

# Sports

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## Saratoga is in the running

By DICK SPARRER

The Falcons are ready to make their run.

Saratoga girls' cross country team has been making great strides over the past few seasons, and this just may be the year those Falcons make their run for the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League's De Anza Division championship.

With talented senior Maggie Ricketts leading the way, Saratoga head coach Marshall Clark figures his Falcons are among the De Anza favorites heading into the 1995 season.

Clark rates St. Francis, Los Gatos and his own Falcons as the pre-season title favorites in the circuit. A year ago, Saratoga finished second in the league, second in the Central Coast Section Division IV finals and ninth in the state meet.

A big reason for Clark's optimism is the combination of talented returners and promising newcomers who are hitting the trails for Saratoga this fall.

Ricketts is the top prospect. The Saratoga team captain won the individual division title last season and went on to finish fourth in the CCS meet to qualify for the state finals.

Sophomore Mandy Kemp is another top returner for the Falcons. Kemp is another state qualifier for Saratoga last season after finishing 10th in the league and 10th at CCS.

Junior Stephanie Sun returns this fall after finishing 14th at the league finals and competing for Saratoga at the state meet.

Seniors Stacey Hall and Louise Tero are other returners from Saratoga's state qualifying team.

Senior Dora Cheng is up from last year's junior varsity squad. Cheng was second in the league among JV runners.

Freshman Anne Ricketts, sophomores Kathy Aanenson and Susan Song and senior Stephanie Hall are other top prospects at Saratoga.

But it's not just the girls who look good on the cross country trails at Saratoga this fall. The Falcons also boast a solid boys' team with junior Hank Nothhaft the best of them all.

Nothhaft returns after finishing eighth in the league meet last year and 10th in the CCS Division IV finals. He qualified for the state meet with his showing.

Behind Nothhaft, the Falcons managed a third-place team finish in the league and they were third at the state finals.

Senior team captain Brian Chin joins Nothhaft as a Saratoga leader this season along with junior stars Matt Shoor and David Chiang, and sophomores Brett Pahler, Erik Peterson and Drew Copeland.

Shoor and Chiang came up from the Saratoga frosh-soph team where

each placed at the league finals last fall. Shoor was sixth in the league and Chiang running eighth.

Saratoga will be off and running in the 1995 season Sept. 14 when the Falcons compete in the Indian Invitational. The starting gun will blast at 3 p.m. for the 2.1-mile run at Fremont.

The Falcons are then off to Pebble Beach Sept. 16 for the Stevenson Invitational.

### Vikes in the running

Jason Balkman of Lynbrook ran away from the field at the Indian Invitational last season.

But Balkman has since run away from Lynbrook, and is now competing as a college freshman at Stanford University.

Replacing a runner of Balkman's stature is no easy task—uh, make

that impossible. So new head coach Hank Lawson isn't even going to try.

Instead, Lawson will begin the rebuilding process at Lynbrook in hopes of returning the program to its championship status of 1991.

"We lost five of our top seven runners last year on the guys' side," Lawson said, "and four of our top seven girls. It will be a building year for both teams, but we should get stronger as the years progress."

Junior Paul Neves is one of two talented returners from the Lynbrook team that finished fourth in the De Anza Athletic League last fall, and he's off to a solid start this season.

Neves stopped the watch at 12:39.8 to set a new record on Lynbrook's 2.1-mile home course in an intersquad meet to open the year.

Freshman Nathan Wright (12:48.9),

sophomore Kamil Kolacek (13:13.6) and frosh Aman Sirohi (13:14.1) were also under the old course mark of 13:23 in the intersquad, and all three are top prospects this season.

Senior Jason Wall and junior Henry Shu are other top returners for the Vikings and senior Nathaniel Jue and sophomore Matt Powell are promising newcomers to the program.

Senior Bev Guo and sophomore Jennifer Chang are top returners on the Lynbrook girls' team. Juniors Grace Lee and Victoria Quevedo, sophomore Cindy Wang and freshman Samara Silverman are talented newcomers running for Lynbrook.

It was junior Amie Wu who led the way in the intersquad meet last week with Quevedo and Wang running strong.

