



Country Day's Michelle Ferris (left) leads relay (Photographed by Art Emanuel)

Cranes clinch second

To no one's surprise, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook has clinched the runner-up position in the hotly contested Interstate Preparatory League (IPL) varsity tennis race. Coach Don Brown's visiting Cranes reached that plateau Saturday when they downed Nichols School from Buffalo, 4-1.

Cranbrook finished the IPL race with a record this spring of 4-1. Unbeaten Cleveland University School successfully defended its IPL title.

Overall this spring, the Cranes finish a record of 16-1.

On Wednesday, Cranbrook, a class A team, will cap its dual-match campaign when it visits class C power Grosse Pointe University-Liggett. Match time is 4 p.m.

THIS WEEKEND, the Cranes will show representation in the 48th Michigan High School Tennis Tournament.

Action will get underway 9 a.m. Friday at Stowe Tennis Stadium in Kalamazoo.

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singles bracket will be junior Jeff Etterbeck.

Two tandems will represent the Cranes in the doubles bracket — seniors Jim Parsons and Skip Victor, plus juniors Steve Holmes and Jon Victor.

Cranbrook 4, Nichols 1

SINGLES
1. Jeff Etterbeck (C) defeated Joe Trimball 6-0, 6-2; 2. Jack Raspars (C) defeated Tory Williams 6-0, 6-3; 3. Jim Parsons (C) defeated Gordie O'Reilly 6-3, 6-4.

DOUBLES
1. Ted Roach, John Linder (N) defeated Skip Victor, Steve Holmes 8-1, 6-2; 2. Howdy Perkins, Jon Victor (C) defeated Bill Fanning, Mark Stavoff 6-2, 6-2.

Sweeping every singles set, Birmingham Groves evened its Metro Suburban Association (MSA) varsity tennis record this spring at 3-3 Friday.

Coach Ted Stanley's visiting Falcons swarmed past Southfield-Lathrup, 6-1. The victory elevated Groves overall record this spring to 5-4.

Earlier this week, Groves defended its title in the two-day MSA Tennis Tournament. Bloomfield Hills Lahser hosted this year's version of the annual event.

Other tournament contestants were Royal Oak Dondoro, Rochester Adams and Lathrup.

ON TUESDAY, the Falcons will return to the dual-match trail when they visit Lahser.

On Wednesday, Groves will close its dual-match season. That's when the Falcons will visit Dondoro.

Match time each day is 4 p.m.

Groves 6, Lathrup 1

SINGLES
1. Brian Belt (G) defeated Gary Saperstein 6-2, 1-6, 6-4; 2. Bob Butler (G) defeated Steve Cassel 1-6, 6-1, 6-2; 3. Ron Agnello (G) defeated Eric Shaker 6-3, 3-6, 6-1; 4. Marc Lakin (G) defeated Arnie Migdal 7-6, 6-1.

DOUBLES
1. Steve Wilen, Neil Nesbitt (G) defeated Sheldon Katz, Tom Zaret 7-5, 6-3; 2. Ken Silver, Paul Blumstein (G) defeated Ken Foman, Dan Stearns 6-4, 7-5; 3. Steve Cass, Keith Gilles (G) defeated Steve Gordon, Dave Grosser 6-4, 6-1.

Curling show on Sunday

Curling enthusiasts will experience a special treat Sunday.

That's when the Detroit Curling Club (DCC) will conduct an exhibition on the old Scottish sport at the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena.

The festivities, scheduled to get underway at 3 p.m., will feature a 10-team "Bonspiel," or curling tournament.

A description of the sport's history and rules by Birmingham's James Simpson, DCC president, will precede the tournament.

Exhibition sponsor is the Birmingham Department of Parks and Recreation (BDPR).

THE EXHIBITION'S purpose is to determine the extent of interest in curling around the North Woodward area, according to Darrel Middlewood, BDPR superintendent.

