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SECTION E

Falcons Repeat as Tri-River Track Champions

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You talk . . . you yell . . . sometimes you even plead.

Yet, in the final analysis, how much the team wants to win and how well they do in competition is left up to the boys themselves.

You are the track coach at Groves High School — your name is Ray Vavruska — and your squad has just repeated as Tri-River

League track champions.

"The kids came through under pressure like I hoped they would. I was worried about North Farmington and their depth.

"If Jim Speicher hadn't won the mile and Jim Heydon hadn't finished third in the pole vault and Jeff Schubel hadn't come up with a third place in the high hurdles, we wouldn't have this trophy now."

IN REMINISCING, Vavruska brought up many "ifs" but none were big enough to conceal the

pride he felt in his Falcons for winning the league meet the second straight year.

And the nicest part of all for the coach is the fact that his team's trophy is just a little taller than the one earned by Jim Gilster's swimming team during the winter season.

Although the league victory could in no way be interpreted as anything other than a team effort, three boys contributed heavily in the scoring.

SCHUBEL ACCOUNTED for

14 points of the 61 total with a first in the broad jump at 19-11; another first in the low hurdles and a new school record at 20.9; the third in the high hurdles; and a berth on the winning 880 relay team.

Al Proctor won the 220 yard dash and set a league record at 22.9; was second in the 100-yard dash; and also ran a leg on the 880 relay for a total of 10 points.

Neil Granader won the shot put with a heave of 48-8½ to set a school and league record; took third in the 440; and ran on the

mile relay team which broke the school and league record at 3:37.2. Other members of the team were Dick Clarke, Frank Jankie and Kirk Olson.

The 880 relay team set a new league mark at 1:34.4. Don Novak and Greg Morris were other members.

NORTH FARMINGTON was the closest competitor for the title with 50 points. Southgate was third with 35½, followed by Haston 25, Riverside 21½ and Cherry Hill with one point.

The mile run went down to the wire with Jim Speicher taking it with a clocking of 4:49.5, good enough for new school and league records.

Novak accounted for a second in the 440; Heydon took the third in the pole vault at 10-3; and Morris was third in the 100-yard dash.

In all, the Falcons captured seven firsts, two seconds, four thirds, one fourth and two fifths.

"THIS WAS a much better performance than last year,"

claimed Vavruska. "The competition was a lot stiffer this time. An indication of this is the fact that 12 of 13 league records were broken in the meet."

The only record that was not smashed was Art Schueler's 21-1½ leap in the broad jump last year.

"Things look real good for next year," the coach said. "We'll have 21 boys back out of 25."

The graduating seniors are Novak, Clark, Morris and Jankie.



RAY VAVRUSKA