

CC, Hawks rewarded for '91 successes



Dave Cilindri
Farmington



Mike Deans
Harrison



Jason Zdyrski
Harrison



Jamie Fitzgerald
Catholic Central



Mike Mittman
Catholic Central



Steve Witke
Catholic Central



Derek Cudini
Salem



Jeff Martus
Churchill



Mike Mittman
Catholic Central



Aaron Simpson
Wayne Memorial



Casey Moothart
Canton



John Reed
Harrison

All-Area first-team selections

By Steve Kowalski
staff writer

Redford Catholic Central pulled off the expected and Farmington Hills Harrison pulled off the surprise of the 1991 boys cross country season.

CC, a three-time state champion, made a return trip this fall and finished seventh at the Class A meet. Harrison, meanwhile, made its first-ever appearance in the Class B state meet, finishing 13th overall.

For guiding Harrison to a 9-1 dual meet record, Class B regional championship and a second place Western Lakes Activities Association finish, John Reed has been named the Observer Coach of the Year.

"Three years ago we were 0-9, lost every meet and were last at the Schoolcraft (College Invitational)," Reed said earlier this season. "It's only been three years and already we moved up to 13th in the state."

Because of increasing enrollment, Harrison will compete in Class A next year.

As for the runners of the Observer first team, five of the 10 members are seniors. Three area runners finished among the Top-20 in the Class A Individual race and there were several other sterling times from runners on the first and second teams.

ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM

Dave Cilindri, junior, Farmington: Cilindri was fifth in the WLAA meet, fourth at the Haslett Invitational, ninth at West Bloomfield and 12th in the Oakland County Meet.

"Dave was consistent all year," coach Jerry Young said. "He's a good student and leader."

Mike Deans, senior, Farmington: Deans was 12th in the Class A regional and 37th at the state meet. He was ninth at the Redford Union Invitational, 10th at Walley Lake Western and 11th at Schoolcraft and West Bloomfield. Deans took 13th at the WLAA meet.

"Mike ran consistent all year, he never ran a bad race," coach John Reed said. "He's a solid runner all-around. He's a hard worker, team leader and dedicated."

Jason Zdyrski, senior, Farmington: Zdyrski was a runner-up at the Walley Lake Western Invitational and took third at the regional and WLAA meet. Zdyrski also placed 65th at the state meet and during the season had a pair of fifth place finishes at the West Bloomfield and Schoolcraft races.

"Jason's the best runner I've ever had," Reed said. "He ran fantastic all

year. Other than the state meet he had a tremendous season."

Jeff Martus, senior, Livonia: Churchill: Martus' best time was 16:40, coming at Cass Benton. He won six dual meets and failed to win only one. Martus was sixth at Schoolcraft College and 18th at both the regional and WLAA meet.

"Jeff's a hard worker who knows by example," coach Dave Westover said.

Casey Moothart, freshman, Plymouth: Canton: Moothart recorded his best time of 17:14 at Cass Benton on two occasions — in a dual meet against Walley Lake Western and in the WLAA meet. His 17:14 time is the sixth best time ever for a Canton runner — and he has three more seasons to move up on that prestigious list. He was eighth in the league meet, 16th at regional (17:22) and 28th (17:50) at the state meet.

"Casey's development as a runner this year has been swift and without any real plateau," coach Jim Hayes said. "Knowing the kind of young man he is, I am sure that he will continue to improve and will attain any goal he sets for himself."

Derek Cudini, junior, Plymouth: Salem: Cudini's best time of 16:49 earned him 23rd place at the Jackson Invitational, but he had a pair of Top 10 finishes: sixth in the Ann Arbor Pioneer Invitational and seventh at the WLAA meet (17:10). He was 14th at the state meet (17:50) and 17th at the regional (17:26) and West Bloomfield Invitational.

"Derek led the team consistently all year and was a very valuable asset to our team," coach Geoff Baker said. "His hard work ethic this year has enabled him to achieve all-conference and all-area honors for the second time. We look forward to his future success next year."

