

Hawks repeat as state champs

BY DAN O'MEARA
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BOYS TRACK AND FIELD

Just as he did a year ago, Farmington Harrison coach John Reed went to his athletes and told them they would be state champions if they won the last event.

Once again, the Hawks did exactly that. They won the 1,600-meter relay and their second straight Division II title in boys track and field Saturday in Grand Rapids.

Harrison's team of Agim Shabaji, Ferman Tate, Marcus Woods and Terrill Mayberry broke the state record in that event with a 3:21.1 time, bettering the mark set two years ago by Romulus, 3:22.3.

"It was surreal; I couldn't believe we were in the same exact situation," Reed said. "I had to go down to the kids again and tell them, 'There's no way you're going to believe me, but we can do this again. But we have to win the mile relay. It's the same scenario; if you want it, it's there for the taking.'"

Their victory in the 1,600 relay vaulted the Hawks from fourth place with 29 points to first. Harrison

finished with 39, Three Rivers 36.5 and East Lansing 36.

The Hawks had an unexpected pep talk from the Three Rivers coach, who told the Harrison runners the same as Reed had explained to them.

"That motivated my kids," Reed said. "They heard they had a chance to win the state championship, and the motivation level got very high very quickly."

"The kids basically went all out. The gun went off; Ferman Tate took off and the kids never looked back. They had the lead the entire race."

"Every kid ran to the point of total exhaustion. The kids were lying on the ground for half an hour after that."

"When they knew they had a chance to be state champs, they said, 'Hey, coach, we're going to get this done' and basically went nuts."

Shabaji also won the state championship in the 200 dash with a record-setting effort. He ran 21.95,

breaking the record set last year by Haslett's Nelson DeFord, who ran 22.29.

The Hawks were hoping for more points in that event, but Mayberry wasn't able to rebound in time from a runner-up finish in the 400.

Mayberry placed second in the quarter for the second year in a row, finishing a fraction of a second behind Benton Harbor's Daryl Jackson, who ran 49.31; Mayberry's time was 49.42.

Mayberry, who set an Oakland County record in the 200 the previous week, had the best time (21.3) going into the state meet and Shabaji the next best.

"We were looking forward to a big race in the 200, because they were rated one-two in the state," Reed said, "but Terrill's legs were wasted after the 400 and he just couldn't recover in time to run a good 200."

"It was a very hot day. A lot of kids had difficulty recovering from race to race. Because of the heat, it took him longer to recover, because all season the weather has been really cool."

"We were looking for one-two there but it didn't

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FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS SPORTS SCENE

Raiders are 8th in state

Led by the play of juniors Dan Carlson and Dan Levy, North Farmington finished eighth in the Division II state tennis tournament Saturday in Holland.

Carlson had the best performance of all the Raiders, taking runner-up honors at No. 3 singles.

"He had a tremendous tournament," North coach Mark Shenton said. "He played with a lot of poise and confidence."

"He played an amazing match in the semifinals against the No. 2 seed in which he pretty much controlled the entire play."

Carlson defeated No. 5 Steve Hayden of Birmingham Groves in the second round, 2-6, 6-4, 6-0; Trevor Domilov of Portage Central in the quarterfinals, 6-4, 6-2; and Trevor Beach of Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern in the semis, 6-2, 7-6.

Michael Depietro of team champion Bloomfield Hills Lahser stopped Carlson in the final, 6-1, 6-4.

"Dan has worked hard all year and definitely peaked for the tournament," Shenton said. "He has the promise of a very good senior year."

"He went three sets against Groves, but he showed a lot of patience and that's part of being an upper classmen — the ability to fight through a tough match."

Levy, who ended the season with a 25-2 record as did Carlson, was a semifinalist at No. 4 singles, losing to No. 2-seeded Peter Wagner of Lahser, 6-1, 2-6, 7-5.

