

Sports

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INSIDE:
Entertainment, Page 7B
Business, Page 10B

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(F10)

Farmington crowned WLAA champion

By Bill Parker
staff writer

It's been a long time coming, but Farmington finally won the Western Lakes Activities Association wrestling championship.

The Falcons, who stormed through their league dual-meet schedule undefeated in six matches, won the league tournament Saturday at Walled Lake Western.

Farmington had 172 points, the host Warriors 155, Westland John Glenn 133, Plymouth Canton 125 1/2 and three-time defending champion Plymouth Salem 115 1/2.

It was the first WLAA wrestling title for Farmington, which last won a league championship in 1978 as a member of the now disbanded Inter-Lakes League.

Surprisingly, four teams finished with more champions than the Falcons, but none had as many wrestlers in the finals.

"WE ONLY had one champion, but 12 kids placed in the top five," Farmington coach Al Beyer said. "It was a total team effort."

"Starting the season, we set goals to win the Novi and West Bloomfield Invitational. The Observerland tournament was something new this year, but after winning the Novi and West Bloomfield meets we felt we had a shot at that one. After winning the Observerland, we felt we had a shot at an undefeated confer-



Matt Siakosky
WLAA wrestling champ

ence title and after (going undefeated) we felt we had a shot at conference."

Senior Matt Siakosky was the lone Farmington champion, winning the heavyweight title with an 8-5 victory over Salem's Phil Haynes.

"Matt had a good day," Farmington assistant coach Barry Walsh said. "He's quick for a heavyweight and he's wrestling smart right now. He's coming into his own as a heavyweight."

Siakosky, who sports a 28-7 record, earned a bye in the opening round at the top seed. He stuck Central's Aaron Frazier in the second round in 22

wrestling

seconds and flattened Northville's Gattil in just 1:33 in the semifinals.

The Falcons ended the tournament with three second-place finishers, two thirds, four fourths and two fifths.

STEVE LEMIEUX (135), Mike Pallo (160) and Ryan Adams (171) placed second for the winners while Jon Duff (125) and Matt Smith (130) were third. Fourth-place honors went to Rob Sutton (115), Jason Holliday (145), Dave Monge (152) and Rob Cavagnol (189) while John Economy (103) and Mike Prough (140) placed fifth.

"Basically, we've got a lot of seniors on the team and we've all been wrestling together since we were in sixth grade," Siakosky said. "We've been working hard for a long time and it's finally starting to pay off."

"There's a lot of competition in practice. We have really good depth. We have kids wrestling on JV that would make varsity on any other team, but we have so much depth they have to drop down."

The Warriors turned in a strong performance, finishing with three in-



SHERIE DUBZY/staff photographer

Mike Prough of Farmington (top) captured fifth place at 140 pounds Saturday and helped the Falcons win their first WLAA wrestling title.

Please turn to Page 2

Raiders triumph in league match

Vacation week at North Farmington left coach Sandy Lubienicki without three volleyball starters Monday, but the best Raiders were still able to edge Plymouth Canton 15-11, 10-15, 15-13, 13-15 and 15-11.

"The younger kids had to fill the spots, and they turned out to be the difference," Lubienicki said.

Canton coach Jackie Getz had praise for North's defense.

"North's serve reception was excellent," Getz said. "They are also very scrappy on defense."

Tina Schaefer came on and hit well in the last three games for us, but they dug everything up," Senior Sarah Lungren led the Raiders with 12

kills and 16 service points, while junior Jenny Reff served 12 points. Senior Karen Seremet had 24 assists.

Freshman All Lora played all five games for the Raiders and contributed five kills and five kill blocks. Middle hitters Carey Perkins and Stephanie White added 14 and nine kills, respectively.

North improved to 11-12 overall and 3-6 in the Western Lakes Activities Association. The Chiefs are also 3-6 in the WLAA.

"The girls played well but they didn't play as consistent as they have been," Getz said. "The times we weren't consistent hurt us. We have good athletes and good volleyball players, but we

have to be able to concentrate on playing five games.

"I thought senior middle hitter Jenny Davis played her best all-around game in her three years on the varsity at Canton. She was very aggressive in the front row and played well in the back row."

With Perkins serving, the Raiders took an early 4-0 lead in the decisive fifth game and stayed ahead for good.

FARMINGTON DIDN'T fare as well as its cross-town rival, the Falcons being swept by Walled Lake Central, 15-10, 15-10, 15-11.

Please turn to Page 4



SHARON LEMIEUX/staff photographer

Jon Sturtz (5) of North Farmington tries to go over Tony Coshatt (54) and Mike Brennan. The Raiders lost 48-31. See story on Page 4B.

Hawks fall victim to Vikes

By Dan O'Meara
staff writer

Walled Lake Central's free-wheeling, up-the-tempo, fire-a-shot style of play has worked well on the basketball court this season.

But for a short time, the Vikings, due partly to necessity, got away from what they do best Tuesday and found themselves tied 56-56 with host Farmington Hills Harrison after leading the entire game.

Central coach Steve Emert, throwing caution to the wind, turned it back to his players, and the result was a 67-61 victory that assured the Vikings of the No. 2 seed in the upcoming Western Lakes Activities Association playoffs.

basketball

The Vikings improved to 8-2 in the league with one game remaining Friday against North Farmington. Central is 13-3 overall. Harrison is 7-3 and 12-4.

"We lost our big kid (Chris McFarlane) there for a while," Emert said, "and we didn't want him to pick up a fifth foul, because they're just too big for us. We had a decision to make: take time off the clock or keep pushing the ball."

senting Central's only real height, in foul trouble, Emert chose to do the former. But the Hawks used the opportunity to pull even for the first time since the second quarter.

Central led 34-45 early in the fourth quarter, but the Hawks went on an 11-2 run in the next 2 1/2 minutes to tie the score with a three-point play by Paul Gillyvdis and layup by Justin Romanas.

"The situation turned just as quickly in favor of the Vikings, however."

"During the timeout, I told them 'Let's just go out and play ball, start attacking again. Play to win, not to lose,'" Emert said, adding he might have regretted slowing the pace.

Please turn to Page 2

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