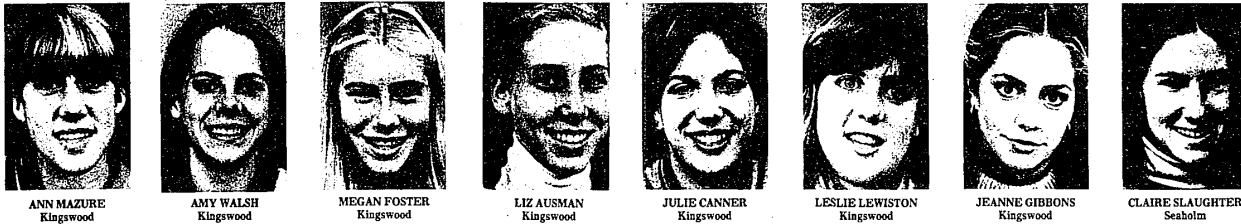


# Observer & Eccentric All-Area Tennis Team



All-Area picks prove it

## Tennis quality 'mind-boggling'

By TOM BAER

Some excellent tennis is played each fall and spring on this area's high school courts. A look at the accomplishments of the girls named to the 1980 Observer & Eccentric All Area Tennis Team confirms this fact.

"The quality of tennis in this area is mind-boggling," said West Bloomfield coach Jan Esper, whose two top players were picked for the 29-member team.

"And next year you'll be seeing some

ninth graders knock off some of the players who were picked for this team."

As it has in the past, Bloomfield Hills Kingswood, the Class B state champion, dominated the all-area team with seven selections. Birmingham Marian, the state Class A runner up, was close behind with four.

The team, picked by a panel of area coaches, includes 10 singles players and five doubles teams.

MEGAN FOSTER, a Kingswood

sophomore, won the top singles flight title at the Class B state meet last month in Holland, losing only 12 games in eight sets. She also won the top singles regional championship, and her match record for the season was 12-3 with all losses going three sets. She was an all-area selection last year as a freshman.

AMY WALSH, a Kingswood junior, is another repeat selection. She won the Class B No. 2 singles title for the second straight year at the state meet, capping a season which included 13 match wins in 15 outings. She won the regional flight, losing only five games.

ANN MAZURE, Kingswood's third singles selection, won the No. 3 singles state crown. The Aardvark junior lost only three games in winning her regional flight. Her season record is 11-3.

MARI MCGOWAN, a Marian senior, posted a 13-7 match record while playing at No. 1 singles. She lost in the semifinals of the Class A regional and then fell in the second round of the state meet. "She played all the superstars," said Marian coach Julie McKnight.

AMY SCHMIDT, just a freshman at Marian, played at No. 2 singles and compiled an impressive 17-3 record. She won the No. 2 singles title at the Southfield regional, but lost in the state quarterfinals to Grosse Pointe North's Cathy Brown.

KRISTEN STRENG, a junior at West Bloomfield, was another of Brown's victims in the No. 2 flight at the state meet. "For the past three years, she never lost a match until the state tournament," Esper said.

CHRIS NAGEL, a freshman, knocked Steng out of the top singles spot on the West Bloomfield tennis team this year. Like Steng, Nagel was a member of the Greater Oakland Activities League honor team. She won the No. 1 singles title at the Waterford Mott regional. At the state meet, she lost to Portage Northern's Diane Donnelly in the quarterfinals.

CLAIRE SLAUGHTER, a Birmingham Seaholm junior, was the netter who beat Marian's McGowan in the No. 1 singles competition in the Southfield regional. She lasted one round in the

state meet, losing to Walled Lake Western's Jane Neville. Slaughter's season match record was 10-4.

PAM OSTERLUND, the No. 1 singles player at Birmingham Groves, won 15 of her 20 matches this season and went 10-0 in Metro Suburban Association competition. She made the semis of the regional before losing to Neville. At state, the Falcon junior lost in the first round to Grosse Pointe South's Liz Wachter.

