

Amy Dalek
LahserAnn Marie Currier
MarianLisa Harris
Troy

Fair ladies of the fairways

Harris, Green return to honor team

By Dan Bodene
staff writer

When you're hot, you're hot. If a few faces on this season's All-Area golf team look familiar, it's because they were also among last year's top picks.

Suzy Green of Birmingham Groves and Lisa Harris of Troy make their second appearance on the first team, while Amy Dalek of Bloomfield Hills Lahser moves up from last year's mention on the second team.

Newcomers on the 1983 first team include Ann Marie Currier of Birmingham Marian, Heather Westphal of Bloomfield Hills Kingswood and Nancy Newman of Groves.

Choices for the No. 1 team apparently weren't hard to make. Selections were made by Troy coach Joe Goslin, Lahser coach Bob Keigen and Farmington Hills Mercey coach Vickie Runetta. They reported no trouble picking a first-team roster because so many of the top players' performances overlapped.

For instance, Green won top state honors with a one-stroke advantage over Westphal — who had earlier won county medalist honors by beating Green. Harris was a medalist in 26 of her 27 dual matches; her only defeat was to Green. Dalek won this year's league title by beating Green, but lost her only dual meet to Westphal. Got all that?

SINCE GREEN figured in nearly every top golf contest this season, she was also unduplicated leader in the first-team balloting. And joining her in the All-Area honors group is her coach, Carl Pendrack, named Coach of the Year.

The youngest of the All-Area picks, Green has competed seriously for only about 2½ years, says Pendrack. "She's got to be the No. 1 college prospect, even now as a sophomore," he said. "I don't know if she's considering turning pro, but it's got to be on her mind."

Green's amazing progress is no fluke: She comes from a golfing family. Her dad Pete is an eight-time state amateur champ, and brother Mike capped a winning tenure at Groves with a berth on the Oklahoma State University team.

Harris returns as a No. 1 All-Area team choice following her nearly undefeated dual meet season. Goslin says she has only played the game for about three years, and has consistently improved. A senior, she posted a 41 average for the season.

"Lisa is a strong hitter and a very dedicated golfer," said Goslin. "She practiced all winter at the Golf Dome in Madison Heights. She was captain of the team this year — a real leader. She's got a goal of turning pro, and I think she can do it."

Dalek is the third All-Area returner. Like Harris, she's a senior who has earned praise for her steadily improving performance. Coach Keigen notes that Dalek's sophomore average of 48 dropped to 44 this year. And golf isn't the only interest she pursues with excellence in mind. She's a 3.0 student at Lahser, and plans to attend Oakland University to play volleyball.

"I think Amy may try out for the men's golf team in the spring," Keigen says. "She's got the mental discipline, and is getting stronger all the time."

CURRIER was another popular choice for the All-Area's top team. A junior, she completed only her second full season on the Marian team this year (as a freshman she didn't compete in tournaments).

It was obviously a good year, though. Mustang coach Pierre Hales says Currier was a medalist "all year long" and was named the team's Most Valuable Player. "She's aggressive," Hales says. "It's nice to have someone who's never satisfied. Ann loves to play and is always out practicing. She hits long and hard, and if she has a weakness it's that she chips too far and overshoots the cup."

Heather Westphal
KingswoodSuzy Green
GrovesNancy Newman
Groves

Westphal made herself known as a golfer to be reckoned with this year, always providing the score to beat at local, county and state meets. Kingswood coach Howard Bloom says flatly, "There's no question she'll make the all-state team, and she might be the best in the state." And as a junior, she's got another competitive year to go.

Bloom says Westphal's average was 41, right between her lowest of 35 and highest of 44. "She started playing about three or four years ago and has gone totally crazy for the sport," Bloom says. "It's her first love. She's a fanatic. My bet is that she'll play in college for a southern school and think about going pro."

Newman, another junior, was an answered prayer for Pendrack. "She's a great natural athlete, and was consistently our best player after Suzy Green," he says. "She was a medalist when Suzy wasn't."

