

O&E All-Area trackmen are versatile



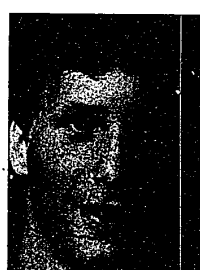
GARY HAMMING
Groves



DAVID ADDY
Rochester Adams



AARON KOONCE
Lahser



JIM BROWNE
Brother Rice



IAN JOSEPH
Troy Athens



RANDY REISING
Lahser

By C.J. RISAK

Versatility is the one word that best describes this year's Observer & Eccentric All-Area Boys' Track Team. Nine of the 14 members picked for individual accomplishments (not in relays) posted times or results in other events that would have qualified them among the 10 best in the area. And three of those athletes were ranked in three other events.

Nearly all of the selections on the four relay teams were rated in at least one individual event.

With such a multi-talented group of athletes, the coaches panel that made the picks on this year's track team decided to not necessarily go with the top result this season, but to take the best athlete. In every event but one, however, the athlete did have the season's best result.

But the panel also couldn't see leaving off any athlete who, although not the best in any single event, still deserved recognition. Several athletes were considered in this group, but only one individual and one relay team were

deemed good enough to qualify for the first team.

The three athletes who combined both versatility and success in individual events were Mark McBroom of Avondale, Dave Addy of Rochester Adams and Ted Woehrlie of Troy.

McBroom qualified on the first team in the long jump with a leap of 22 feet, three inches. A senior, he finished first in the long jump in the Oakland Athletic League (OAL) meet and at the regionals, and was third in the Class B state meet.

McBROOM'S VERSATILITY WAS evident in two dual meets this year, in which he won four individual events. He was ranked in the top 10 in the 100, 220 and 440-yard dashes as well as the long jump.

Addy, only a junior, was chosen for his time of 50.2 in the 440-yard dash, best in the area. He was second in that event in the Metro Suburban Association (MSA) league meet, but that may not have been his best event.

In the regionals, he never even ran in the 440, instead taking part in two relays and the 330-yard low hurdles. He finished first in the hurdle event at the regional meet, but failed to place in the

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state meet. Addy placed in the top 10 in the 100, 220 and 440-yard low hurdles.

Woehrlie was the single individual who, although not a leader in any of the 13 individual events, more than deserved a spot on the first team. The senior was second in the 120-yard high hurdles in the area, his best event, and he captured fourth place in it in the Class B state meet (14.5).

Among the top eight in his class academically, Woehrlie was first in the 120s in the OAL league meet and posted a 22-0 record in that event during two years of league competition. He was among the top four in the 220 and 440, and was among the top 10 in the 100.

Mark Biehl of North Farmington was the choice in the discus event. Biehl's toss of 171 feet, four inches was far and away the best in the area, and for a while it was the best in the state. Unfortunately, Biehl could never match that throw, as he finished fourth in the Northwest Suburban League (NSL) meet and sixth in the Oakland County event.

IN THE SHOT PUT, Jim Browne of Birmingham Brother Rice was the top pick, his best throw being 54 feet, four inches. Browne was first in the Oakland County meet, Catholic League meet and Port Huron regional, and teamed for a win in the Ambrose Relays. He won the Catholic League meet in the discus and placed fourth in the state in that event.

Browne was also among the top 10 in the area in the 120-yard high hurdles.

In the pole vault, Farmington's Jim Brancheau was the first team pick, despite having only the second best vault in the area (13 feet, nine inches) during the season. However, Brancheau had a better record in meets than did second team pick Bob Morden of North Farmington.

Brancheau won the Inter Lakes League meet, was first in the Oakland County meet, finished second in the regionals and ninth in the state, besting Morden in three of those events.

The choice in the high jump is not a new one to the O&E All-Area teams — Jon English of Brother Rice. Better known for his exploits on the gridiron, English was nevertheless the easy choice in the event. His leap of six feet, 11 inches was 4 1/4 inches better than his

nearest competitor in the area.

English was first in the Catholic League meet, first in the Oakland County meet and first in the regionals. He cleared six feet, 10 inches at the state meet and placed third.

IN THE 120-YARD high hurdles, the selection was Ian Joseph of Troy Athens, an athlete who members of the coaches panel felt was the best on the squad. Joseph was second in the MSA league meet in the high hurdles and second in the long jump. But at the state meet, Joseph ripped off a 14.58, good enough for fifth place.

Mark Fentress of Country Day was chosen in the 100-yard dash, his best time of 9.9 the only one under the 10 second barrier in the area all season. Fentress also finished second in the state in the long jump and was part of the Country Day state-winning, 800-meter relay team.

Tim Cannon of Cranbrook posted the best time in the area in the mile run (4:22.6), and he did it at the right moment, during the Class B state meet. Cannon finished fourth in the event. He was also among the best two-milers in the area.

