

## Sports

— Dan O'Meara editor/591-2312



Thursday, August 10, 1989 O&amp;E

(F10)

# Burgess lauded as top athlete of '89

## Harrison grad 3-sport star

By Dan O'Meara  
staff writer

In a school noted for great athletes — past and present — Chad Burgess leaves an extraordinary legacy at Farmington Hills Harrison.

The Hawks have produced their share of three-sport athletes, but none achieved the same high distinction that Burgess did at every stop.

Whether he wore a football, basketball or track uniform, Burgess always excelled, and his consistency throughout the 1988-89 school year made him a rare all-stater in each sport.

"I don't think anyone at Harrison has done that," said the quiet, modest Burgess. "I had thought about that since I was in the ninth grade."

Burgess also was named to the All-Observer team in each of those sports and has been chosen the 1989 Male Athlete of the Year by the Farmington Observer.

He was not without competition for the honor, however, as Harrison teammate Jason Lichtman and North Farmington's Zalm Cunniff and Joe Sturtz received strong consideration, also.

WHILE HIS best sport may arguably be basketball, it is football that he will concentrate on in college. Burgess was willing to take the best offer that came along, and that came from the Saginaw Valley State University football program.

"I know it's going to be a little different, going away to college and leaving all my friends, but I'm excit-

ed," said Burgess, who has been given the OK to try out for the Cardinal basketball team, too.

The 6-foot-2, 170-pound Burgess was a three-year regular on Harrison's football team, starting at wide receiver and defensive back the last two years.

"They said they're going to try me at both, but I guess they're in need of defensive backs right now," he said. "The coach said I could possibly see some playing time at free safety."

The highlight of Burgess' athletic career at Harrison was the Class B championship the Hawks won last November. Beating St. Joseph 44-9 in the Pontiac Silverdome clinched the school's first 13-0 season and third state title in eight years.

When quarterback Mill Coleman threw a 71-yard touchdown pass to Bryan Wauldron on the first play from scrimmage, Burgess sensed the day belonged to Harrison.

"I HAD A feeling we were going to win it because everybody was so motivated after that," he said.

Motivation played a big role in that season of unbroken success, according to Burgess, after the Hawks had lost the '87 championship game to Grand Rapids Catholic Central.

"The coaches were always saying 'You want to get there again. You don't want to say you could have worked harder.' We had to work a lot harder to get there, because every team knew who we were and was thinking about Harrison."

A personal note to that season is that Burgess and Wauldron, besides being good friends, were also rivals,

both contending for Coleman's pass-

Burgess, the leading receiver as a junior, was overshadowed by the emergence of Wauldron last fall, but his talent and skill were respected so that he still earned all-state honors on defense.

"I was glad it was someone from our team taking the spotlight instead of someone from the other team," said Burgess, who had a fine season by any other standards with 22 interceptions for 423 yards and six touchdowns.

BURGESS WAS unquestionably the key player on Harrison's basketball team last winter, averaging 18 points and nine rebounds for a ballclub that fashioned an 18-4 record. He ranks as the school's all-time leading scorer with 999 points.

Burgess, a B-average student, grew up with Harrison basketball coach Mike Teachman, getting his start as the team's ballboy when he was 5 and his brother, Brian, played on the team.

As a senior, Burgess led the Hawks to an excellent regular season that saw them win the Western Division title in the Western Lakes Activities Association and earn a statewide ranking.

But Harrison was upset in the WLAA playoffs by Westland John Glenn, and the season eventually ended in the district final — a 70-61 loss to favored Redford Bishop Borgess despite a gallant, second-half effort.

Please turn to Page 4



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Chad Burgess wearing a baseball uniform is an uncommon sight, but his performance in the Connie Mack league this summer was evidence of his overall athletic ability. Burgess starred in football, basketball and track for Harrison High.

# Stingrays rely on depth

## to earn long-course title

Not a single male or female member of the Michigan Stingray Swim Association team captured an age-group high-point award at last weekend's State Long Course (50-meter pool) Swim Championships at Southfield's Civic Center.

That's the bad news, and as far as the Stingrays are concerned, it was the only disappointment. The Farmington Hills-based team used its enormous depth to great advantage, easily capturing the overall team championship and both the boys and girls high-point trophies.

The Stingrays finished with 723 points, far ahead of runner-up Birmingham-Bloomfield Atlantis' 600.5. The Royal Oak Penguins were third (566) in the 44-team, 600-swimmer field, followed by the Livonia Spartans (466), Southwest Michigan Swimming (437) and Ann Arbor Swim Club (352).

### swimming

The Stingray girls scored 339 points to 286 for Atlantis and 263 for Pontiac Aquatics, while the Stingray boys totaled 384 to 379 for the Penguins and 314.5 for Atlantis.

WHAT MADE the Stingrays' victory more remarkable was that it was accomplished without using six of the team's top swimmers, who were resting for a national meet in Buffalo, N.Y., this weekend.

"That we could win this meet without the national swimmers and without any individual high-point winners shows the depth of our club," said Stingray coach Pete Leonhardt. "I'm really proud of the way our kids swam."

Leading the Stingray girls were:

• Christie Duthie in the 17-18 age group with firsts in the 100-meter freestyle (1:02.17) and 100 butterfly (1:08.68), seconds in the 50 free (29.10) and 200 fly (2:32.29), and a third in the 200 free (2:16.86);

• Lisa Richardson (10 and undgr) with wins in the 100 free (1:10.55) and 50 breaststroke (41.63), a second in the 50 free (31.91) and thirds in the 200 individual medley (3:02.76) and 100 breast (1:33.17);

• And Anna Palmer (15-14), with a win in the 200 breast (2:52.10) and a second in the 100 breast (1:20.77).

In the girls relays, Duthie and Shelly McCaffrey combined for a first in the 15-18 400 medley (4:18.77).

LEADING THE STINGRAY boys were:

Please turn to Page 3



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

### Synchronized swimming

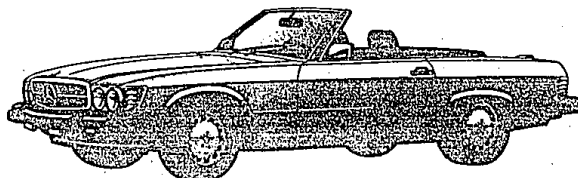
Kendallwood Swim Club is preparing for its annual synchronized swim show, which is planned for Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 15-16. Rehearsing their part in the show are (front to rear) Mogan Shanahan, Caroline Gregory, Erin Shanahan, Erin Matulovic

and Chrissy Jacobs. The theme for this year's performance is "Kendallwood Aqua Stars Travel Around The World." The show begins at 9 each night. The club is located at 13 Mile and Farmington roads, and the price for admission is \$2.

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