In his first match, No. 5-seeded Levy defeated Dearborn's Jon Diesel, 6-3, 6-2; and Brian O'Reilly of Groves in the quarterfinals, 6-1, 6-4.

"Dan also had a very strong showing," Shenton said. "He played very tough through his first two matches and really left no doubt as to where he was going."

"(Levy) played with a lot of determination. The Lahser player was the eventual champion, and Dan lost to him in three tough sets. (Levy) had a few chances there at the end, but he definitely didn't stop trying."

North's No. 4 doubles team of senior Scott Bernstein and junior Mike Zakalik reached the quarterfinals.

The fifth-seeded Raiders defeated the team from Groves Pointe North, 6-0, 6-1, before losing to Groves, 6-1, 6-7, 6-4.

"They never stopped improving the entire season, and they showed that with their performance at the regional and by winning a big match at state," Shenton said.

"We had a very successful season in terms of what we accomplished, winning the final WLLA title and almost sweeping the entire regional."

Terek Is NCAA runner-up

Michigan State University senior Paul Terek (Livonia Franklin) wound up his collegiate career with a second-place finish in the men's decathlon competition at the NCAA Outdoor Men's Track and Field Championships held last weekend in Baton Rouge, La.

Clauston Bernard of host LSU won the competition with 8,094 points to Terek's 8,041.

Some of Bernard's top performances included: 100-meter dash (10.82), 110 hurdles (14.62), long jump (23.8), shot put (51-3.5) and high jump (7-1.75).

Terek's performances included: 100 (10.83), discus (139-1), 110 hurdles (15.26), 1,500 (4:25.18), long jump (22-8.5), shot put (49-9), javelin (189-1), high jump (6-4.25), 400 (48.99) and pole vault (16-6.75).

He will move on to the USA Nationals in the decathlon later this month in Berkeley, Calif.

Vikes need cheerleaders

The NFVB Vikings football organization still has positions available for cheerleaders (ages 8-13) at the freshman, junior varsity and varsity levels.

The season runs from August to October, plus any playoff games. The participation fee is \$130, plus limited fundraising. For more information call Doreen Frederick at (248) 625-6001.

Summer sports to begin

The Farmington YMCA will begin its summer youth sports programs the week of June 17. Sports include T-ball, soccer for ages 5-7, basketball clinics for ages 8-12 and gymnastics for all ages.

For more information or to request a registration form call the YMCA at (248) 553-4020.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRIDGES

Tournament play: North's Sara Jakab braces for possible contact as she and Katie Bou-Maroun get to the ball at the same time.

Ladywood Blazers get the better of Raiders in final

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GIRLS SOCCER

As a senior playing her last soccer game at Livonia Ladywood, Katie Rozum made certain it was a pleasant and memorable experience Saturday.

She scored the only goal to give the host Blazers a 1-0 victory over North Farmington and a Division II girls district tournament championship.

Rozum and Jennie Bartkowiak are the only seniors on the Ladywood team, which took a 9-4-5 record into a regional contest Tuesday against Birmingham Marian.

"The two seniors have led us throughout the last two years," Blazers coach Jill Logsdon said, "and the team really wanted to pay them back with a win today."

Rozum gave Ladywood the decisive edge with 26:12 remaining in the game with an assist from Sandy Swish.

The play began with a restart near midfield by Susan Christensen, who placed the ball in front of the North goal. The ball took a high bounce and when it came down Rozum knocked it into the net.

"Sue has great vision and is able to start our offense for us," Logsdon said. "She plays sweeper but is also a key part of the offense. She's able to find the open player on the field, and we capitalize off a lot of her set plays."

It was an even game in that neither team dominated, but Ladywood did have a clear advantage with more chances offensively. The Blazers outshot the Raiders, 8-1, and had four corner

kicks to none for the opponent.

"The girls up there work very hard, but we're not very offensive as a team," North coach Tim Russell said. "A couple opportunities were taken away by terrible calls."

