

Hawks boast experience; Falcons regroup

By NEAL ZIPSER
SPECIAL WRITER

Farmington Hills Harrison coach Mark Babcock can say something no one previously could about the girls cross country program: "We have some experienced runners returning."

Babcock gets the honor because the Hawks decided three years ago to begin a girls program. After coaching track, Babcock felt he was the person to lead the program.

In the first year, Babcock coached five girls to a winless season. The number jumped to 12 people last

season and the Hawks won two meets.

This season, Babcock has a roster of 20 girls, which includes some veteran runners.

"Our biggest goal three years ago was to get more people involved," Babcock said. "I think we are going in the right direction."

The only serious loss from last year's squad was the graduation of Julie Ritter. Leading the Harrison charge will be juniors Sherri Stalnack and Melanie Rankola.

"Sherri was our top runner last year and we have high expectations for her, as she does of herself," Babcock said. "Melanie improved last

year and, by the end of the season, was just a hair behind Sherri."

Becky Sharpe, who was riddled last year with nagging injuries, is expected to come back with a strong senior year. Babcock is also impressed with the times of Junior Maggie Chavez, who is running her first year of cross country.

The only sophomores Allison Nee and Jennifer Hunnawa will contribute as will freshman Jennifer Davis, Babcock said. Seniors Kim Barkhart, Jessica Johnson and Susan Glowacki and junior Angie Peana also will compete for running time.

"Things are going well in practice right now and I can't complain,"

Babcock said. "Our program is on the upswing and we have runners who bring a wealth of experience."

"Last season we only won twice, but we lost several close league meets. This year, I hope we can win some of those. I want us to shoot for a 5-0 season, but I realize that may be pushing it."

FARMINGTON

When you speak of a dynasty, you may not hear about the Farmington girls cross country team.

But in the mid to late 1980s, the Falcons dominated the sport by winning close to 50 consecutive

meets, sending the team to the state championship meet five years in a row and winning either the WLAA or Lakes Division titles in those five years.

After the graduation of several top runners, the Falcons fell on hard times last year and finished 5-6.

"It wasn't one of our better seasons, but it was a rebuilding year," coach John Barrett said. "This year will also be a rebuilding year. We look stronger this season but we are missing a frontrunner like we had last year in Allison (Davis)."

With the graduation of Davis, a two-time, second-team Observerland runner, more pressure will be put on sophomores Pam Buha and Dana Goba.

"They are probably our best two runners," Barrett said. "I had high hopes for them last year because they looked good early in practice. Both have hard working and have positive attitudes toward running."

Barrett is hoping the return of junior Maggie Frump, who missed last season due to a stress fracture,

will help the Falcons regain their winning form.

Senior Joan Muller and junior Sara Lidgey will share co-captain duties, Barrett said. Sophomore Kerri Lowry will also see some time on the course.

Also returning are juniors Alice Crawford, Jessica Rau and Stephanie Bliss. Newcomers include junior Eunika Le, sophomore Natalie Koczars and freshmen Ann Marie Grimaldi, Mary Crawford, Katie Clinard and Lisa Lockhart.

"In the past we have put a lot of stock into our tradition of winning the championships and our consecutive win streak," Barrett said. "But this season we are going to stress doing well in the big meets — the ones that matter."

The big one Barrett refers to is the regional meet. Farmington has failed to qualify for state the past two seasons.

"I think our three top runners — Goba, Buha and Frump — are strong, but how well we do will depend on the development of some of the other runners."

Cross country from page 1B

In his 26 years of coaching, the Falcons have amassed 13 conference titles, including a stretch of five straight between 1984-88.

Young might not have had trouble winning titles in half the years he has coached, but now he is getting used to just being a .500 team.

"Times have changed and the tables have turned," Young said. The Falcons finished 4-3 in the Lakes Division and sixth overall in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

But even with the troubles since 1989, Farmington has produced some of the area's top runners, including two-time conference champion Ben Goba, who is now running at the University of Tennessee.

"This season, it might be senior Dave Clinard, possibly the WLAA's top runner. He finished fifth in the league meet last season and finished in the top five of most invitational meets."

"I believe he has gotten strong-

er," Young said. "He is coming off a strong track season, and I think he is looking forward to a strong cross country season."

