

# Marian went far with teamwork

By MARTY BUDNER  
STAFF WRITER

There was one constant this year that resulted in Birmingham Marian's volleyball team playing for the Class A state championship Saturday afternoon at Kalamazoo Central High School.

Teamwork.

"We were first or second in every tournament we played this year and we had a wonderful season," said Marian coach Tracey Jones. "I think the main reason for that success is that we had six players totally focused at all times."

"Every team has their stars, and so did we. But we had other players to go around them. That was the key for us."

"It was a total team effort all year. This team worked very hard and very well together," she said.

"Quite honestly, three months ago you wouldn't have seen six kids working together like they did today. Now it's a great way they came together."

The Mustangs displayed that hard-working, cohesive style in

## VOLLEYBALL

losing the state-championship match to Portage Northern. Marian fell in straight games, 15-8, 15-9, but the Mustangs made the top-ranked Huskies work for most every point in a state final that lasted nearly an hour.

It marked the second time that Marian lost to Portage Northern for the Class A state championship. The same teams met in 1987 when the Huskies — six-time state title winners — also won in straight games.

"I thought it was a great match," said Jones, whose team defeated Grosses Pointe South in Friday's quarterfinal match and Fraser in Saturday's semifinal match to qualify for the state final.

Marian fell behind early in the first game and never recovered. The Mustangs trailed 7-1 and never got closer than four points the rest of the way.

The second game was a different story.

Sophomore Julie Storen served two straight points and the lead set-awed for nearly the entire game. Neither team could get on a roll.

The Mustangs went up 6-5 on a Stephanie Storen serve, but that marked their last lead of the season. The teams then tied at 7, before Portage Northern hit three straight points behind the serving of Jenny Maurer for a 10-7 lead. On each of those serves, Marian players made decisions not to play balls that barely landed in bounds.

Jones said fatigue might have been a factor in those decisions that proved to be a crucial part of the match.

"We might have been tired. They weren't expecting the ball to come to them and they were standing up at times," said Jones. "They were just watching instead of playing the ball, and they know that."

Marian rallied to come within two points at 9-11, but Northern scored the next four points to win. The final point — a slam kill by Maurer — was served and set up

by pesky little Heather Magelssen.

The Mustangs had no defense against the swarming, relentless Huskies' attack. Northern out-killed Marian, 34-27, and also posted four more service aces (8-4).

"I think we played at a level that the kids worked for so hard all year," she said. "It's very tough to defend against them. They have such explosive arm speed and they put the ball wherever they want to put it, basically."

"But I thought we did a good job," she said. "We were scrappy and we didn't let the ball hit without a body next to it. We didn't serve well, but the level of play in other areas exceeded what we did serving wise."

Stephanie Storen, who paced the Mustangs all weekend, had a team-high 12 kills and a team-high 10 digs, while Diegel finished with nine kills and seven assists. Amanda Baranski added nine assists.

Kerry Ginter and Jennifer Magelssen combined for 17 of Northern's 34 kills.

"We just wanted to have fun. That's what we worked all year for," she said.

And that hard work resulted in a well-earned state runners-up trophy.

**OTHER RESULTS:** Battle Creek St. Philip won the Class D state title with a 15-8, 15-6 victory over Dryden; Burton-Atherton won in Class C over Holton, 15-4, 15-14; and Comstock captured the Class B crown in the only final that went three games over Marysville, 6-15, 15-1, 15-5.

## SPORTS SHORTS

Items for the Sports Roundup should be submitted by 5 p.m. Tuesday (for Thursday edition) and 5 p.m. Friday (for Monday edition).

### ROLLER WINNERS

In their first in-line roller races March 21 at the Pontiac Silverdome, Farmington Hills brother and sister finished first in their age divisions.

Josh Sklar, a sixth grader at Warner Middle School, led the boys 12-and-under division around the Silverdome course for 6.2 miles (10 kilometers) to win the MGM City Rollers Roll at the Dome Race Series season finale. His time was 23 minutes, 50 seconds.

Elyse Sklar, a third grader at Eagle Elementary School, led the girls 12-and-under division. She also skated a 10K and finished in 31:15.

### ST. PATRICK'S RUN

Alan Van Meter and Mike Lesley of Farmington finished third and fourth in the men's division of the 11th Annual St. Patrick's Parade Four-Mile Run March 14 in Detroit.

Van Meter ran 21:42 and Lesley 21:52. David Peterson of Farmington was eighth (22:27) and John Benoit of Farmington Hills 16th (22:55).

