

Sports

Dan O'Meara editor / 591-2312

Thursday, February 15, 1990 (1A1)

(F10)



Raiders stay No. 1 in city volleyball



RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Farmington's Bonnie Wheelis (left) and North's Eve Claar anticipate the next play Monday in the annual Observer volleyball tournament at Harrison.

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

North Farmington continues its reign as the champion of Farmington high school volleyball, but for a time Monday, its right to the throne was in doubt.

The Raiders, who beat host Farmington Hills Harrison in the final, were tested by Farmington and the Hawks in the annual Observer tournament before subduing each opponent in two games.

North has claimed the trophy for three straight years and seven of the last eight. Harrison's victory in 1987 is the only time the Raiders haven't won.

North started with a day with a flash and ended with a flurry, winning the first and last games easily. In between, the Raiders struggled but managed to survive.

The Raiders whipped the Falcons 15-3 in the opener but barely escaped with an 18-16 victory in the second. After watching, the Hawks eliminate Farmington 15-8, 15-12. North eked out a 15-12 win in the first game of the final and cruised home with the clincher, 15-6.

"WE'VE DONE that all year," North coach Sandy Lubieniecki said. "The first game with Harrison was a continuation. They were fired up because they had just beaten Farmington, and you've got to take that momentum back."

The Hawks held the lead — their biggest margin being 9-5 — until late in the first game. North tied it at 11 and capitalized on three Harrison errors and a Vikki Seamons ace to win it.

The Raiders often were the own worst enemy, missing 11 serves in that game.

"That's unbelievable," Lubieniecki said. "I was pulling my hair out between games."

"We might have been in trouble if we hadn't pulled (the game) out



RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Cheryl Monahan makes an effort to keep the play alive for Harrison. North beat the Hawks 15-12, 15-6 in the final to win its third straight city title.

(Harrison) got into a sequence of setting it and hitting the ball every time we sent it over."

Seamons, one of several players who stood out for the Raiders, was simply outstanding as an outside hitter and, along with fellow senior Courtney Knapp, helped to hold North together.

"VIKKI AND Courtney — Vikki in the front row and Courtney in the

back — pulled us out," Lubieniecki said. "Of course, after that we had momentum and you could see it."

There was no doubt about the finale as North returned to its dominating ways.

The Raiders scored four points off leadoff person Dana Botwick's serves, three being aces, and North led 8-0 after three rotations.

Please turn to Page 2

Title match pits Mercy, Ladywood

Farmington Hills Mercy and Livonia Ladywood steamed past their respective opponents Monday in the Catholic League volleyball semifinals, setting up a rematch for the championship tonight at Wayne State University.

The Marlins, 45-3 overall, beat Royal Oak Shrine, 15-4 and 15-3, at Mercy to advance. Ladywood also won in straight games, beating Madison Heights Bishop Foley, 15-7 and 15-8, and Riverview Gabriel Richard, 15-3 and 15-13, at Bishop Foley.

In its four-game totals, Mercy was paced by Jennifer Goff with 13 kills, Andrea Velthoven with 10 kills and Maureen Paulin with eight kills and eight aces. Lee Albrecht had five kills and added six blocks for points.

Kari Domanski led Ladywood, contributing 28 assist kills, 12 spike kills, four aces and four blocked shots. Rebecca Wiley had 12 kills and Marise Spender added seven kills.

Ladywood, the two-time defending state champs, will try again to beat the Marlins, whom the Blazers have lost to in each of their three meetings this year.

"IT'S GOING to be another dog-fight," Mercy coach Tim DeHebra predicted of the title game. "If we do the things we've been doing all year, we should be all right. We're very excited about meeting them again, and I'm sure they're anxious, too."

Please turn to Page 2

North's Thompson wins district wrestling crown

By Bill Parker
staff writer

Plymouth Salem wrestling coach Ron Krueger usually doesn't have a problem making up his mind.

But after Saturday's Class A individual district wrestling tournament at Walled Lake Western, Krueger couldn't decide if he was happy or sad, despite the fact the Rocks will be represented at seven weight classes in the regional tournament, which takes place in Salem's gym Saturday.

"I would have been very happy with eight (regional qualifiers), and I would have been sad with six," Krueger said. "So I guess I'm somewhere between happy and sad."

"Of all the kids going, I wouldn't have wanted to lose any of them. I would have liked to see (heavyweight) Scott Breithaupt go. His division was tough, but he's wrestled well all year and deserves it."

SALEM FINISHED the district with three champions, one runner-up and three third-place finishers. The top four wrestlers in each weight class advance to the regional.

Steve Burlison, Pete Israel, and Brian Burlison won individual championships for the Rocks.

Steve Burlison, 36-0-1, pinned South Lyon's Larry Olson in 4:40 of the championship match at 160 pounds.

"Olson was 29-2 and he took Steve down, put him on his back and was ahead 5-0," Krueger said.

"We went at it pretty good, and I'm caught him in a cradle in the third period and pinned him," Burlison said. "I knew he was a good wrestler, but I didn't think he was as good as he was."