Switching over to golf from softball, Newman used her ability as a long-ball hitter to improve steadily. This season she was the team's third best player in league competition, and second best for the team at the regionals. Newman is also a product of a golfing family. Her father once owned a course, and both her brothers were standouts at Groves.

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If the 'Shoe' fits! Andover lands successful cage coach

By Jim Hughes
staff writer

Boys' varsity basketball fans at Bloomfield Hills Andover have not had much to cheer about in recent years, but all that may change — if the "Shoe" fits.

Looking to bring the Baron program back to respectability, Bloomfield Hills Schools Health, Physical Education and Athletics Director Norm Quinn hired Bob Shoemaker as head basketball coach.

Shoemaker, who resigned last month from Orchard Lake St. Mary's, brings along with him some enviable statistics. In his years at St. Mary's and Detroit St. Andrew, "Shoe" compiled a 217-12 record with 10 league championships, six district titles, three regional crowns and state titles at St. Mary's in 1978 and 1982.

"He obviously comes with great expertise and experience, with knowledge of young people and expert knowledge of the game of basketball," said Quinn, who interviewed seven applicants for the position. "He has great enthusiasm and he loves to work with the kids."

"WE HAVE a strong desire to build the program to where it once was, and we feel Bob will be the catalyst."

Last season, the Barons won just one game in 30. According to Quinn, the past five years Andover has been near the 500 mark.

"Before that, we won our share of league championships when we were in that GOAL (Greater Oakland Activities League)," Quinn said. "The competition became a lot stronger in the BMA (Southeastern Michigan Association) the last couple of years. That and the fact that we didn't have a lot of available material to work with reduced our success rate, so to speak."

Shoemaker replaces Larry Whalen, who moved up from the junior varsity for one season after John Maloney departed to Oakland University to take an assistant spot on Lee Frederick's

'I'd like to win a state championship at Andover. A Bloomfield Hills school has never done that before, and I kind of like that (challenge). Those are the goals we're setting. When you're 1-18, that sounds crazy, but that's what I want the kids to think.'

— Bob Shoemaker

staff. Maloney was laid off from his teaching position at Andover, and chose to continue his coaching career at OUI.

Shoemaker, who said he left St. Mary's to seek other challenges, certainly found one at Andover — especially when you consider the goals he's setting.

"I'm a great believer in setting goals high," Shoemaker said, "and we're going to shoot for the league championship. Southfield, that's the team we're shooting for. We want to win the league title. That's what you're there for."

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Shoemaker, like other successful coaches in private schools, says others charge him of recruiting, a more common accusation of parochial school coaches than public school coaches. However, Shoemaker, who said he never recruited high school players, vowed to recruit at Andover.

"I'm going to start recruiting kids for the first time, but I'm going to do it in Andover," Shoemaker said. "I'm going to look through the school for people who should be playing basketball who aren't."

"There's no way a school of 1,400 can't have a successful basketball program. I'm going to meet with coaches in the junior high and elementary schools and see who they may have coached who should be playing basketball."

Shoemaker said he also will look at those coaches to try to find a junior varsity and freshman coach.

"My first order of priority is to meet with the junior high and elementary school coaches. I'm going to look in the system, and I certainly want their input. I'm going to ask them to help me build a good program."

THE JOB AT Andover is a non-teaching position, and Shoemaker said he plans to find a teaching job in the area. But he won't seriously look for that spot until September so he can devote time to the basketball program. And Orchard Lake St. Mary's summer cage clinic.

"I like this area, and I live in the area, so I want to stay here if at all possible. I think this is a beautiful community and a beautiful school," he said. Getting back to building the basketball program, Shoemaker added, "The situation was right. One and 19, that's a challenge, and if it's not, I don't know what is. It's not going to be easy, but there's no reason why we can't win."

"These kids come from successful families. They have a successful home life, and they should want to be successful in basketball. I'm just really excited about it."

"I'm convinced we can win. Anytime you have six months to prepare, there's certainly a lot of things that can happen," Shoemaker said. "You'd be amazed what can you can accomplish in six months, if you apply yourself."

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