

Runners-up earn top grades too

Close to two dozen students have been cited for honorable mention in the Observer's 1994 Academic All-Star roundup.

They too deserve recognition for outstanding academic achievement, club involvement, leadership, community volunteer work and honors.

Here is a profile of these 22 students.

MARK FIXLER

John Glenn High School, Westland

Mark, the son of Robert and Beth Fixler of Westland, is the oldest of three children.

He is active in groups as varied as track and field and the National Honor Society. He has received academic letters for each of his four years at John Glenn.

Mark credits his parents with continually motivating him to do well in school.

He hopes to become a chemical engineer after college graduation.

CHRISTOPHER MEYER

Franklin High School, Livonia

Christopher, son of Ronald and Susan Meyer of Livonia, is the eldest of three children.

"The person who has had the greatest impact on my academic life is my mother," he said. "She read stories to me throughout my young life and later encouraged me to enjoy books."

"My mother also encouraged creativity; teaching me to think about what I read or observed and to think about it, to imagine new ways of doing things or telling stories."

Christopher has performed in several school plays. He sang with the male choir, the Bel Canto Choir and a traveling choir ensemble.

For the past three years, he has worked with the students at Grant Elementary. He has been a student congress member for the past three years and is currently class vice president. He has worked with a church youth group for four years.

He is a member of the National Honor Society. Christopher also finds the time to be editor in chief of the John Glenn student newspaper.

Christopher has been on the honor roll for four years, was named Livonia PTA Outstanding Youth, and is currently a semi-finalist in the Michigan State University Alumni Distinguished Scholarship competition.

He is interested in career fields ranging from engineering to stage performance.

ERIN MURFEY

Churchill High School, Livonia

Erin is the daughter of Christopher and Janis Murfey of Livonia. She has one younger sister.

Erin plans to major in biology in college. She hopes to become a doctor.

"My parents have influenced me most," she said. "They always stressed the importance of education and pushed me to do my best at all times."

Erin is senior class secretary, assistant editor of the yearbook, treasurer of

'My biology teacher at Churchill, John Covert, has influenced me most in my academic career. Throughout a year and a half biology course, Mr. Covert taught me how fascinating biology can be.'

Rebecca C. Smedley
Churchill High School

the Spanish Club, a member of the varsity golf team, a reporter for the school newspaper, a Red Cross volunteer and a prom committee member.

She has won academic and citizenship excellence awards, Summa Cum Laude honors, PTSA Outstanding Senior Award, a Scholar Athlete award, and her name is listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students."

BARBARA KELLNER

John Glenn High School, Westland

Barbara is one of four daughters of Gary and Nancy Kellner of Westland. She credits her parents for her academic success.

"They always supported but never pushed me," she said.

Barbara is a representative on the Student Council, a varsity basketball team member, St. Richard youth group member, Ecology Club treasurer, National Honor Society vice president, a member of The Spicians, and holds a part-time job.

Barbara has earned academic letters, was a Michigan Math Prize competition finalist, a Junior Miss Scholastic Award winner, and she earned a commendation student certificate from PSAT.

She plans to attend Michigan State University and veterinary school.

JASON BUELOW

Franklin High School, Livonia

Jason is the son of Roger and Trudy Buelow of Livonia. He has an older brother.

Like most of his peers, he credits his parents with "having the largest influence on my academic career. While they always encouraged academic excellence, they never pressured me. This allowed for comfort in my academic endeavors."

Jason has served as student ambassador to the student council exchange, a troop guide for Boy Scout Troop 499 (he reached the rank of Eagle Scout in 1992), co-captain of the Franklin Computer Team, and a volunteer for the millage passage promotion committee. Jason also does volunteer work with the Salvation Army. He is a member of Youth for Unity, the Physics Club, and DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education).

He was president of the Student Activities Congress this year, and a representative for Boys State last summer.