Jeff Goforth was picked as the "Top Thincled" at Southfield-Lathrup, and was also the top choice in the 330-yard low hurdles with a best clocking of 38.6. Goforth finished third in the regionals in the 330 lows and was also among the area's best in the 120-yard high hurdles and in the 440.

In the 880-yard dash, Rice's Don Pietrowski was the top selection. Pietrowski, who was rated second in the 440, was first in both events at the Catholic League meet, was second at the Oakland County meet in the 880, was first in the regional in the 880 but did not place at state. His best time in the 880 was 1:57.5.

RUSS PARKS OF Birmingham Groves was the top man in the 220-yard dash (22.7), finishing first in the regional and second in the Oakland County meet. He also was ranked in the 100, and he was a member of Groves 880 and mile relay teams, also chosen to the All-Area team.

Paul Welch of North Farmington was chosen in the two mile run. His best time is 9:35.8, he was the regional

meet and in the NSL meet he placed first in the mile run. He finished third in the Oakland County meet in the two mile.

In the relays, Bloomfield Hills Lahser's team of Aaron Koonce, Chris Prowse, Randy Reising and Phil Ruffino were the fastest in the 440-yard team event (43.9). That team was first in the Ambrose Relays and was second in the regionals, but they failed to place in the state meet.

In the 880-yard relay, Groves tied with Rice for the fastest time (1:31.2), but Groves beat the Rice in almost every confrontation, so they were given the first team nod. Parks combined with Tim Winslip, Mike Lazzarini and Gary Hamming to win at the Ambrose Relays, at the Oakland County meet and in the regionals. The team did not place at state.

It was the same foursome for Groves that tied with the Rice quartet of John Cunningham, Brian Brennan, Tom Finn and Rod LaRees for first in the mile relay. Throughout the season, the Rice team beat the Groves squad in this event. One time was at the Ambrose Relays; Rice also finished first in the regionals and set a school record (3:22.3) while placing sixth at the state meet.

Honorable mention

DISCUS — Chuck Stollenkamp, Troy; Ed Guidi, Country Day.
SHOT PUT — Jeff Sherman, B.L. Andover; George Houtzaker, N. Farmington; Rick Wilson, W. Bloomfield.

100-YARD DASH — John Palmer, Lahser.
120-YARD DASH — John Palmer, Lahser.
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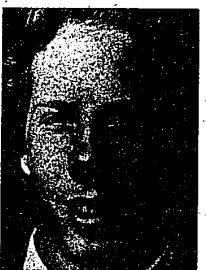
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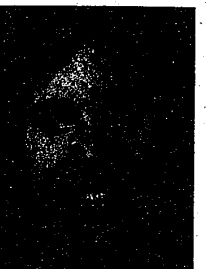
MICHAEL POPSON
Brother Rice



JIM BRANCHEAU
Farmington



JOHN CUNNINGHAM
Brother Rice



RUSSEL PARKS
Groves



TIM WINSLIP
Groves



TED WOEHRLIE
Troy



CHRIS PROWSE
Lahser



TOM FINN
Brother Rice



ROD LAREES
Brother Rice



MARK FENTRESS
Country Day



PHIL RUFFINO
Lahser



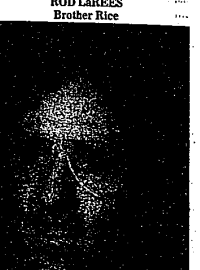
JON ENGLISH
Brother Rice



BRIAN BRENNAN
Brother Rice



TIM CANNON
Cranbrook



MARK MCBROOM
Avondale

But Groves saved its best performance for last, too, running the best time in the area at the state meet (3:21.6) and finishing fourth. Since both teams had such excellent finishes, both were picked to the first team.

On the coaches second team were Mark Lytle of Rice in the discus; Dan Kenwell of West Bloomfield in the shot put; Doug Fredley of Lahser in the high jump; Morden of North Farmington in the pole vault; and Bill Hill of Cranbrook in the long jump.

In track events, Ruffino of Lahser was picked in the 120-high hurdles; Shawn Rowley of Lathrup in the 100; Rob Randolph of Adams and Tim Sullivan of Rice tied in the mile run; Winslip of Groves in the 440; Kevin Munson of Lahser in the 330-yard low hurdles; Bill Priest of Avondale in the 880; Jeff Cox of West Bloomfield in the 220; and Dave Martin of Cranbrook and Andy Krasus of Lathrup in the two mile.

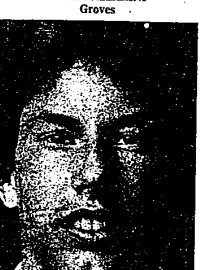
In the relay events, Rice had the second best mile foursome, and Groves was second in the 440-yard relay.



MIKE LAZZARINI
Groves



MARK BIEHL
North Farmington



PAUL WELCH
North Farmington