Rochester's Mark Neal and Laura Murphy were the male and female winners with respective times of 20:06 and 23:45.

### COLLEGE SWIMMING

Sophomore Jill Murany of Farmington Hills is a member of the Alma College women's swim team that made the all-

academic honor roll as chosen by the College Swimming Coaches Association of America.

To qualify for the honor, an entire team must finish the first semester with a 2.8 grade-point average. The Alma women had a 3.04 average and ranked 26th on a list of 36 NCAA Division III schools recognized for the honor.

### SOFTBALL SIGN-UP

Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation is accepting new team registrations for its adult softball leagues on a first-come, first-served basis. Leagues play one night per week, Sunday through Friday.

The fees are \$395 for men's and women's industrial (residential) leagues, \$435 for men's and women's open, \$340 for coed. The fees must be paid at the time of registration.

The men's and women's leagues start the last week in April and will play a 14-game schedule with double-elimination playoffs for the top four teams.

The coed leagues begin play in late May and will have a 10-game schedule with single-elimination playoffs for the top four teams.

Team managers can register at the Special Services Department, 31555 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. For information, call 473-9570.

### CRACKERBOX SPORTS

Crackerbox Sports in Farmington Hills is organizing men's, women's and coed softball and volleyball leagues. For information, call Michael Callahan at 474-6175.

## Soccer from page 1B

Dziedoz is joined by five other key returnees. Senior Beth Zlobro will lead the defense. She recorded four goals and three assists last season — good numbers for a player at her position.

Junior Flannery Campbell (four/10) will be at left midfield, and junior Anita Wilhelm (two/five) will play forward.

Sophomores Margaret With (forward), who had 10 goals and 11 assists in her rookie season, and Heather Richards (midfielder), who recorded six goals and six assists, give Shivanan cause for optimism.

"They were both surprises last season," he said. "I had no idea what Margaret was capable of doing. She is very talented and will assume the leadership role after Carrie leaves."

Both of Mercy's goalkeepers return. Amy Watroba (1.09 goals-against average) recorded six shutouts and played 1,173 minutes in the net. Her backup is sophomore Beth Chmielewski. She had six shutouts last season to go along with a 1.00 goals-against average.

Sophomore Sienna DeAgostino (defense), junior Theresa Cisco (fullback) and freshman Anne Foerg (midfielder) will see time on the field this season.

"The key to our success will be our style of play," Shivanan said. "We don't rely on one or two players to score. Everybody had at least one assist last season. Sticking together as a team is a strong point."

The Marlinas open their season at Woodhaven on Monday.

### Farmington Harrison

Unlike Mercy, a team used to winning, Harrison has found itself at the other extreme.

Since 1980, the first year girls soccer began at Harrison, the Hawks have never enjoyed a winning season, and that trend is apt to continue in 1993.

A total of 12 players — eight starters — graduated off last season's 1-10-1 squad. The team scored only six goals for the entire season.

"Our last graduating class was actually one of our better classes even though the record didn't show it," Harrison coach Glenn Breuhan said.

Key losses included all-division sweepers Molly Horton and stopper Kelly Chmielewski. Also gone are both of the goalkeepers, Jennifer Bahns and Leali Jensen.

Harrison's two leading scorers do return. Junior Carrie Earle (two goals and two assists) will

start at center/midfield and sophomore Amy Spurlock (three goals) at forward.

Other returning starters are senior sweeper Cassie O'Sullivan and senior midfielder Janelle Kohler (one/one).

Four sophomores will battle for the remaining starting positions. Stopper Kristen Wolters, defender Marla Pinsky, defender Laura Westberg and forward Jenni Japenga will all play this season.

Sophomore Monica Sklar, last year's junior varsity goalkeeper, will start in the net. Senior Michelle Japenga will back Sklar up.

Breuhan, in his seventh year at Harrison, said even though this year may be another struggle, he remains optimistic about the future.

"We're loaded with 10th-graders and that makes it better to look down the road," Breuhan said. "Right now, we're having trouble getting quality practice time because of the weather. When you have a young, inexperienced team, it's important to get in good practices. Obviously, I see us improving as the season goes along."

"We hope to win a few games this season, especially against some of the teams we've been competitive against like Farmington, North Farmington and the Walpole Lake schools. If we play outside the Western Lakes Activities Association, we'd be 500 or better."

The Hawks open their season Monday, April 6, at North Farmington.

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