

## Sports

Brad Emons, Chris McCosky editors/S91-2312

Monday, June 18, 1984 O&amp;E

(F1C)



## State's best illuminate area kick team

By C.J. Risak  
staff writer

**ONE THING'S CERTAIN:** These All-Stars are all stars. Check the stats. Five schools in the Observer coverage area finished among the top 10 state rankings in girls' soccer: Livonia's Stevenson, Churchill and Bentley, Plymouth Canton and Farmington Hills Our Lady of Mercy.

Of the 12 members of the All-Observer girls' soccer first team, four were selected by coaches to the All-State first team. Two others were picked to the All-State second team and three more received honorable mention.

NOT THAT the All-State team consists of the state's best. Considering just six players from the Western Lakes Activities Association were among the 32 chosen to the first and second teams — when five WLAAs teams were ranked in the top 10 in the final coaches' poll — it becomes apparent some very talented players were left off.

As Livonia Stevenson coach Norene Divens explained: "This is not an All-Select state team. It is an All-Representative state team."

Which means each conference is limited to five players on the first two teams (coaches made an allowance to the WLAAs' superiority by granting it six).

Put bluntly, take the All-Observer's first and second teams and match them against the rest of the state's best prep players and see who wins.

I know who I'd bet on. Here are the reasons why.

## FIRST TEAM

Mary Kay Hessey, forward, Livonia Stevenson; Hussey's statistics are over-

shadowed by just one foreboding factor: she's only a junior, which can not be viewed optimistically by opposing coaches.

A first-team All-State striker, Hussey merely collected 40 goals and 28 assists in 22 games, bringing her career totals to 82 goals and 50 assists. Even more impressive were her 11 game-winning tallies.

Divens' comments about her star are equally noteworthy: "Tremendous growth as a player, excellent soccer sense; definitely one of the top players in the state; has very strong skills and has the ability to concentrate; is extremely determined and aggressive."

**Lisa Rigstad, forward, Livonia Bentley:** For the last four years, one name has topped the scoring list for Livonia Bentley: Rigstad. The senior striker poured in 24 goals and added 10 assists this season, to bring her career total to 109 goals.

"Her greatest asset is putting the ball into the net," said Bentley coach Paul Scelcina. "She's a steady performer and one of the team leaders."

Rigstad earned All-State second team honors. She was a first team choice a year ago and received honorable mention as a sophomore.

**Lisa Russell, forward, Plymouth Canton:** Russell is only a junior but she is a soccer veteran, playing on an under 16 state select team and gaining international experience by playing in a tournament in Sweden with the YIP Rowdies (which the Rowdies won) last summer.

"Lisa is a very smart, experienced soccer player — a team leader," is Canton coach Mike Morgan's appraisal. An All-WLAA selection and All-State honorable mention, Russell collected 21 goals and eight assists for the 10th-ranked Chiefs.

Jennifer Huegli, forward, Livonia

Churchill: What makes Huegli so outstanding, according to coach Ed Dudek, is "a great left foot and a good right one."

Huegli used both those feet to notch 13 goals and 15 assists, bringing her career stats to 34 goals and 37 assists — and she's only a sophomore. She was

picked to the All-Western Division team in the WLAA and, adds Dudek: "She gives 100 percent all the time. . . I am looking for bigger and better things to come in the future."

Annette Ruggiero, midfielder, Farmington Hills Mercy: "First to get to practice and the last to leave; great skills in all aspects of the game; without her, Mercy would not have enjoyed the success it did," are all Gene Fogel's descriptions of Ruggiero.

No one could argue with Ruggiero's immense talents. The junior led the Marlins with 32 goals and 21 assists, making Mercy's inaugural soccer season a highly successful one. The Marlins won the Catholic League championship and were ranked seventh in the state.

Ruggiero earned first team All-State and All-Catholic honors. She is also a member of the National Honor Society (3.86 grade point) and an All-State honorable mention in basketball.

Dorene Dudek, midfielder, Livonia Churchill: Dudek possessed all the qualities a midfielder needed. According to her coach and father, Ed Dudek, Dorene had "excellent endurance which allowed her to outlast her opponent. She heads the ball very well. She worked as hard in practice as in games."

Dudek, a senior, had a goal or an assist (or both) in 16 of 19 games. An All-State first teamer for the second consecutive year, she finished with 12 goals and 20 assists for a three-year career total of 37 goals and 57 assists.

Kim Paterson, midfielder, Livonia Bentley: Paterson played just half the season at midfield, which is why Scelcina referred to her as his "field general" — Paterson played everywhere.