Israel (31-11) hammered out a 13-5 decision over Howell's Jason Steinacker in the title match at 171.

"Steinacker is only a freshman, but he's pretty good," Krueger said. "He wrestled well, but Pete really wrestled well. He'll face up with (John Glenn's Kraig) Kuban in the semis Saturday but even if he loses to Kuban he'll drop down and wrestle people he's already beaten."

Brian Burlison (40-0) wasted little time in the championship match at 189, sticking Howell's Tony Paruzzi in 1:05.

"The Howell kid was a thrower, and he comes out and is going to throw Brian," Krueger said. "Brian says 'No, no' and throws him instead and pinned him."

Salem's other regional qualifiers are Julian Sell, Ken Stopa, Dan Bennett and Scott Martin. Sell (36-5) advanced to the championship match at 130 before losing a 1-0 decision to Novi's Mike Gowans.

"Gowans has been up at 135 all year," Krueger said. "We've got Gowans and (Bedford's Nick) Buchanan (at the regional). The others he's beaten or hasn't wrestled."

"If he can win the first one, the second match will be with Buchanan, and we're going to go after Buchanan. We hope it's our turn. Buchanan has beaten us three times.

We've gotta try and not get behind in the first period this time."

Martin (31-11) earned an 8-8 decision over South Lyon's Mike Herbert in the consolation match at 105. Bennett (22-9) decisioned Pinckney's Ed Boeving, 12-4, in the consolation match at 112, and Stopa (32-10) earned a 7-6 decision over South Lyon's Robert Haps in the consolation match at 125.

SEVERAL OTHER area wrestlers also advanced to Saturday's regional at Salem.

North Farmington will be represented by three wrestlers, Walled Lake Western, Livonia Churchill and Livonia Franklin by two each and Walled Lake Central and Livonia Stevenson one each.

North Thompson led the Raiders, winning a district championship in the 140 class with a 7-1 victory over Brighton's Chad Clark. Thompson had been at 145 for much of the season.

"He was second at the (Oakland) county meet at 140," North coach Dick Cook said. "From then, just before Christmas, til the league meet, he wrestled 145 but he's actually a 140-pounder."

"I think he could do the whole thing this year. He's got enough in him. The potential is there. We'll see if he can hold through the next two weeks."

North's Lucian Van Cleave finished second at 135 pounds, losing

Please turn to Page 2

Hawks send 3 to regional

Three Farmington Hills Harrison wrestlers are advancing to regional competition after strong showings in the Class B district tournament Saturday at Monroe Jefferson High School.

Competing for the Hawks in Saturday's regional tournament at Jefferson will be David Prusinski, Gary Devine and Todd Lytwynluk.

Prusinski took first place in the 112-pound division. He pinned Ypsilanti Lincoln's Ed Deloy (0:17) and Dearborn Heights Annapolis' Nito Proulx (3:15).

Prusinski posted a 4-1 decision

wrestling

over Stewart Barringer of Melvindale in the semifinals, and he defeated Jefferson's Chris Boltrott in the championship, 6-2.

"Dave, I'm very happy for," Hawk coach Matt Gasser said. "He's only a sophomore and he's 27-6, so he's got a very good shot at going to state."

DEVINE, A junior who qualified

for the regional a second time, took second place at 140 pounds.

He defeated Kurt Best of Dearborn Divine Child on a decision in the first round, and he decisioned Grosse Ile's Brandon Rose in the second. Devine recorded a 6-4 win over Erie Sprain of Carleton Airport in the semis but was pinned by Mike Chambers of Southgate Aquinas in the championship round.

Lytwynluk placed fourth in the 171 bracket. He defeated Riverview's Dino Papadopoulos in the first round when Papadopoulos was assessed penalty points for stalling.

Budget
car and truck rental

MAKES A WEEKEND GETAWAY EASY

Budget just made it easier than ever to get away for the weekend. Rates apply for weekends valid through 3/31/90. Also, refunding services, taxes and optional items are extra. Normal rental requirements apply. Offer not available with any other discount or promotion. Advance reservations required. Vehicles subject to availability.

\$17.99
ECONOMY CAR
UNLIMITED MILEAGE
PER WEEKEND DAY
OPTIONAL L.D.W. AT
***10.99 PER DAY**

\$20.99
INTERMEDIATE CAR
UNLIMITED MILEAGE
PER WEEKEND DAY
OPTIONAL L.D.W. AT
***10.99 PER DAY**

\$41.99
LUXURY CAR
UNLIMITED MILEAGE
PER WEEKEND DAY
OPTIONAL L.D.W. AT
***11.99 PER DAY**

For Reservations Call:
355-7900

Budget

OFFER ONLY AVAILABLE AT PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS IN:

- LIVONIA
- SOUTHFIELD
- ANN ARBOR
- BIRMINGHAM
- WARREN
- Call Toll Free 1-800-333-8840

SEARS
Car & Truck Rental

The year's Best Charge Card at Sears Car and Truck Rental is available in select locations. For reservations, rates and information, call 1-800-333-8840.