

Marlins nearly upset state-ranked Vikings

BASKETBALL

time; however, the Vikings outscored the Marlins in the third quarter 20-7 to take the lead.

"We started them early," Baker said, "but we had to live through an 18-point swing in the third quarter. It was 4 1/2 minutes before we scored.

"That killed us and put us in a hole," Freshman guard Jessie Brennan made her high school debut with a 19-point performance for Mercy. She scored nine in the second period and eight of 16 in the finale.

Junior forward Mary Jane Valade added 11 points and Becky Cummings scored 17 for Central. Haley Brenthier and Christina Harmon 12 apiece.

X-COUNTRY

"They're going to have a good season, because they're going to be pushing each other in practice," Pinnell said. "Our goal is to have our top five people within a minute of each other, and Ave is looking pretty good right now.

"We have the luxury of four or five girls who could be No. 1 on any given day. Burcher should be running with that top group and eventually be up there."

"I think we're stronger because our girls are a year older and stronger," Pinnell said. "They put in a lot of miles and are hungrier.

"We're looking to improve our finish in the conference and invitations. We'll have some tough battles, but I think we'll be up to the challenge."

"I'm sure a lot of people are young and in the same situation as us," Harrison coach Mark Babcock said. "We're just trying to gain some variety experience with each race right now.

"Only two of our top six (Schwartz and Gordon) had any race experience coming into the season."

Babcock has the largest group of runners (20) with which to work in his five years as coach.

"You can't replace a kid like Allison Nowe," Babcock said. "You just have to pick it up a step and go on; so far the kids have done a good job."

Senior Lisa Sokol was second or third during most of the season, but she turned an ankle Thursday and was unable to finish.

Junior Jackie Watta, a distance runner in track, begins her first season of cross country, and Babcock said junior Patii Dixon will contribute once she catches up after getting a late start because of vacation.

"We talked as a team (Thursday) and agreed we want to have a few more runners to run before we decide where we're going to end up in October," Babcock said.

"Hopefully, we'll be competitive in the Western Lakes and do well in our division. It just depends how far we come with our young kids."

Farmington runners aim to have another big year

By DAN O'MEARA STAFF WRITER

Inspired by its success a year ago, the Farmington girls cross country team sees prospects for another fine season in 1995.

"The Falcons return nearly the entire team that won the West Bloomfield Invitational, finished second in the Western Lakes Activities Association and placed 14th in the state.

"That put the fuel in the fire," Farmington coach Lisa Zynda said. "They knew if they wanted to be in the top five (Class A) they had to work hard."

"Nine of the 13 have been running on their own since the end of track season until we started preseason practices," Zynda added each of those girls has averaged 35-40 miles per week during the summer, and the effort has been evident in the early times.

Anne Grimaldi, the lone senior on the team, and juniors Almes Cameron and Theresa Derwinski are team captains and are providing good leadership, according to Zynda.

"The captains are the ones who took the bull by the horns and said 'We need to put in some mileage,'" she said.

The Falcons also return juniors Laura Luckacheller and Susan Schmidt and sophomores Ellen Adams, Kate Adams and Natalie DeLoe.

Freshmen Becky Lidgry, Claire Lockhart and Megan Sanford could make a strong team even better.

Senior Eva Hildebrand, a German exchange student, and sophomore Kelly Barnie are first-time runners.

Farmington defeated Novi and Northville in a scrimmage meet Wednesday, and Zynda was pleased not only with the times but seeing the team packed together.

Grimaldi ran 21:10 at Casa Benton, Kate Adams 21:34, Dawson 21:38, Cameron 21:47, Derwinski 21:54 and Ellen Adams 22:15.

Grimaldi and Kate Adams were first-time All-Oberver runners last year, and Dawson was a second-time pick, Adams was third in the W.L.A.A. 11th in Oakland County and seventh in the regional; Grimaldi finished seventh in the league meet and 23rd in the other two.

"When we went to camp, we focused on our weaknesses and worked on our strengths," Zynda said. "Anne has done that, and I look for a big season from her."

"The Falcons will be pointing toward a return trip to the state meet, but they must finish among the top three teams in a strong Ann Arbor region.

