



Mercy's Lynn Yadach, a member of the All-Area mile relay squad, congratulates teammate Michelle Collins who was named to the first-team 800 and mile run events.

Mercy, Gifford rule track squad

By JOHN BOZZO

A sophomore from Andover High School gained the most individual honors on the 1978 Observer & Eccentric All-Area Girls' Track Team.

Kori Gifford won first team honors in three events after her first varsity high school season.

Our All-Area team was selected from ballots mailed in by local girls varsity coaches. Each local coach was sent a ballot and a stamped envelope.

One of Gifford's first team posts was in the long jump. She led the Observer & Eccentric long jump listings with a 17-11 leap.

She also received first team mention in the 220- and 100-yard dashes. Gifford had the best local time in both events with a :25.5 in the 220 and an :11.0 in the 100.

Gifford made a fine showing in the Class A state finals. She placed seventh in the 100-yard dash with an :11.3 and fifth in the 220 with a :25.2 clocking.

FARMINGTON OUR Lady of Mercy was the team receiving the most mention in the All-Area choices. Mercy thinclads received first team spots in five different events. In addition, Mercy coach Robert Kirkland was voted the coach of the year.

Kirkland is in his third year as the Mercy coach. He posted a 4-1 dual meet record and wrapped up the Catholic League and Class A Regional championships. Mercy was ninth in the state finals.

Mercy's record is particularly impressive in that Mercy does not have a track. Mercy must practice in the parking lot and run its meets at other schools.

Michele Collins of Mercy won top honors in both the 800-yard and mile runs. A junior, Collins had the best local 800 time with a 2:18.5. She was fourth in the state finals of that event.

Collins also led all local runners in the mile with a 5:20.1 clocking. In the mile Collins placed second in the regional and sixth in the state finals.

Beth Bosse of Mercy earned the first team discus spot. Her best throw of 112-8 1/2 led all local throwers. Bosse's best throw came in the Catholic League-Public School League meet. Another junior standout, Bosse was second in the discus at the Catholic League meet.

Mercy's other first team honors came in two relay events—the mile and 800-yard relays.

Junior Julie Basford, sophomores Sherry West and Kathy Whalen and senior Terry Whalen head up Mercy's 800-yard relay quartet. Their 1:47.0 clocking was the best local time. They finished second in the regional and third in the Catholic League meet.

SENIOR LYNN Yadach, sophomore Carole Basford and juniors Julie Basford and Chris Dosmann are Mercy's first team mile relay squad. Their 4:07.9 is better than any other local high school team. This group won the Class A regional and finished third in the Catholic League meet.

Terri Duckett of Farmington Harrison received the first team nod at high jump. Duckett's 5-6 leap was tops among local jumpers. It tied the Oakland County meet record. A junior, Duckett was also Western Six League champion in this event.

Harrison teammate Ruth Grabowski also received a first team honor, taking the top spot in the 400-yard dash. A senior headed to the University of Michigan on a track scholarship, Grabowski has posted the fastest local 400-yard dash time the past two seasons. She clocked a :38.4 this season. She has also been regional and Western Six champ the past two years.

Sheri Drenfeld of Southfield High School was voted our first team shot putter. She was voted the most valuable sophomore at Southfield. Her best put of 34-9, thrown in an early-season dual meet, was not topped by any other local shot putter.

Molly Potter of Lahser was named first team in the two mile run. She had the second best local time, an 11:38.3, just behind an 11:22.0 posted by Mercy's Sue Heinlen.

Winning the first team nod at the 110-yard low hurdles was Mary Beth Dudash of Birmingham Groves. Dudash had the second best performance in the Observer & Eccentric listings. She posted a :15.2 time, behind a :14.4 clocking by West Bloomfield sophomore Monique Ozimkowski.

Ozimkowski won first team honors with three of her West Bloomfield teammates in the 400-yard relay. Other members of that relay team were sophomore Lisa Gagnon, junior Chris Hamill and senior Sharon Baker. This foursome combined for a first place in the Oakland County meet, the Greater Oakland Activities League meet and a second place in the Class A regional. They also had the best local time in the 400-yard relay, a :50.3 performance.

Girls' all-area thinclads listed

Second Team: 220-yard dash-Ruth Grabowski, Farmington Harrison; 800-yard run-Lynn Yadach, Farmington Our Lady of Mercy; High Jump-Mary Beth Dudash, Birmingham Groves; Shot Put-ter between Lisa Shasky of Birmingham Groves and Mary Woehrlie of Troy; Long Jump-Linda Riendl, Walled Lake Central; Mile Relay-tie between Bloomfield Hills Lahser and Farmington Harrison; Discus-Griffin, Southfield; Two Mile Run-Sue Heinlen, Farmington Our Lady of Mercy; 800-Yard Relay-West Bloomfield; 100-yard dash-Bloomfield Hills Andover; 110-Yard Low Hurdles-tie between Linda Riendl, Walled Lake Central and Monique Ozimkowski, West Bloomfield; 440-Yard Dash-Lynn Yadach, Farmington Our Lady of Mercy; 400-Yard Relay-Farmington Our Lady of Mercy; Mile Run-Molly Potter, Bloomfield Hills Lahser.

Avondale; Discus-Lisa Shasky, Birmingham Groves, shot put; Karin Johnson, Groves, 220-yard dash; Mary Beth Dudash, Birmingham Groves, high jump; Curtis, Rochester Adams, 800-Yard Relay-Birmingham Groves, Troy, Farmington Harrison; 100-Yard Dash-Am Hadley, Birmingham Groves, Lynny Newport, Southfield Christian, Angel Ribart, Rochester, Lynn Yadach, Farmington Our Lady of Mercy; 110-Yard Low Hurdles-Gretchen Baker, Rochester, Mary Woehrlie, Troy, Betsy Wilson, Andover; 440-Yard Dash-Rhonda Finkestein, Southfield; Elaine Oyer, Southfield Christian; 400-Yard Relay-Rochester Adams, Bloomfield Hills Andover; Mile Run-Sue Heinlen, Farmington Our Lady of Mercy; Mile Run-Molly Potter, Bloomfield Hills Lahser.

OTHER HONORABLE MENTION: Birmingham Groves 800-yard relay;

Honorable Mention: 220-Yard Dash-Monique Ozimkowski, West Bloomfield and Karin Johnson, Birmingham Groves; 800-Yard Run-Pam Gibson, Seaholm, Shery Drenfeld, Southfield, Vroom, Southfield Christian and Tina Flessland, Bloomfield Hills Andover; High Jump-Julie Buller, Southfield Christian; Shot Put-Robin Harris, Southfield Christian, Jocelyn Bush, Farmington Our Lady of Mercy, Marilyn Howe, Southfield Christian; Long Jump-Liz Kretchner, Bloomfield Hills Lahser, Jean Tingley,



LISA GAGNON
West Bloomfield



MONIQUE OZIMKOWSKI
West Bloomfield



TERRI DUCKETTE
Harrison



SHERI DRENFELD
Southfield



SHARON BAKER
West Bloomfield



KRIS HAMILL
West Bloomfield



KORI GIFFORD
Andover



TERRY WHALEN
Mercy



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