

Andover tankers dominate dream team

All-Area squad has 9 Barons

By TOM BAER

The honors keep mounting for coach Mike Lane and his Bloomfield Hills Andover girls' swimming team.

Andover, which earned a state Class A championship by winning the recent state meet, dominated the Observer & Eccentric All-Area Team, which was picked last week by a panel of area coaches. Andover girls filled nine of the 14 first-team positions.

And Lane, who has coached swimming for 14 years at Andover, was named the 1980 Coach of the Year.

Sheryl Barnicoat, an Andover sophomore who sparkled in the state meet, was an easy choice for one individual event — the 200-yard freestyle — and anchored a first-team relay.

Barnicoat won the 200 freestyle at state with a record time of 1:51.53 seconds. The old record was 1:52.8. Andover's 400 freestyle relay, composed of Cindy Greenawalt, Jill Young, Tami Malys and Barnicoat on the anchor, established another state record with a 3:36.42. The old standard was 3:37.19.

Andover, in fact, captured first-team honors in both relays. The Barons' 200-yard medley crew (Lori Elliott, Anita Rival, Liz Murphy and Lori Ames) logged the area's fastest time — 1:54.19, recorded in the preliminaries of the state meet. That relay finished fourth in the finals with a 1:54.7.

Andover senior Angie Porretta, the defending diving champion, had to settle for second place this year after battling East Kentwood's Nancy Beel through the prelims and finals of the state meet.

Porretta, however, compiled 432.55 points at state to earn first-team honors on the O&E team.

GREENAWALT, A member of Andover's record-setting freestyle relay, was the first-team pick in the 50-yard freestyle event. Her 24.8 clocking was good for fourth place in the 50 at the state meet.

Rival, who swam on Andover's medley relay, was the choice for the 500-yard freestyle. She placed fourth in the 500 at state with a time of 5:07.58. (Actually, Andover's Barnicoat won the 500 free with a record time of 4:55.6, but rules limit a swimmer to one first-team individual event on the All-Area team.)

Kara McGrath, a sophomore at Our Lady of Mercy High School in Farmington Hills, was another state-meet double winner. She was picked for first team in the 200-yard individual medley because of her showing at state — a record time of 2:08.57, almost a full second better than the previous standard.

Another Class A champion, Rochester High sophomore Missy Proctor, was the pick in the 100-yard backstroke. She won that event with a time of 1:30.8.

Troy High junior Kim Neeb, who won a Class B championship by going 54.6 in the 100-yard freestyle at the state meet, was the first-team 100 free choice. Neeb is the only representative of a Class B school on the first team.

Kris Weber of West Bloomfield was the pick in the 100-yard breaststroke. She recorded a time of 1:09.75 in the 100 breast at the state meet.

100-yard butterfly honors went to Bloomfield Hills Lahser's Gina Bratrude, who finished seventh at the state meet in that event with a time of 1:00.6.

IN ADDITION to winning the state meet with 180 points, Lane's 1980 Andover squad compiled a 12-0 dual-meet record and won Southeastern Michigan Association and Oakland County titles.

"Winning that state title was a great experience," Lane said. "We decided we could do it right after last year's state meet. We worked at it for a year, not just for a season."

Lane praised his assistant coaches, Paul Peterson and Ann Aubrey. "It'd be nice if they could be coaches of the year instead of me," Lane said.



Mersey's Kara McGrath, who set two records during the state meet, was named to the Observer & Eccentric's All-Area team in the 200-yard individual medley.



MIKE LANE
Andover coach



LORI ELLIOTT
Andover



ANITA RIVAL
Andover



LIZ MURPHY
Andover



KIM NEEB
Troy High



MISSY PROCTOR
Rochester High



KRIS WEBER
W. Bloomfield



LORI AMES
Andover



SHERYL BARNICOAT
Andover



CINDY GREENAWALT
Andover

TAMI MALYS
Andover

GINA BRATRUDE
Lahser

JILL YOUNG
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