

Suburban Life

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All-Stars look to the future



Jacqueline Acho



John Brinkman



Kenneth Clark



David Darmofal



William Kellogg

THEIR FUTURES are bright, their determination is strong and their academic achievements are indisputable.

The 15 members of the 1986 Observer Academic All-Star team are heading for careers in engineering, medicine or business.

Students were selected by a committee from the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals. A formula that took into account grade averages in academic subjects and test scores in the SAT, ACT or PSAT (for juniors only) was used to rank the students.

Each high school in the Observer circulation area was invited to nominate two students, either juniors or seniors, to the team. In all, 38 were nominated.

The following achievers make up the 1986 team:

JACQUELINE A. ACHO — North Farmington High School, Farmington Hills. Acho plans to attend the University of Michigan. She is a special writer for the Farmington Observer and is a member of forensics, the marching band, track team, Spanish Club and National Honor Society. Acho, who lives on Muer Cove in Farmington Hills, was a summer exchange student in Spain and is a National Merit semifinalist. Asked who has influenced her academic career, Acho said, "My parents, through their continuing support of my efforts and encouragement in the pursuit of my own interests."

JOHN D. BRINKMAN — Bishop Burgess High School, Redford Township. Brinkman, who lives on Minock Street in Detroit, is aiming for a career specializing in robotics and plans to obtain a master's degree in electrical engineering. He is co-president of the National Honor Society, member of the Michigan Mathematics League and participated in the Wayne State Water tower Building Contest and the Great Lakes Invitational Model United Nations. He is a National Merit finalist and member of Phi Beta Kappa and placed second in the National Science Olympiad in chemistry and physics. He also received outstanding achievement awards in science, math and English. Brinkman said his academic career has been influenced by "many people — family, friends and teachers (both grade school and high school) who have continued to provide challenge, room to stretch and encouragement when I felt overwhelmed."

KENNETH CLARK — John Glenn High School, Westland. Clark is aiming for a bachelor's of science degree in aerospace engineering at the University of Michigan four years as an Air Force officer and then graduate studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His activities include cross country, tennis, orchestra, forensics, French Club and National Honor Society. He was a finalist in the Michigan Math Prize competition. Clark, who lives on Brookfield Street in Canton Township, credits his parents for inspiring academic achievement because they "gave me discipline and helped to set my standards."



BILL BRESLER/Staff photographer

Daniel Shakespeare of Catholic Central High School in Redford Township won the top ranking among the Observer Academic All-Stars. Shakespeare, who lives in West Bloomfield, will study electrical engineering at General Motors Institute while working through co-op with Delco.

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DAVID DARMOFAL — Stevenson High School, Livonia. Darmofal, who lives on Bennett Street in Livonia, plans to attend the University of Michigan where he will study math and engineering. He has held leadership positions in the Student Senate, Sophomore Class Council, Chess Club, National Honor Society, computer team and Quiz Bowl Team. He is a member of the Literary Arts Magazine staff, Jazz Band, debate team, Livonia Youth Choir, Math Club and forensics team. He is a National Merit finalist, was awarded a SAE/Uniroyl engineering scholarship, received the Summa Cum Laude award and was a district forensics tournament winner. He placed in the top 50 Michigan math students in 1985 and top 100 in 1986. "I have been greatly influenced by my parents," Darmofal said. "They have given me a set of values which stress the value of hard work. This hard work ethic has been one of the important factors in my academic career in high school."

WILLIAM D. KELLOGG — Churchill High School, Livonia. Kellogg plans to study mechanical engineering at Colorado State University and later join the Air Force and become a test pilot. A Livonia resident,

Kellogg is president of the Aerospace Club, vice president of the Physics Club and co-captain of the computer team. He has worked on the Walk for Mankind and is a crossing guard coordinator. He received an honorable mention in the Michigan Math Competition and is a member of the National Honor Society. Who has influenced his academic career? "Big Bird and Kermit the Frog," said Kellogg. "I'll never forget Sesame Street."

