan in the high jump with a leap of 6-6.

Southfield closed the meet with three consecutive relay victories.

The Blue Jay's relay team of Johnson, Wright, Jeff Gibson and Marvin Reynolds placed first in the 800 relay, 1:29.2; Johnson, Chris Porter, Jeff Reynolds and Marvin Reynolds' 42.4 took first in the 400 relay; and Jeff Reynolds, James Robinson, Gibson and Wright clipped the competition in the 1600 relay in 3:19.1.

Richard Gordon, whose John Glenn Rockets finished second to Southfield, had only words of praise for the Blue Jays.

"Southfield has just one awesome

team," he said. "They're just too tough to catch."

The Rockets managed to earn two first place awards. Carl Lowe's 1:58.2 was tops in the 800 and the Westland team of Joe Zawol, David Ryan, Jim Zurawski and Lowe beat the competition in the 3,200 relay with a time of 8:11.9.

FERLIN WHITLOW set a new John Glenn record with a time of 38.7 in the 300 intermediate hurdles; Steve Wisley was third in the 400 at 50.7 while Randy Seach was sixth, 53.0; and Greg Anderson's leap of 6-2 earned fourth place in the high jump. "I'm extremely pleased with my team," Gordon said. "It was just a great meet for the Rockets."

Said Wayne Memorial coach Joe Grasley, "I thought that the kids we had compete did the best they could.

We had some real good individual performances."

Shawn Wallace's toss of 48-8 1/4 earned second place for Wayne Memorial in the shot put, while his effort of 146-10 grabbed third in the shot put.

Southfield will defend its Southeastern Michigan Association title in Tuesday's SMA championships at Southfield, then travel to Groves Friday for the Oakland County Championship.

The third-through-15th place finishers were Detroit Cooley (52), Wayne Memorial (49), Detroit Cody (45), Redford Union (40), Redford Catholic Central (38), Livonia Churchill (28 1/2), North Farmington (26), Birmingham Groves (13), Detroit Henry Ford (10), Livonia Stevenson (9), Farmington (8), Garden City (4) and Southfield-Lathrup (1).

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