Sophomore Tom May, a surprise as a freshman, returns as the only other experienced runner for the Falcons but is temporarily slowed by a bad ankle.

Senior John Lane, juniors Chris Frump and Jason Paruchowski and sophomore Mike Langdon are battling for the remaining positions. Farmington's lone freshman, Mike Lane, might also contribute. The Falcons have a total of 12 runners.

"I don't predict a strong season for us," Young said. "I would be happy to duplicate last year's finish. We will start off slow but I think we will do better by the middle to late season."

NORTH FARMINGTON

Coach Paul Welch believes the

holders, with six returning runners around which to build his team, can compete for the WLAA Lakes Division title.

"I have high expectations for this team," he said. "They're showing me a lot early in the year. If my guys keep improving, they can challenge for the top spot in the division."

"If we can get five kids under 18 minutes, I think we're capable of running with anybody in the league. It's within the ability of my kids."

North, which finished 11th in the WLAA last year, again is led by Paul Simpson, the only senior on the team, and junior Jeff Howell — the top two runners a year ago.

Junior Ryan Deuel also ran in some varsity meets. Junior Tim Binden and sophomores Tam Stamboulion and Abdel Ahmed were the sixth and seventh runners on last year's team.

"We'll have to rely on guys who have no experience running on the


varsity," Welch said. "But it looks like they've done their homework this summer, and we should have a fairly strong team."

Freshman Brian Rajdl has "a lot of talent" and was one of the top five runners in a season-opening forfeit win over Southfield-Lathrup last week, 15-50. Stamboulion was first (18:14) followed by Howell (18:19), Rajdl (18:27), Simpson (18:35) and Deuel (18:43).

"The best part of having a team like we do is they're so close time-wise," Welch said. "They're going to feed off each other and that's going to help us out there."

Howell and Simpson had season-best times of 17:33 and 17:48 last year, respectively. Stamboulion was hurt most of last season but worked hard during the off-season as did Deuel, according to Welch.

The team also includes five additional freshmen: Jordan Soffin, Jeremy Crane, Andrew Tomasini, Phil Zald and Scott Semper.



Country Lanes of Farmington

IT'S NOT TOO LATE

Country Lanes has room for you

9:15 Tues. Mixed Trio - \$60.00 1st place
Has 20 teams now but wants more

9:15 Wed., Jr. House
8:30 Thursday, Countryman
8 on a team 800-925 team avg.

6:30 Friday, Senior House
825-950 team avg.

9:45 Friday, Vegas League Trip
Scheduled for June. Get 34 weeks of bowling and a trip to Vegas for \$17.00 a week.

5:00-9:00 Sat. & Sun., Mixed League
Still need teams

30250 W. Nine Mile Rd., Farmington Hills
(1/2 Mile West of Middlebelt Road) **476-3201**

PRE-SEASON FURNACE SALE

...BONUS...
Night Set Back Thermostat with all orders

REBATES UP TO \$600

Financing Available

TRU-TEMP
Heating & Cooling Inc.
Garden City 427-5512 Canton Twp. 981-5600

Carrier
"It's the way we do it"