"Our regional is like a mini-state meet," Zynda said, adding six teams that placed in the top 14 in the state will compete at that regional.

"We have goals, but this is just the beginning of the season. We wanted to see how we looked at the scrimmage first. We have that and know what we need to work on; we're going to take it one race at a time."

Farmington Mercy

The Marlins hope to win a fifth consecutive Catholic League title, but they will have to do it without Ellen O'Connell this year.

She was a perennial All-Oberver selection, finished second in the Class A

SPORTS SHORTS

Dearborn on Tuesday, allowed no goals in the first half. Matt Keasler played in net in the second half.

BOWLERS WANTED

The Afternoon Delights Bowling League is looking for new bowlers.

Women of all ages are welcome to participate in the league, which meets at 7 p.m. Monday at Drakeshire Lanes. The league starts Sept. 11.

For information, call Laura at (810) 478-2230 or Bonnie at (810) 681-3271.

BASEBALL TRYOUTS

The Michigan Indians will have tryouts for the 1996 baseball season Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 9-10, at Massey Field in Plymouth, Plymouth and Hagger-

ty roads.

The tryout schedule: noon for Willie Mays (ages 9-10), coach Dave Sankelman, (313) 651-7264; 2:30 p.m. Pee Wee Reese (11-12); coach Mike Rood, (313) 625-2200; 5 p.m. Sandy Koufax (13-14), coach Nick Marrone, (313) 469-0636; 7:30 p.m. Mickey Mantle (15-16), coach Mark Minch, (313) 421-2388.

The Indians are a travel team and member of the Little Caesars Amateur Baseball Federation.

SWIMMING NEWS

The Clarendonville Swim Club will have open swim tryouts for new members 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, at Clarendonville High.

A general membership meeting is also scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6, at the Clarendonville High cafeteria. For information, call Mary Ellen Mable at (810) 478-6553.

That's a good sign, to see our girls looking for each other and willing to pass it. Being able to possess the ball also enabled the Falcons to get so many free throw opportunities, he added.

"We took care of the ball better, but I think we still need to improve," Verdura said. "We shot better from outside and finished our layups."

Kelly McDaniel scored 19 points and Harrison Martin 10 for Clawson (9-2).

HARRISON 88, NEW BOSTON 33: The Hawks used a big second quarter Thursday to put a safe distance between themselves and New Boston Huron.

Harrison outscored the Chiefs 19-5 in that period and led 30-15 at halftime of the South Lyon tournament consolation game.

Monique Anderson scored 14 points, Lisa Robble 12 and Cyris Greene 10 for Adams (1-1). Greene also pulled down nine rebounds.

"We played with a lot of energy," Harrison coach Pete Mantyla said. "It was nice to get a win and feel, as a team, we did some things better."

"Monique does a great job of running the offense, and she creates a lot of open shots for us," he said.

The Hawks made five three-point field goals. Stacy Walczak scored 13 points for New Boston (0-2).

SALEM 51, ADAMS 48: The Rocks notched their first win Thursday by knocking off visiting Rochester Adams 61-45.

Plymouth Salem (1-1) broke a 28-28 halftime tie by outscoring the Highlanders 12-5 in the third quarter.

Senior center Shelly Sills led all scorers with 17 points and nine rebounds. Freshman Andrea Prusti added 16 points and 11 boards for the Rocks.

Adams (1-1) played without Mari McClure, its top player, who sat out with an injury.

Shannon McCoy, a transfer from North Farmington, paced the Highlanders with 13 points. Tamara Strong added 11.

"We did a good job on the boards," Salem coach Fred Thomann said. "We also handled their press and their multiple defenses pretty well. The kids did a nice job attacking their defense."

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Fred Thomann Salem coach

CANTON 45, MARIAN 44: The Chiefs outscored host Birmingham Marian 15-5 in the fourth quarter Thursday.

Trailing 23-20 at the end of the third quarter, the Chiefs rallied, aided by a strong performance at the free throw line.

Canton outscored the Mustangs 23-13 at the foul line. Kristi Florent led Canton with 16 points, and Sabrina Kaszal added 10.

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