Sports involvement includes soccer, including team MVP in 1993, All State Second Team, All Division, and All Area honors; a letter in track junior year; a swimming letter freshman year;

and State Olympic Development Team member — Soccer 1993.

Jason is employed by Valeo Automotive in Livonia. Last summer, he was an intern in the University of Michigan summer trainee program in engineering.

This year, Jason has been named PTA Outstanding Youth recognition honoree. Last year, he was cited for outstanding achievement in math and was chosen Western Lakes Association Scholar Athlete.

Jason is a member of the National Honor Society and was NHS president last year. He is listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students."

He plans to attend Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh and major in mechanical engineering with a minor in electrical engineering.

ADAM BRANDEMIHL

Clarenceville High School, Livonia

Adam is the son of David and Linda Brandemihl of Livonia.

"My parents have influenced me most by stressing that academics is my top priority," he said. "They give me needed support and encouragement."

Adam is editor in chief of the school yearbook, treasurer of the National Honor Society, chairman of the blood drive, and a STEP '94 member. He is also a member of Students Against Driving Drunk, the Quiz Bowl, and Student Congress.

Adam received a commendation as a National Merit Scholar, was a 1993 Academic All-Star, received a Rotarian Youth Award, recognition as Clarenceville Outstanding Underclassman, and was a Michigan Math Competition top scorer.

He plans to attend either the University of Michigan or Michigan State University to pursue a career in medicine.

KELLY E. KORRECK

Ladywood High School, Livonia

Kelly is the daughter of Richard and Kathleen Korreck. She is the eldest of three children.

"My parents have always influenced and supported me in academics," she said. "My school community has also greatly influenced my academic goals."

She has been an honor roll student four years running. Kelly was a junior varsity cheerleader freshman year, co-captain sophomore year, varsity cheerleader junior year, and currently is a varsity competitive cheerleader. She has coached the Our Lady of Victory cheerleading squad the past two years.

Kelly has also participated in the French Club, Quiz Bowl, Library Club, Citizen Bee, and Business Club. She has held officer positions in most of the clubs.

She took first place in the Biology Olympics and second spot in the French contest her sophomore year. She also participated in the Chemistry Olympics junior year (fifth place).

Her junior year, Kelly headed the induction committee for the National Honor Society and is head of the NHS tutoring program this year.

She hopes to attend the University of Michigan. Kelly is considering a career in chemical engineering, physical therapy, sports medicine or international relations.

REBECCA C. SMEDLEY

Churchill High School, Livonia

Rebecca is the daughter of Ronald and Christine Smedley of Livonia.

"My biology teacher at Churchill, John Covert, has influenced me most in my academic career," she said. "Throughout a year and a half biology course, Mr. Covert taught me how fascinating biology can be. Through experiments and other classwork, my enjoyment of biology was enhanced, and my desire to become a veterinarian was enforced."

Rebecca has been involved in varsity cross country, volleyball and soccer. She has been a member of the Future Problem Solving team, placing ninth in state competition freshman year, and second in the state and second at International Conference, senior division, in Madison, Wis., her junior year.

She has collected money for the Michigan Humane Society, walked in the CROP Church World Service walk for world hunger, and has volunteered at First United Methodist Church in Farmington.

She's a member of the National Honor Society, and helped establish the Gold Card program for academic achievement through NHS. She has earned statewide recognition in various writing contests.

She has volunteered and observed surgical procedures at the Levan Road Veterinary Clinic. She also took lessons in Tung Soo Do (karate) her junior and senior years. For four years, Rebecca has been an honor roll student and has received special awards for citizenship, math, science and computers. She received the class scholar award junior year and was one of five seniors honored for academic achievement, school and community service at the PTSA Founders Dinner.

Rebecca plans to attend Michigan State University's pre-veterinary program and major in biology. She then hopes to attend graduate school and become a veterinarian.

"I look forward to caring for many different animals and I hope I can make a difference in our world," she said.

See RUNNERS-UP, 5