

FARMINGTON —
FARMINGTON HILLS
SPORTS
SCENE

Taormina 2nd overall

Livonian Sheila Taormina, fighting hot and muggy conditions, was runner-up in Saturday's St. Anthony's International Triathlon Union World Cup race held in St. Petersburg, Fla. in 2000 Sydney Games silver medalist Michelle Jones of Australia placed first, covering the Olympic distance event — 1,500-meter swim, 24.8-mile bike and 6.2 mile run — in 2 hours, 1 minute, 57 seconds.

Jones, who ran 37:17 in the 10K, pocketed the first-place prize of \$7,600.

Taormina, the Stevenson High graduate and former University of Georgia All-America swimmer, finished in 2:02:40, including an 18:46 in the swim (second), 1:04:55 on the bike (second), and 37:59 in the 10K run (fifth). She won \$4,500.

American Barb Lindquist was third in 2:02:59, while Carla Moreno of Brazil was fourth in 2:03:47. U.S. Olympian Joanna Zeiger, who was fourth in the Sydney Olympics, took fifth in 2:04:24. Canadian Carol Montgomery placed sixth in 2:05:00.

Taormina, the 1998 Olympic swim gold medalist (women's 4 x 200 freestyle relay), and 2000 Olympic triathlete (sixth place), was competing in her second race of the pro triathlon season.

She took home \$1,200 earlier this month in a race held in Guatemala.

Later this month, Taormina plans to compete in an ITU World Cup points race in Japan. She will also return to Japan for another race in June.

Boxing returns to Livonia

Former Livonia Boxing Club director Paul Soucy has joined forces with Ray Darden, Karate International Council of Kickboxing U.S. Light-Heavyweight Kickboxing champion, to bring boxing and kickboxing back to the area.

Free classes will be offered for youngsters (ages 8-17) each Saturday during the month of June.

Registration is at Darden's Kickboxing Studio, located at 36123 Plymouth Road, just east of Levan, in the L.A. Plaza (next to the Secretary of State office).

Classes will be held from noon to 1 p.m. (ages 8-12) and 1-2 p.m. (ages 13-17). Only 20 openings per age group are available.

Darden's Kickboxing Studio will also host its first Fight Night at 6 p.m. Saturday, May 11. Doors open at 5:15 p.m.

The Fight Night, featuring boxing and kickboxing exhibition matches for all ages, will be held the second Saturday of each month.

Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. For more information, call (734) 513-7344.

Lady Raiders win pair

Oakland Community College swept a softball doubleheader Saturday from visiting Muskegon CC, 12-1 in five innings and 2-1.

In the first game, the Lady Raiders had 12 hits, including two apiece by Toni Salo, Theresa Flowers, Kasey DeSutter and Kathy Robinson. Flowers also had three RBI, Salo and Becca Robertson two each.

Kristi Marzalec was the winning pitcher, scattering four hits.

In the second game, OCC overcame a 1-0 deficit with two runs in the bottom of the fourth.

Salo was 3-for-3 with an RBI, and DeSutter knocked in the other run. Kelly Nilson pitched a three-hit victory.

The Lady Raiders are 28-9 overall, Muskegon 27-13.

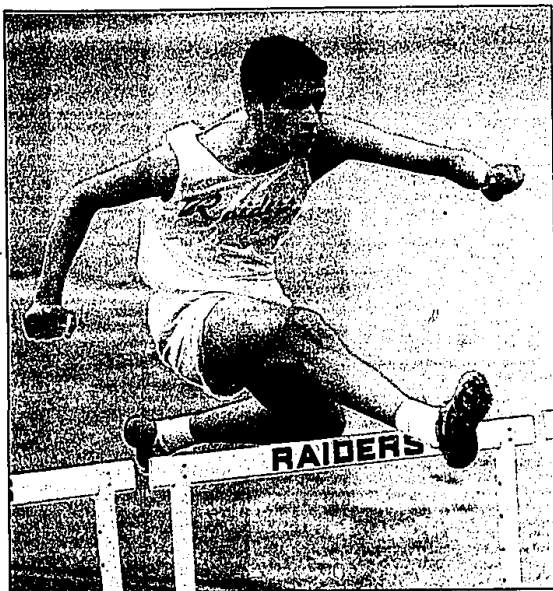
MU's Tenyer saluted

Madonna University softball pitcher Jenny Tenyer was named the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference's pitcher of the week for her performances last week.

A junior from Marine City, Tenyer was 3-0 last week with a one-hit shutout followed by a two-hitter. In three games, she allowed one unearned run on eight hits and no walks, with 10 strikeouts in 18 innings.

Tenyer's play helped guarantee the Lady Crusaders a spot in the WHAC playoffs.

Through Saturday, they were 15-12 in conference play.



City champ: Mike Leach of North Farmington led the Raiders to the boys title, winning both hurdle races and having four first places.



Hurdler: Latoya Burrell of Farmington Harrison wins the girls 300-meter hurdles. She had four first places for the Hawks.

STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL DRESLER

North boys, Harrison girls win titles

BY DAN O'MEARA

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North Farmington might have been a surprise winner to some in the annual boys track-and-field city meet but not to Raiders coach Jeff Simpson.

The Raiders were runaway winners, scoring a meet-record 113 points, to capture their title since 1996. The old record was 102, also by the Raiders in 1992.

Farmington-Harrison, the defending Division II state champion, might have

PREP TRACK

seemed the obvious favorite, but the Hawks chose to send a half dozen of their athletes to the West Bloomfield Invitational and were last.

Simpson said he thinks North still would have won the meet if Harrison had its full complement of runners, though the score would have been much closer.

"Our kids point to the city meet as a

big event and treat it as such," Simpson said. "They came prepared to show that North Farmington track and field belongs at the top."