PAUL KRAJEWSKI — Stevenson High School, Livonia. Krajewski, who lives on Hammer Street in Livonia, will attend the University of Michigan and study engineering. His school activities include Quiz Bowl team, math team, Class Council, treasurer of the National Honor Society and president of the Math Club. He is a member of the pep and marching bands and is assistant coach of the St. Colette softball team. He is a Michigan Math Prize finalist, will graduate summa cum laude and attended Boys' State. His eighth-grade teacher, Dana Hardwidge, influenced his academic pursuits. Krajewski said, "She challenged me to work and the study habits that she helped me to develop have really helped me throughout my high school years."

SOO JIN KWON — Plymouth Salem High School, Plymouth. Kwon, a Plymouth resident, will attend Yale

to study business and music. She was offered an alumni scholarship and a music scholarship to the University of Michigan. She is captain of the varsity tennis team, opinion and commentary editor of the school newspaper, member of the student council, pianist with the Jazz Band and manager of the boy's tennis team. Kwon is vice president of the National Honor Society and was the Elks Club Student of the Year in 1984-85. Her English teacher, Ruth Tonner, has been "my teacher and my mentor," said Kwon. "She helped me to grow intellectually and spiritually. She taught me courage and self respect. She taught me to seek and persevere. She showed faith in me and thus gave me faith in myself."

IAN McCREERY — John Glenn High School, Westland. McCreery would like to study history or Russian studies at the University of Michigan or Williams College. He is aiming for a career in teaching or archaeology. His school activities include varsity football, French Club and National Honor Society. He is vice president of the Student Council and a crew trainer at McDonald's. McCreery, a resident of Wayne, is a National Merit finalist, semifinalist for a Senate youth scholarship and is listed in Who's Who of High School Students. "My mother has most influenced my academics because of her attitudes toward education and learning," McCreery said. "Education isn't just school, but learning from everything around you."

PETER MUELLER — Bishop Burgess High School, Redford Township. Mueller, who lives in Detroit, is aiming for college and possibly a graduate degree. He is vice president of Close Up Congress, head delegate to Model United Nations and a member of Computer Club, stage crew, forensics and his parish council. Mueller was a medalist from the National Science Olympiad and a National Merit semifinalist. "I feel that my parents have had the greatest influence in my academic career. They have always had high expectations," Mueller said.

DENNIS J. PAIGE — Garden City High School, Garden City. Paige, a Garden City resident, plans to study engineering at the University of Michigan. His activities include bowling, wallyball, designing games, canceling and writing poems and stories. He is president of a local gaming society, student-teacher at a junior high school and member of National Honor Society. His academic career has been influenced by "my brothers in the sense that I have always tried to compete and surpass their high academic and aesthetic standards. They have always supported me," Paige said.



Daniel Weiner



Mark Schiefelky



Linda Rhee



Christine Pellar



Dennis Paige

Runners-up miss by a fraction

Twenty-three students were runners-up for the Observer All Star team. They include:

Julie Gallagher of Farmington Hills, Farmington High School; Laurie Dingle of Farmington, Farmington High School; Victoria Killus of Redford Township, Thurston High School; Michael Chiang of Northville, Catholic Central High School; and Robert Clements of Wayne, Wayne Memorial High School.

Mary Pastula of Garden City, Garden City High School; Patricia Crowley of Redford Township, Union High School; Kevin McKay of Wayne, Wayne Memorial High School; Phillip Brossan of Redford Township, Thurston High School; and Anne Murphy of Livonia, Clarenceville High School.

Sangeeta Gandhi, Farmington Hills, Mercy High School; Paula Abowd, Farmington Hills, Mercy High School; Nik Lulajuraj of Livonia, Clarenceville High School; John Barnes of Plymouth, Plymouth Christian Academy; Lisa Mansfield of Livonia, Ladywood High School; Michelle Mataga of Livonia, Churchill High School; and Susan Reicha of Redford Township, St. Agatha High School.

Rene Nowicki of Detroit, St. Agatha High School; Dawn Sievert of Livonia, Ladywood High School; Brenda Bulmanski of Westland, Franklin High School; Bradley Char of Farmington Hills, North Farmington High School; and Stephanie Odum of Northville, Plymouth Christian Academy.



Paul Krajewski



Soo Jin Kwon



Ian McCreery



Peter Mueller

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