TRACY BALAGNA, a sophomore, won 14 of her 17 matches this season at No. 1 singles for Bloomfield Hills Andover. She won the Southeastern Michigan Association title, beating Seaholm's Slaughter in straight sets. She lost in the semis of the Mott regional, but was voted most valuable player by her teammates.

Kingswood's No. 1 team of LESLIE LEWISTON AND JEANNE GIBBONS both sophomores, won regional and state championships. At state, they lost just eight games in four matches. Their season match record was 12-2.

Another Kingswood team, senior LIZ AUSMAN and sophomore JULIE CANNER, posted a 9-0 record and won the second-flight title at the state meet. They also won their flight in regional competition.

The Groves duo of junior MELISSA KAHN and senior GINN PETTRY played at No. 1, winning 15 of 19 matches. They won the top doubles flight in their regional, and then lost in the Class A state quarterfinals. They were 7-1 in MSA meets.

Rochester High coach Carol Murphy tells an interesting story about how senior JEANNE BERUBE and sophomore NATALIE MANASTYRSKY got together to form a winning doubles team. "The other kids picked their partners and these two were left over," she said. "We call them the odd couple."

Rochester's odd couple went 16-1 and won the top doubles flight of the Troy Athens regional. They didn't go to state because Rochester didn't qualify through the regional.

Marian's senior doubles team of JACQUI ASHER AND ELISSA SCRAFANO won 16 matches and lost six. They won the Catholic League top doubles title, and were regional runners up. At state, they lost to a team from Grosse Pointe South.



JACQUI ASHER Marian  
ELISSA SCRAFANO Marian  
MARI MCGOWAN Marian



AMY SCHMIDT Marian  
MELISSA KAHN Groves  
GINN PETTRY Groves



PAM OSTERLUND Groves  
JEANNE BERUBE Rochester  
NATALIE MANASTYRSKY Rochester



KRISTEN STRENG W. Bloomfield  
CHRIS NAGEL W. Bloomfield  
TRACY BALAGNA Andover

## Singles players

Megan Foster, Amy Walsh, Ann Mazure, Bloomfield Hills Kingswood; Mari McGowan, Amy Schmidt, Birmingham Marian; Kristen Steng, Chris Nagel, West Bloomfield; Pam Osterlund, Birmingham Groves; Tracy Balagna, Bloomfield Hills Andover; Claire Slaughter, Birmingham Seaholm.

## Doubles players

Leslie Lewiston and Jeanne Gibbons, Liz Ausman and Julie Canner, Bloomfield Hills Kingswood; Melissa Kahn and Ginn Pettry, Birmingham Groves; Natalie Manastyrsky Jeanne Berube, Rochester High; Jacqui Asher and Elissa Scrafano, Birmingham Marian.

## Honorable mention

Suzanne Nolte, Dana Gettel, Marney Dean, Kingswood; Julie Berg, Margaret Arndorfer, Becky Moravek, Clare Snyder, Kelly Knight, Bridget Cassidy, Marian; Rose-Marie Tan, Stephanie Simpson, Beth Bulletta, Rochester High; Jenny Barron, Joyce Kling, Andover; Beth Pierce, Grace Yambach, Bloomfield Hills Mercy; Heather Morey, Farmington High; Kathy Karbowski, Rochester Adams; Julie Book, Southfield-Lathrup; Carol Briellmaier, Seaholm; Sharon Korth, Troy High; Sharon Joseph, Troy Athens; Betsy Lee, North Farmington; Joelle Lukaszewicz, Farmington Harrison; Nancy Gruber, Walled Lake Central; Maria Salas, Sacred Heart; Liz Jacobs, Detroit Country Day School.



Birmingham Marian's Mari McGowan was named to the singles squad of the 1980 Observer & Eccentric All-Area Girls' Tennis Team.

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