Middlewood indicates if heavy enough interest in the sport is shown, BDPR may introduce an elementary curling program next autumn.

Admission to the exhibition is free and free refreshments will be served.

The Birmingham Ice Sports Arena is located at 2300 E. Lincoln Road, just east of S. Eton Road.

During March of 1975, DCC will host the U.S. Men's Playdowns curling championships at Cobb Arena.

Knarr first in swim race

Rochester sophomore Paul Knarr won the 200-yard butterfly in the Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference swimming meet recently, competing for Harding College of Searcy, Ark.

It was the first conference championship for Harding in any event.

Knarr thereby earned his second varsity letter for Harding and was also named to the all-AIC swimming squad.

He is a graduate of Adams High School, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wadwin Knarr, 1720 Bedford Square.

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First year success for winless girls

By **JIM BOCHENEK**
"I've heard it said that the first year of a sports program is always the roughest and it certainly proved to be true for Country Day.

Are these the words of a coach soured because his team had a losing season? Sometimes, the case is true. But not this time.

George Prosper, the coach of the first year girls' track and field team at Detroit Country Day School, had much more to say about his squad as it recently completed its season.

"OUR WON-LOST record (0-6) was a disappointment to me and to the girls I'm sure," said Prosper. "But the rewards that have been gained over the year have far surpassed the disappointments.

"There were many facets of the sport that the girls had to get used to," stated the coach. "The mental strain of competing against a team in practice as opposed to an opponent was very difficult for them to comprehend at first."

"This is basically an individualized sport," Prosper continued. "A girl is all alone out on the track. All of the pressure is on her. Our girls had to cope with that problem and all of them came out better in the process."

Because the program was in its initial season, girls from the Middle School at Country Day were allowed to compete, on an exhibition basis only, with the Upper School athletes. As it turned out, this system proved very beneficial to Prosper as he found many fine athletes in the younger group.

DEE COOK, a sixth grader at the school, was entered in four one mile races during the year. The 11-year-old won all four, setting a school record of 6:58.0 in one of them.

Mary Riley, an eighth grader, set the half-mile record at Country Day with a 2:51 clocking in an exhibition. And Elissa Ferris, a seventh grader, ran hurdles, the half-mile and the 440 for the Yellowjackets.

Four outstanding runners paced the Upper School contingent. Sophomore Judy Nagy set school records in the 440 and 220-yard runs and finished with a team high total of 35 points in dual meets. Nagy placed seventh in a field of 35 girls in the 440 event during the recent state regionals.

CHERYL WILLIAMSON, a sophomore, ran the hurdles and sprints for Country Day and had the most trying experience of all of the girls according to her coach.

"Cheryl ran the fastest time in the hurdles event at the regionals but was disqualified when the judge ruled that she had looped (gone around) one of the hurdles," said Prosper. "She could have been totally crushed when she heard the bad news but Cheryl just shrugged it off and won the 100-yard dash preliminaries. She was later beaten in the semifinals."

Two ninth graders, Michelle Ferris and Shari Shapiro, rated as the most improved members of the squad. Ferris set the school high jump record while Shapiro competed in the 100-yard dash and the relay events.

THOUGH THE GIRLS could not win any of their six dual meets, they did come painfully close on many occasions. They actually had a chance to win going into the last event in five of the six

meets but fell a little short each time.

"The girls had a good taste of what track is all about," said Prosper. "They improved themselves tremendously over the year and will get even better."

Country Day has a very young team with no member at a higher class level than sophomore. Certainly the team will begin winning very soon but Prosper sees more to the girls track program than merely wins and losses.

"TRACK IS A very peculiar sport," Prosper said. "The satisfactions are not immediate as they are when you put a ball into a net or over a goal. Here you have to work extremely hard to see the tiniest fraction of achievement."

"Certainly you receive bigger fan support when you have a winner, and I'm sure these girls will be just that in the future," said the coach. "But just seeing the personal growth of each girl, both athletically and mentally, has been more than enough reward for me this year."

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