



"It's like a piano has been lifted off my back today. I carried it around all year. It's a great feeling. It was a storybook meet for me."

— Ron Orris  
state swim champion

The reward of a thing well done is to have done it.

Emerson

By Dan O'Meara  
staff writer

Ron Orris did it — and did it well, not once but twice.

The extraordinary swimmer from Plymouth Salem did it better than anyone before him ever did.

Orris did what he set out to do — what he had been striving to do since he was a high school freshman three years ago — in the Class A finals Saturday at Eastern Michigan University.

The senior standout doubled his pleasure by winning state championships in two events and, in the process, setting a pair of meet records in spacious Jones Natatorium.

Orris, who won the 200-yard individual medley in 1:50.97 and the 100 butterfly in 49.79, was subsequently named swimmer of the meet along with Ann Arbor Huron's Tom Bailey, who also won two events with record-setting swims.

"I feel incredible right now," Orris said after he had completed a sensational afternoon of competition. "I'm real happy with what's happened, and I don't want it to end. This is what I've been shooting for the last two years."

THE ELATION Orris felt Saturday was in contrast to last year's state meet when he finished second twice, both times being edged out of the championship celebration by narrow margins.

The extent of his success this time around was added reward for his continued commitment and drive to improve upon his junior-year results.

"It's like a piano has been lifted off my back today," Orris said. "I carried it around all year. It's a great feeling. It was a storybook meet for me."

Salem coach Chuck Olson was beaming with pride Saturday after seeing Orris realize his goals at the pinnacle of his prep career.

"I'm very happy for him and maybe a little relieved for myself," Olson said. "He was under a lot of pressure, and he handled it very well."

"It's been a long time since (former Salem swimmer) Ron Finley won a state championship (1977 in the backstroke). A lot of coaches respect what he did today. It was a great day for him."

ORRIS TOOK his first victory in the IM when he swam 1:50.97, breaking the record of 1:51.30, which had stood for nine years, by Dave Chernek of Ann Arbor Pioneer.

It was no contest, either. Orris dominated the final race. His closest competitor was Pioneer's Alex Casolati, the runner-up at 1:55.57.

In the prelims, I didn't shave down, I didn't wear a cap and I didn't use any lotion," Orris said. "I just wanted to get position."

"I looked at the splits and the things I could have done better and made the changes. I was a little stronger on the backstroke and really pushed the breast."

Olson, among others, was impressed. In addition, he was pleased the decision to swim

the IM had such a successful outcome.

"Chernek's record has always been one of the outstanding records," he said. "The win was first. Then the time took care of itself."

"The 200 free (which Orris swam last year) was awful tempting, but the opportunity to break the state record in the IM was something we just had to do. He's been working (on all the strokes) all year long."

ORRIS WENT into the finals with goal times of 1:50.8 in the IM and 49.84 in the butterfly. He was just shy of that mark in the IM, but it was mission accomplished in the butterfly.

He had the fastest qualifying time of 1:54.57 in the IM, but that was slow compared to his final time. He had the fastest seed time in the butterfly at 51.53, but he qualified second behind Portage Northern's Jayson Field, who swam 51.07. Orris went 51.08 in the prelims.

"I think he was a little concerned about the two swims he had (Friday)," Olson said. "We talked about it, and today is when you have to have the swims in the water — and he proceeded to do that."

Orris came back Saturday to top off 4 1/4 seconds from his IM time in the prelims, and he dropped under 50 seconds in the butterfly to break the record of 50.79 by former North Farmington swimmer Brian Goins in 1985.

"That was a goal I had, but I didn't make a big deal out of it," Orris said. "I didn't tell everybody that in case I didn't, but I had that in mind all year."

In winning the butterfly, Orris also avenged

one of last year's defeats, turning the tables on defending champion David Klaviter of East Lansing, who was second at 49.99. Klaviter went 51.20 last year and Orris 51.27.

"I SAW HIM over there," Orris said. "That was on my mind. I didn't want to let him beat me again."

"The key to that was taking it out a little faster. I finished a second faster, so it paid off."

Orris' double victories and record-breaking efforts were the result of a natural progression to the top of his sport, the perfect culmination to an outstanding career.

As a freshman, Orris qualified for state but didn't place. As a sophomore, he was fifth in the 100 freestyle and sixth in the 200. He moved up to take second in two events last year.

"It was just like stairs," Orris said. "I finally got to the top at the right time, this being my senior year."

The Rocks, who were seventh a year ago in the team standings, finished 11th for the second time in three years. Olson, who coached Salem to the Western Lakes Activities Association championship on March 2, was overjoyed at the way everything came together at the end for the Rocks.

"We were pretty happy with seventh place last year, but we wanted Ron to have a great swim this year," he said. "We did the team thing at the league meet and the individual thing at the state meet. It's been a couple great weeks as a coach."

## sports shorts

### HEALTH SCREENING

The annual pre-athletic health screening for all 1989-91 male and female athletes in the Farmington Public Schools system will be Tuesday, May 22, at North Farmington High School. The cost is \$8 (cash only).

Times will be 5:30-6:30 p.m. for middle school sports participants and 6:30-8 p.m. for high school athletes.

### BASEBALL SCHOOL

The Bernie Carbo Baseball School (ages 9-16) will hold two weeks of individual instruction — June 18-22 and June 26-30 — at Drake Field in Farmington. The cost is \$75 per week. (Campers meet from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.) College pitching coach Gordie Rutherford will also be on hand for school along with former major league pitcher Bernie Carbo.

For more information, call 421-4928.