"Sometimes we get overlooked. We don't have the superstars, but we put it together. (The Raiders) work hard to get where they're at."

The Harrison girls won the public-school city championship for the third straight year and fifth time in the last six. The Hawks had a 39-point advantage over Farmington, 94-55.

"The team was pretty unhappy after

the loss Thursday to Northville," Harrison coach Mark Babcock said, "not as much because we lost as we didn't run well. The kids were concerned and it woke everybody up."

"Give the kids credit; they challenged themselves to be much better. They were much more ready to go Saturday."

The North boys won 14 of the 17 events, including three relays. Mike Leach won three events and was on a winning relay team, and Dan Perach

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100 dash highlights Observerland Relays

BY BRAD MONASTIERE

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Since the turn of the millennium, there's only been one champion of the Observerland Boys Track & Field meet. Several teams will be in the running to try and end that trend this weekend.

The 32nd annual Observerland Relays will take place Saturday starting at 3:30 p.m. at Livonia Churchill High School.

Like last year, 20 teams will take the track to contest two-time defending champion Plymouth Canton.

One of the most anticipated races at the meet will also be the shortest.

This year's field in the 100-meter dash is as good as ever, with runners like Redford Bishop Borgess' Darryl Anglin, Livonia Clarenceville's Tim Shaw, Farmington Hills Harrison's Marcus Woods and Wayne Memorial's

Observerland Relays

What: 32nd annual Observerland Boys Track & Field Relays.

When: Saturday, May 4.

Where: Livonia Churchill High School track, 8900 Newburgh Road.

Event order: Starting at 3:30 p.m.: pole vault, discus, shot put, high jump, long jump; 6 p.m. preliminary heats: 100-meter hurdles, 100 dash; 6:30 p.m. finals: 6,400 relay, 110 hurdles, distance medley relay, 800 relay, 1,600 run, 3,200 relay, 100 dash, sprint medley relay, shuttle hurdle relay, 400 relay, 1,600 relay.

Who will be there: Redford Union, Redford Thurston, Redford Catholic Central, Redford Bishop Borgess, Redford St. Agatha, Garden City, Farmington, Farmington Harrison, North Farmington, Plymouth Canton (defending champ), Plymouth Salem, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Stevenson, Livonia Franklin, Livonia Clarenceville, Lutheran Westland, Wayne Memorial, Westland John Glenn, Northville.

Admission: \$4 for adults, \$1 for seniors/elementary students.

T.J. Dillard all capable of running under 11 seconds in the race.

"That race will only last 11 seconds, but you've got some state-quality kids in there," said Redford Catholic Central coach Tony Magni.

Anglin, a Division IV state champ-

ion, won the 100 Saturday at the West Bloomfield Invitational, equaling his mark from last year's state meet with a 10.9.

Shaw, the state's all-time leading rusher and touchdown leader in football, is a Division III state champion.

The Penn State-bound griddler won the Livonia City title easily on Monday.

In the field events, Canton has dominated in recent years, and appears to have the athletes to do it again this year, although coach Bob Richardson has never been too comfortable with the label of "favorites."

He said the meet is a fun one for the kids, because of different events like the shuttle relay and medley relays, and knows his team takes pride in being defending champs.

"It's good to see great competition, and we'll see plenty of that this weekend," Richardson said. "It's the biggest meet in the area, and a real showcase of the talent we have at schools around here."

The Chiefs are used to coming out on top in this event, winning last year's

Please see RELAYS, D4



Going in: Kelly Raymond of the Farmington Unified golf team sinks a putt in a match Monday at Glen Oaks Golf Course.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL DRESLER

Farmington golfers
break record in loss

BY DAN O'MEARA

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The girls on the Farmington Unified golf team were probably wondering what more they had to do to win a match Monday.

They shot a team-record 172 at Glen Oaks Golf Course but still lost the match. Furthermore, they only lost by a stroke — for the second time in three days to Livonia Stevenson.

Farmington, which is 4-1 in dual meets, was the runner-up to Stevenson at the South Lyon Invitational Friday, too. Stevenson's Kristen Polanski was the medalist Monday with a 34.

Andrea Mazanka had a lifetime-best score of 41 to lead Farmington. Kelly Raymond shot 42 and Brittany Nuccitelli 44; Chrissy Dwyer and Missy Traczky had 45 each.

"Brittany's scores have been dropping; she's very focused and determined," Farmington coach Ann Marie Sopha said. "Missy has been working at her game and moved up into a varsity spot for the first time. Kelly is our real steady player who is real solid. Andrea is just so consistent, a real straight shooter. She's good at avoiding trouble in her game."

Marlins 8-0 in league

Using two different teams, Farmington Hills

GIRLS GOLF

Mersey won a pair of Catholic League matches Tuesday to boost its league record to 8-0.

The Marlins defeated Harper Woods Regins at Gowanie Golf Club in Mount Clemens, 183-201. Jackie Shinney shot 41, Christina Cibrario 45, Monica Pilzner 48 and Sara Larson 49.

At Glen Oaks Golf Course in the other match, Mersey defeated Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard, 194-254. Pam Rozas was the medalist with a 46; Lisa Rodriguez had 48, Caitlin Kelly 49 and Angela Leon 51.

The Marlins won their sixth in a row Monday at Glen Oaks, topping Livonia Ladywood, 177-184. Cibrario had 40, Pilzner 42, Shinney 45 and Kim Warzyniec 50.

"Today we were out there thinking, 'Are we ever going to see spring?'" Mersey coach Vicky Kowalski said. "It was drizzling a lot of the time, and it was cold again. It seemed like a battle of the fittest instead of playing golf."

"The touch shots around the green, the chipping and putting are not real easy when it's cold. The girls did a real good job keeping their heads together."

Please see GOLF, D6

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