## Vikes face Paly, Falcons tackle Pioneers

Palo Alto and Lynbrook both figure to be football title contenders in the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League this season—Paly in the De Anza Division, and Lynbrook in the El Camino Division.

And the two contenders will go head-to-head Sept. 15 when the Vikings of Lynbrook host the Vikings of Palo Alto at 7:30 p.m. at Cupertino. Paly is coming off of a solid 28-7 win over San Lorenzo Valley.

It could be a big year for Lynbrook. Veteran coach Dan Navarro has high hopes for his Vikings this fall with a solid group of returners.

"We have 16 returning starters," Navarro said, "but we have no depth. Injuries and attitude will be major factors in our team's success."

Navarro figures his club could finish in the top three in the El Camino Division, but rates Mountain View, Cupertino and Santa Clara as other

contenders for the title.

Senior quarterback Dan Sullivan tops the list of returners at Lynbrook this fall. Sullivan (6-foot, 170) will serve double duty in the secondary for the Vikings.

Seniors Tim Pyle (5-foot-10, 185, guard-linebacker), Carlos Mangandy (5-foot-10, 210, guard-defensive line), Dennis Norvath (5-foot-10, 165, running back-defensive back), Kevin Holley (6-foot, 190, tackle-defensive line) and Jerry Carbral (5-foot-11, 185, fullback-linebacker) are other top returners along with junior Steve Norner (6-foot, 190, tackle-defensive line).

Talented first-year varsity players include juniors Shawn Flood (5-foot-8, 150, wide receiver-defensive back) and Rob Johnson (5-foot-10, 170, fullback-linebacker) and seniors Justin Noin (6-foot-1, 170, tight end-linebacker) and Brian Simas (5-foot-

8, 145, wide receiver-defensive back).

### Falcons win opener

Saratoga opened the year with a tight 7-6 win over Soquel last week, and the Falcons will try to make it two straight when they host longtime league rival Cupertino Sept. 16, 7:30 p.m., in a nonleague game at Los Gatos.

Head coach Mike Machado, taking over the coaching reins from Benny Pierce, posted his first varsity win with little to spare.

Senior Mike Wayne blasted over for a touchdown from a yard out and Tyler Kellogg kicked what turned out to be a very important extra point to put the Falcons up 7-0 in the first period.

Soquel scored in the second quarter, but missed a conversion try. That turned out to be all the scoring in the game.

## Watanabe back for another swim season

By DICK SPARRER

Julie Noskowiak isn't picking the Saratoga Falcons to win the league girls' swimming championship.

But that's not saying that there will be no league champions in the water for Saratoga this fall.

Quite the contrary is true, in fact. With senior sensation Machiko Watanabe leading a talented crew of returners, Noskowiak is expecting a rather impressive year from her small band of Falcons.

"We have a small squad, but great ability and talent," the Saratoga coach said of her swimming team. "We have a very dedicated

group of swimmers. I'm excited about the upcoming season."

And well she should be. The Falcons return a solid group of swimmers from a team that finished 15th in the rugged Central Coast Section championships at Stanford's deGuire Pool last November.

Topping the list is CCS placer Watanabe. The Falcon star breezed to a third in the 500-yard freestyle in 5:11.24, and she was seventh in the 200 individual medley in 2:12.37.

Watanabe will be out to improve on that performance in her senior season, and she'll be joined by a handful of CCS veterans on the Saratoga squad.

Sophomore Whitney Dotzler, senior Kerry Scialabba and soph Michelle Batra each placed in the CCS consolation finals last fall. Dotzler was 11th in the 500 free in 5:21.44, Batra was 15th in the 100 breaststroke in 1:11.44 and Scialabba was 16th in the 100 free in 55.62.

Scialabba also swam the 100 backstroke at CCS, Batra qualified in the 200 IM and Dotzler competed in the 200 free at the section meet.

The Saratoga coach rates St. Francis as the league title favorite, and the Falcons will find out in a hurry if that's true. Saratoga opens the 1995 season at St. Francis on Sept. 21, 3:30 p.m.