BERGSTROM'S

plumbing heating-cooling

30633 Schoolcraft
(Between Merriman & Middlebelt)
LIVONIA

522-1350

HOURS: MON-FRI 9-6
SAT 9-4

We're listed in Ameritech Pages Plus® Yellow Pages

SEPTEMBER SAVINGS

SUPER COUPON

INSTALLATION SPECIAL

POWER HUMIDIFIER

Save \$80.00

\$199.00

Regular \$279.00

Coupon cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 9-8-92

SUPER COUPON

INSTALLATION SPECIAL

ELECTRONIC AIR CLEANER

Save \$200.00

\$476.00

Regular \$676.00

Coupon cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 9-8-92

SUPER COUPON

INSTALLATION SPECIAL

DELTA'S KITCHEN FAUCET

Save \$55.00

\$119.95

Regular \$174.95

Coupon cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 9-8-92

SUPER COUPON

INSTALLATION SPECIAL

MORSE LAVATORY FAUCET

Save \$50.00

\$148.95

Regular \$198.95

Coupon cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 9-8-92

SUPER COUPON

INSTALLATION SPECIAL

40 GALLON WATER HEATER

Save \$30.95

\$319.00

Regular \$349.95

SALE DAY INSTALLATION CALL FOR DETAILS

Coupon cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 9-8-92

SUPER COUPON

INSTALLATION SPECIAL

American Standard PLEBE WHITE TOILET

Save \$75.00

\$174.95

Regular \$249.95

Coupon cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 9-8-92

SUPER SAVINGS

GARAGE DOORS

EMBOSSED PANEL
Roll-Up 16 x 7

\$349.95

ROOFING SHINGLES

GAF 240 # Fiberglass

\$18.95 sq

GAF 240 # Fiberglass

\$22.95 sq

GEORGIA PACIFIC Asphalt

\$22.95 sq

CASH & CARRY

GUTTER

1ST QUALITY HEAVY GAUGE

69¢ ft

18 COLORS AVAILABLE

REPLACEMENT WINDOWS

(VINYL)

REPLACEMENT DOORS

(STEEL)

INSTALLATION AVAILABLE

TRAPP STORM DOORS & WINDOWS

SPECIAL

HILITE WHITE

\$118.35

2 BLACK WHITE

\$127.20

3 TRACK WHITE

\$55.84

VINYL SIDING

1ST QUALITY

\$38.95 sq

50 YR FACTORY GUARANTEED BY WOLVERINE

MERRILL CABINETS

LET US DESIGN YOUR KITCHEN OR BATH

444 FOAM INSULATION

1" x 10' **\$3.28**

1" x 12' **\$1.75**

DOOR AWNING

SPECIAL

\$79.95 white

42" x 36" **\$118**

CUSTOM SHUTTERS

ALUMINUM IN 18 COLORS

VIKING BUILDING MATERIALS

30175 FORD RD., GARDEN CITY • 421-5743
(Between Middlebelt and Merriman)

Cash & Carry
Quantities Limited

HOURS: DAILY 9-5 SAT. 9-12 CLOSED SUNDAY

BEL-AIRE LANES

24001 Orchard Lake Road • Farmington • 476-1550

Fall Leagues Begin Immediately After Labor Day

FAMILY TWOSOME

Any Adult • Youth Combo

Sat. 4:00 P.M.

HOTSHOTS • YOUTH

AGES 9-14

Thurs. 4:00 P.M.

Drink & Snack

AGES 8-14

Drink & Snack

YOUTH LEAGUES

Begin Saturday September 12, 1992

BUMPER BOWLING

AGES 3-7 • Friday League - Begins Sept. 11, 4:00 P.M.

Drink, Snack and Shirt

Open Bumper Bowling Daily - Call for Reservation

WOMEN'S DAYTIME

Tues. 12:30 pm
Wed. 12:30 pm
Thurs. 12:30 pm

MIXED

Sun. 3:30 pm
Sun. (All) 3:30 pm
Mon. 5:30 pm
Wed. 5:30 pm
Thurs. 5:30 pm

WOMEN'S EVENINGS

Wed. 9:15 pm
Thurs. 7:45 pm
Thurs. 9:15 pm

MEN'S

Mon. 7:25 pm
Tues. 7:25 pm
Wed. 8:45 pm
Thurs. 8:30 pm
Fri. 8:30 pm

RETIREES

MIXED - SHORT SEASON

Fri. 10:00 am

— BOWLING SPECIAL THRU LABOR DAY —

New At Bel-Aire Lanes

M.J.'s PLACE

The Only Place To Bel

KARAOKE... WED • FRI • SAT • 9 P.M. TILL ?

Very Friday Night For The Southwest Michigan Karaoke Contest

Be EnergyWise



CHANGE GEARS FOR THE WEEKEND.

Bicycle Around Michigan Treks!

Leelanau Lakeshore Loop
September 12-14 1992

Call
1-800-678-LUNG
or
(517) 484-4541

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION
"The Christmas Seal Project"

BIKE TREK

SALEM LUMBER

KITCHEN & BATH SHOPPE

30650 Plymouth Rd. • Livonia
422-1000

FOR A TRULY BEAUTIFUL KITCHEN...

Bertch Cabinet Mfg. Inc.

Visit our 3800 sq. ft. Showroom of Kitchen and Bath Displays

Authorized **CORIAN** Dealer

Shown in Natural Hickory

50% OFF Mfg. List Price

store and shed hours
monday thru saturday 8 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.
sunday 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

prices effective thru sept. 16, 1992