As a striker, she scored 14 goals and added 11 assists. As a sweeperback, she contributed strong defense. "She knows how the game is to be played," said Scelcina.

"She's very knowledgeable and is the

best passer in the league. She has more know-how on how the game should be played than anyone I've seen."

Paterson, just a sophomore, received All-State honorable mention.

See Bartram, defender, Farmington: Bartram began playing soccer as a 9-year-old and just never stopped. The senior started for Farmington at midfield as a freshman and remained there until this season, when coach and father Ed Bartram switched her to sweeperback.

But soccer for Sue doesn't end with the conclusion of the prep season. For the past five years she's played year-round. She played all 18 games for the Falcons this year and was the team captain and MVP. But MVP honors are nothing new for Bartram: she's claimed that honor for three straight seasons.

Bartram was All-State honorable mention and has received All-League accolades for the last three seasons.

Sheri Wolfe, defender, Livonia Bentley: Wolfe, a junior, scored two goals and collected five assists for the Bulldogs this season. Which says something about her style.

"She can get the ball out of the danger zone faster than anyone I've seen," said Scelcina. "I've seen her carry the ball all the way inside the (opponent's) 18-yard line."

"She can carry the ball better than any other fullback."

That wasn't Wolfe's only ability. Scelcina noted that she was very strong heading the ball and aggressive. "Aggressive is her style," he said. "The more aggressive the game the more she likes it."

Margie Wangelbacher, defender, Plymouth Canton: Wangelbacher was a team co-captain this season — as she was the previous two. She has been All-Western Division in the WLAA the past two years as well.

Please turn to Page 2



RANDY DONIST/staff photographer

Soccer is indeed a kick. Just ask North Farmington's Jann Anzivar (right) as she takes one on the shin from Farmington's Leslie Martin.

## All-Area Girls Soccer Squad



Kim Paterson Bentley

Margie Wangelbacher Canton

Annette Ruggiero Mercy

Dorene Dudek Churchill

Jennifer Huegli Churchill

Cheryl Galindo Stevenson



Lisa Russell Canton

Dorene Beagle Stevenson

Sheri Wolfe Bentley

## Mercy's Gene Fogel Is Coach of Year pick

There were several outstanding candidates for Observer's Coach of the Year.

Livonia Stevenson coach Norene Divens took her club to the state finals again this season. Livonia Bentley coach Paul Scelcina and Livonia Churchill coach Ed Dudek had teams ranked high in the state. Plymouth Canton's Mike Morgan took a dying program, revived it, and finished No. 10 in the state.

But one coach's accomplishments slightly overshadowed the others.

**THERE WAS** no soccer team at Farmington Hills Our Lady of Mercy High School last year. Suddenly, the powers that be decided to sponsor one for 1984. They hired Gene Fogel, a soccer coach at Wilfrido who coached previously to the

Northville recreation leagues, as the coach.

It was a tremendous choice. Fogel took a team from scratch and coached them into the first-ever Catholic League champions. The Marlins placed No. 8 in the state with a 14-4 record.

The team lost two of its first three matches, then went on to win 13 of its last 15, 11 in a row.

"That is one great coach," said Minneapolis-Marian coach Jerry Delsch. "After Mercy had defeated our team in the Catholic League championship. The job he did this year with a first-year team was just superb. I've never seen anything like it."

Neither have we. Congratulations to Gene Fogel — 1984 Soccer Coach of the Year.

— Observer Sports Staff

## My how time flies when you're havin' fun

**WHERE DOES** the time go? It's been one year and three days, give or take a few minutes, since the silly picture atop this column first appeared in the Farmington Observer.

In that time, I've set before your hungry eyes reams of newspaper chronicling the joys and laughter, the sorrow and tears, the fun and frustration, the favorites and forgettables, the good, bad and the ugly of prep sports.

Let's reminisce.

The joys and laughter. The joys are too many. I'll touch on a few. Farmington Harrison 31, Walled Lake Central 0. Remember? It was to be the day the Hawks' football team got dethroned. The Walled Lake people thought they had it in the bag. Not that day. John Miller ran for 144 yards, nailed for two scores, and ran back an interception 57 yards for another. To make the win just a little more sweet, it was coach John Harrison's 100th win.

Who could forget North Farmington's domination of the Northwest Suburban League throughout the fall, winter and parts of the spring season. Or the Farmington Hills Mercy basketball team's two-out-of-three se-

ries with Livonia Ladywood. Or Mercy's dramatic victory over No. 1-ranked Flint Northwestern. The Marlins trailed by eight with under a minute to play. They tied it at the buzzer. Won it in overtime. Play of the game: In one motion, Annette Ruggiero stole an inbound pass and flipped the ball, behind-the-back to Terri Ford for an easy layup. Beautiful.