### EVANS SCHOLARS

Jared Goldapper of Farmington Hills has been awarded an Evans Scholarship by the Western Golf Association. The program was initiated by famed amateur golfer Chick Evans in 1930 and since that time more than 5,200 caddies have graduated with the help of the Foundation.

Goldapper, a senior at Harrison High School, who has caddied at Franklin Hills Country Club, will attend the University of Michigan.

### AU VOLLEYBALL

The Madonna College Crusaders AAU volleyball club will hold Junior Olympic tryouts on Sunday, April 1, at the Madonna gym for the follow-

ing age groups: 14 and under, 1-3 p.m.; 16 and under, 3-5 p.m.; 18 and under, 5-7 p.m.

For more information, call Brian (471-6233) or Lee (421-3378).

### COACHES NEEDED

Walled Lake Consolidated Schools needs assistant coaches for junior high school track, girls soccer assistant, boys soccer assistant and football assistant.

Candidates should send their resumes to Robert Atkins, Walled Lake Consolidated School District, 615 N. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake, 48088. They also can call Atkins at 624-6804 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. during the week.

Farmington Hills Mercy High School is searching for a JV soccer coach, two part-time assistants in track and a cheerleading head coach. Candidates should call athletic director Steve Berra at 476-2835 or write to her at 29300 11 Mile, Farmington Hills 48018.

### COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

More than 100,000 athletic scholarships are available to male and female high school and junior college students each year, but a lot of the money goes unused.

A new publication with forms, sample letters and tables of factual information is available. It explains the process of getting an athletic scholarship and includes college and conference listings.

For details student athletes should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to The National Sports Foundation, 612A Willow Dr., P.O. Box 940, Oakhurst, N.J., 07755.

## CC meets objective at state finals

By Dan O'Meara  
staff writer

Redford Catholic Central met its goal with an eighth-place finish in the Class A swimming and diving championships Saturday.

The Shamrocks, champions of the Catholic League, fared the best of any Olivetown team, accumulating 46 points to crack the top 10 at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium.

Plymouth Salem, with two first places by senior sensation Ron Orris, was 11th with 33 points. Livonia Stevenson tied for 36th, and North Farmington was 43rd.

"The relay change was the difference," CC coach Chuck McClune said. "It was a day late, but we know they'll all be back next year."

The Shamrocks won the consolation heat of the 400-yard freestyle with a 3:14.62 time, which would have put CC in the championship heat if it had been done during Friday's preliminaries.

McClune attributed the faster time to putting Mike Hoeflein in the anchor position and Troy Shumate in the lead-off spot. Hoeflein usually leads off and Shumate anchors.

"AT THE last minute, coach decided to change and have me leading off," Shumate said. "He was trying to get Mike a little more rest since he just swam the backstroke."

Shumate, who was fourth in two individual events, and Hoeflein, who was eighth in two races, were joined by Alan Afari and Brian Dynda on the relay.

Hoeflein apparently had ample time to recover from swimming 55.37 and taking second in the consolation heat of the backstroke two events

## swimming

prior. He finished the same in the 200 freestyle with a 1:45.15.

"Mike really raced well today," McClune said. "Mike's best swim was Friday in the 100 freestyle (as part of the relay), and today he anchored the relay and went 47.6. That was a real key in the relay."

Shumate was fourth in the fourth in the 200 and 500 freestyles with 1:44.14 and 4:44.80 times. Ironically, they were slower than last year when he placed seventh in the same events with 1:43.71 and 4:40.95 efforts.

"I got sick two days ago, and it kinda hindered both of my races," he said. "At least I came through and held my place. I'm happy with that."

Shumate qualified fourth in both events during the prelims with times of 1:44.69 in the 200 and 4:42.58 in the 500. Those swims knocked more than two seconds off his seed time in the 200 and almost seven seconds in the 500.

"I WAS REAL pleased with how I placed, but I was looking to do a little better than I did last year," he said. "I was real happy with the way the team swam. We deserved it."

Livonia Stevenson's medley relay team of Aaron Hinder, Alex Goecke, Scott Dewolf and Taki Caraniolas was 10th at 1:41.85, and the sophomore Hinder placed 11th in the individual medley at 2:00.57.

Danny Knipper became the first North swimmer to score at the state meet since Mike

Turney in 1987. The senior took 11th place in the breast stroke with a 1:01.40 time. That was better than his 1:02.02 seed time but not as fast as his qualifying time of 1:01.05.

"He swam a little faster Friday, but he was really fired-up and ready to swim hard — and he did," North coach Sue Gendron said. "He dropped almost two seconds from the conference meet. I think he was pleased and happy with his race."

Orris, who was nosed out in the 200 freestyle and IM last year, struck back as a senior, winning the IM and butterfly with state-record swims.

He broke former Ann Arbor Pioneer swimmer Dave Chernek's 9-year-old record of 1:51.30 in the IM with a 1:50.97 time, and his 49.79 effort eclipsed former North swimmer Brian Goins' mark of 50.79 in the butterfly.

ORRIS ALSO avenged his loss to David Klaviter of East Lansing in the butterfly. Klaviter went 49.99 in this year's finals.

Orris and Tom Bailey of Ann Arbor Huron, who also set two records, were named co-swimmers of the meet, and Mike Lane of team champion Bloomfield Hills Andover was named coach of the year.

Bailey swam 1:38.15 in the 200 freestyle to upset defending champion Alec Mull of Lansing Eastern (1:38.66) and break his older brother's 1985 record of 1:38.83. He also won the 100 freestyle in 44.63, breaking the standard of 45.90 set by Tony Anderson of Pioneer in 1985.

In the Class B meet at Michigan State, Farmington Hills Harrison's Ryan Koeneke was seventh in diving, and Jason Harringer scored in the consolation heat of the breast stroke.

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