"We were hog-tied a number of times in this game. Offensively, if they're going to be allowed to wrestle with us, we're not going to be able to generate much."

"I give (the referee) a lot of credit for slowing down the offense. Usually, I don't make big deals about it, but it was significant today."

Despite playing into the wind, the Blazers applied more pressure in the first half.

Christensen sent the ball to the front of the goal with a restart then, too, however, Ladywood was offside, and the Blazers missed a wide-open net later.

That trend continued in the second half with Ladywood outshooting North by a 5-0 margin.

"In the first half, we thought we were rushing the play and giving some balls away," Logsdon said. "In the second half, we tried to slow the pace down, keep the ball on our feet and create opportunities."

"North Farmington was beating us to a lot of 50-50 balls in the first half, so we tried to stop forcing it forward so much. We tried to keep possession and not create as many 50-50 balls."

Logsdon added sophomore defender Christine Williams did a great job of controlling the back

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Harrison crushes district tourney foes

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PREP BASEBALL

Farmington Harrison's objective from Day One was to do well in the state tournament, and the Hawks certainly had a good start in that direction Saturday.

It was nearly a perfect day as Harrison won the Division II district championship at Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day.

The Hawks didn't give up a run, allowed just two hits and played error-free baseball in defeating Bloomfield Hills Andover, 14-0, and the host Yellow Jackets, 10-0.

Both games lasted just five innings as Harrison

recorded its 14th and 15th mercy-rule victories of the season.

"We're not there yet," Harrison coach John Herington said. "Our goal is to go a lot further than this."

The Hawks (26-6) will play Auburn Hills Avondale in a regional game Saturday at Pontiac Notre Dame Prep. The other game has Dearborn Divine Child playing Harper Woods Notre Dame.

Avondale, the Oakland Activities Association Division III champion, rallied from big deficits in two district games to defeat Orchard Lake St. Mary's and Notre Dame Prep.

"I guess we had better keep scoring runs and make sure we shut them down," Herington said.

Rob Whipple and Drew Stanton pitched a pair of one-hitters for Harrison against Andover and Country Day, respectively. Whipple struck out four and Stanton eight.

"They pitched well but both are capable of pitching

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Marlins settle for 2nd in state tourney

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GIRLS GOLF

If it can be labeled a disappointment, Farmington Hills Mercur didn't repeat as the Division I state champion in girls golf.

On the positive side, the Marlins placed among the top three teams for the fifth consecutive year.

Mercury came within five strokes of winning its third state title since 1999 but had to settle for a runner-up finish Saturday.

Rochester won the championship with a two-day total of 677. The Marlins, who were in third place Friday, had 682, Port Huron Northern 685 and Northville,

which had the individual medalist in Katie MacDonald, 686.

"On Friday we tied our best score of the year (343)," Mercury coach Vicky Kowalski said. "On Saturday we had our best score of the year (339); so who can complain?"

"I guess it's kudos to Rochester, because they played lights-out. Unfortunately, we bent them by two on Saturday, and they bent us by seven on Friday."

Rochester shot 336 and 341; Mercury had the best team score Saturday, which

'The girls were disappointed because they really wanted to win. But who can argue with being in the top three for five years in a row?'

Vicky Kowalski
Mercury golf coach

enabled it to overcome a one-stroke deficit with Northern but wasn't enough to catch Rochester.

"The girls were disappointed, because they really wanted to win," Kowalski said. "But who can argue with being in

the top three for five years in a row?"

The Marlins were third in 1998 and 2000, and they were state champions in 1999 and 2001. Ironically, Mercury won the title last year with 698 strokes and was the only team to score under 700. The Marlins would have finished sixth with the same score this year.

"That's how much better girls golf is getting," Kowalski said. "This year there were six teams under 700. That's why I say, 'Who can argue?' The girls played well."

As it has all season, Mercury used a balanced team approach and didn't have anyone among the top 10 individual

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