

City schools supply all-area talent

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versatile runner," Holmberg said. "In addition to the hurdles, she anchored the 800 and 1,600 relays."

Jennifer Reed, Farmington, 100 dash: It was a year of firsts for Reed, the senior at Farmington High.

Reed was first in the Farmington City meet, placed first in every one of Farmington's dual meets and she was first in the WLA meet. Reed set a new school record with her personal best time of 12.5, which also was Observeland's best time.

She was second at the regional. "Jennifer is a quality runner and a quality person," Brown said. "Her mental preparation is outstanding. We had to send her home from practice because she always wanted to do more."

Philana Hooper, Borgess, 200 dash: A hamstring injury slowed down the senior at the Class B meet, but she came up with nothing but medal-winning performances during the regular season.

Hooper had Observeland's second-best time in the 200, clocking 25.5. She was the Catholic League champion and placed second at the regional. Hooper also was a member of the 400 and 800 relay teams.

"Philana really developed this year," coach John McGreevy said. "She displayed a lot of courage running on sore shins most of the season."

Alyssa Belaire, Churchill, 400 dash: Alyssa's efforts this spring made track fans realize there are two athletes from Churchill named Belaire starring on the track.

Her brother, Jason Belaire, is a key member of the Chargers boys team. Belaire, a sophomore, was first at the WLA meet, clocking 1:30.3, and she was third at the regional. She also won the East Detroit Invitational with a time of 1:31.4.

Belaire was a member of all of Churchill's relay teams, anchoring the 400, 800 and 1,600 units. She also competed in five other events.

"In the last two years of coaching Alyssa, she has improved from both the athletic and emotional sides," coach Kelly Graham said. "Her abilities in track will



Jennifer Knapp Stevenson

Jennifer Pfander Stevenson

Tracy Clark Stevenson

improve throughout the next two years and will definitely become a well-known athlete throughout the area as well as statewide."

Lysbay McGowan, Borgess, 800 run: A Catholic League and regional champion, McGowan's time of 2:20.1 was a new school record. She also anchored the 800 and 1,600 relay teams.

In her career, McGowan competed in every running event. As a sophomore, McGowan was a member of the 3,200 relay team that set a new school record. "Lysbay's a tough little nut," McGreevy said. "She is the best when the meet is on the line — pulling strength from hidden reserves when she knows the team depends on her performance. Lysbay is a winner."

Jennifer Kiel, Farmington, 1,600 run: Kiel was eighth at the Class A meet, clocking 5:17.3 — a new school record. She was second in the regional and WLA meets. Kiel took first place in the 3,200 run at the regional.

RELAY EVENTS

Farmington, 400 and 800: Jennifer Reed, Sheila Gual, Nicole Tocco and Angie Forge earned first place at the regional in both the 400 and 800 relays. They had Observeland's best times in each event, clocking 51.0 and 1:45.4, respectively. Their best time in the 800 set a new school record.

"These two relay teams have been our bread and butter," Brown said. "Much of the credit for the consistency falls on Angie Forge. Angie has anchored the relays for four years. Angie is one of the most competitors I have ever coached. Nicole Tocco is one of the best around at cutting in as the third girl after the second hand-off."

Farmington Harrison, 1,600: Maria Chabogants, Niviv Hakin, Audra Cockerham and Jane Peters clocked 4:11.4 at the Class B meet and they were the Stafford Relay champion. They won the WLA meet.

"This mile relay team had its mind set on being WLAA champs and all area from the first day of practice," coach Mark Babcock said. "They set very lofty goals and worked extremely hard to achieve them."

Livonia Stevenson, 3,200: Suzanne Moore, Jennifer Knapp, Jennifer Pfander and Tracy Clark scored often for the Spartans and held Observeland's best time of 9:24. They were WLAA champions, the regional runner-up and placed 13th at the Class A meet.

"This was a very balanced team — each girl was capable of running under 2:30," Holmberg said. "Three of the four return next year."

All-Area girls track selections



Roberta Wiggle Clarenceville



Philana Hooper Bishop Borgess

Alyssa Belaire Churchill

Lysbay McGowan Bishop Borgess



Michelle Gayney Bishop Borgess

Rebecca Willey Ladywood

Suzanne Moore Stevenson

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