Mike Mittman, junior, Redford Catholic Central: Mittman took third in the Catholic League (17:08) and seventh in the Operation Friendship meet (17:18). He was 13th at Sturgis, 14th at the Class A regional and 33rd in the state

final (17:41) after recovering from an illness.

"Once he regained some strength, he gave us some good performances when we needed them the most in the last three big races," coach Tony Magni said.

Steve Witke, senior, Redford Catholic Central: Witke, running cross country for the first time, won all four dual meets in which CC competed. Witke has running experience, however, being a two-time Observer first-team choice in the 3,200-yard meter relay in boys track. Witke was second in both the Sturgis (18:29) and Catholic League (18:45) invitational. He took third in Operation Friendship, fourth at regional (18:48) and ninth at state (17:08). He was sixth at the Haslett Invitational and seventh in both the West Bloomfield and Holy Ropes.

"Steve is a confident runner who thrives on competition," Magni said. "He has a great deal of determination and ambition, but he's always looking out for his teammates. He's consistent, works hard and is determined — a well-rounded individual."

Jamie Fitzgerald, junior, Redford Catholic Central: Fitzgerald saved his best for last, recovering from a mid-season demotion to the junior varsity to finish 41st at the state meet (17:45). Fitzgerald was ninth at regional (17:50), fifth in the Operation Friendship (17:15) and 11th at the Catholic League (17:26) race.

"Jamie focuses on the big meets at the end and paced his season just as he paced his races," Magni said. "He is very well liked by everyone and a good runner who often sacrificed his personal gain for team gain."

Aaron Simpson, senior, Wayne Memorial: Simpson overcame a leg injury, which caused him to miss three weeks, to finish 20th at the Class A meet (17:48.3). He was 19th at a Class A regional and recorded his best time of 16:40 at Belleville prior to his injury.

all-area boys cross country

ALL-OBSERVER BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

FIRST TEAM

Steve Witke	Redford CC
Derek Cudini	Ply. Salem
Jason Zdyrski	Farm. Harrison
Dave Cilindri	Farmington
Mike Deans	Farm. Harrison
Jeff Martus	Liv. Churchill
Jamie Fitzgerald	Redford CC
Casey Moothart	Redford CC
Aaron Simpson	Ply. Canton
	Wayne Memorial

SECOND TEAM

Jeff Tappier	Westland
Chris Kuzle	Redford CC
Justin Dwyer	Farm. Harrison
Steve Kozlowski	Liv. Churchill
Todd Haney	Farm. Harrison
Eric McKeon	Redford CC
Chris Burns	Ply. Canton
Jon MacKinnon	Ply. Salem
Jayson McDonald	Liv. Stevenson
	Ply. Salem

COACH OF THE YEAR

John Reed — Farm. Harrison

HONORABLE MENTION

North Farmington: Jeff Howe; Plymouth: Dave Yack, Shawn McNamee; Westland: John Olsen; Mark Coleman, Jason Yarny, Scott Sokolick; Livonia: Fracklin; Lee Devers; Redford Catholic Central: Mark Lee; Aaron Shepp; John Walter; Farm. Harrison: Farmington Harrison; Tim Bason; Plymouth Salem: Matt Clark; Farmington: Mario Nordini; Livonia: Churchville; Scott Sepanski; Jon Curry; John Wyckoff; Lutheran Westland; Doug Johnson; Plymouth Christian: Eric Jerjes

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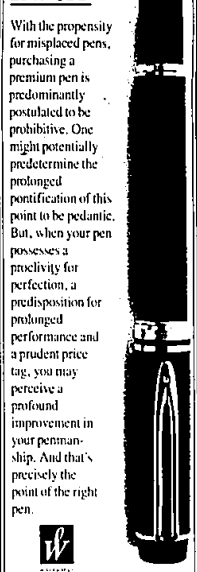
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