The sorrow and tears. Ironically, the teams that gave us our biggest joys, also made us cry. The Harrison football team's loss to Livonia Churchill on that rainy Saturday in October. The toughest post-game interview I ever did. I just didn't know what to say. Harrison, as I expected, was as gracious and classy in defeat as he had always been in victory. He could have made excuses. A knock-down was called back for no apparent reason. But he didn't. He gave all the credit to Ken Koester's Churchill team.

Mercy's loss to Flint Northwestern in the state semifinals. I still say that two of the three shots Sarah Bedford put off down the stretch were do-or-die shots of the way through the book. How did they come out? Not good. There's nothing with the game, it's just bringing out raw emotions in people. I'll never forget the scene on the field



Chris McCosky

Feld House post after Mercy's loss. The Marlins were in tears. All-Area all-state center Mary Rosowski buried herself in her father's arms. Bedford knelt on the floor, her head buried in her hands. Meanwhile, the Northwestern jacksnives had to be hauled like jackasses. They taunted the Marlins, jeered at them. But the Marlins and coach Larry Baker kept their composure throughout — a tribute to the class of the Mercy basketball program.

North Farmington's volleyball team, one of my personal favorites, had me wiping my eyes as a couple times. The Rebels played their hearts out against Livonia Stevenson in the championship of the Suburban Tournaments, only to fall apart at the end. And in the district championship match against Troy Albans — one of the best scoring athletes I've ever seen — North had the little oil ball wrapped up.

Somehow, the Red Hawks were able to battle back and win it. There were all of my favorites crying their eyes out — Mary and Patti Kosicki, Linda Hennard, Amy Austin, Donna Konjarschik, Laina Shaw, man that was tough.

The fun and frustration. The fun: A weekend in Kalamazoo covering the girls state basketball championships. Watching Amy Austin pound a volleyball at the opposition. Watching Harrison's Bob Wassenaar fly past the secondary, catch the pass and stroll untouched into the end zone. Watching the beauty, power and grace of area gymnasts. Watching North Farmington wild man Tom Seaba attack people on a football field. Admiring the all-out athletic skills of John Miller, Amy Austin, Ab Hansen, Katie MacIntosh, Brian Looser, Joe Dobson, Bruce Kratz, Vance Knight, Bill Wassenaar, Scott Gillett, Korey Shlar, Steve Gratin, Jenny Lindbert,

Annette Ruggiero, Sue Scott, Laina and Victor Shaw and so many more.

Dealing with outstanding coaches like Harrison, Mike Treachman, Rich Roy, Denny Mikal, Tom Negoshian, Greg Grodzicki, Jim O'Leary, Larry Baker, Gene Fogel, Jerry Young, Bruce Brown and Sandy Lubimich. These are people that care not only about wins and losses, but about molding young people into responsible adults.

The frustrations were infrequent. They were generally brought on by coaches unlike the ones mentioned above. There are coaches who expect the world from their student-athletes and give them nothing in return.

A case in point is Mercy softball coach Martha Sampson. Sampson demanded a lot from her players. She did not allow them to take part in the open gym sessions held by the Mercy basketball team. She even came to these sessions herself to make sure none of her players participated. Yet, Sampson did not tell the newspapers the results of her games. She did not try to get her players the recognition they deserved. She did not attend the All-Area meeting to get her players on the squad. Her not doing her job cost outstanding players like Sue Scott and Missy Delanyvald val-

uable statewide recognition that could lead to college scholarship offers. That, in my estimation, is a crime.

Favorites and forgettables. I've touched on many of these already. I'll add some more.

Favorites: Dave Quaries, a youngster that came off the soccer field to kick for the Harrison football team. A nice young man, always polite and a 4.0 student.

Elizabeth Bonello, the Mercy basketball team's effervescent statistician who delighted at weary sports writers with her unending devotion to her team, her cheery disposition and her homemade cookies.

Kim O'Neill, the youngest and perhaps prettiest varsity coach in the state, went through a host of changes in her rookie season. She started out with the attitude that her players were her friends and she could get along without a lot of outward discipline. By the end of the season, her young, under-developed team had her all at wit's end, screaming and yelling, trying to get her players motivated.

The good. About 99 percent of my job. The best. Columbia has this card. The ugly. The photo at the top of this column.