



Tina Caranickas Stevenson



Cheri Farber N. Farmington



Molly Johnson Mercy



Kelly Carlisle Stevenson



Jaime Strauch Churchill



Kristie Cordts Mercy



Adrienne Turri Glenn



Bethany Budde Mercy



Lisa Richardson Harrison

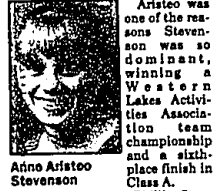
# Spartan is best among stars

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

As Aristo knows no peer when it comes to high school girls swimming in Observeland.

The sophomore sensation from Livonia Stevenson, who competed in the U.S. Open last weekend in Buffalo, N.Y., ranks among the top prep swimmers nationally.

She won a pair of individual state titles this season and led the area in seven events.



Aristo Stevenson

But coach Greg Phill's Spartans were far from a one-woman show.

They landed two others on the first team and three on the second team. They also captured two of three first-team relay spots.

Introducing the 1994 All-Observer girls swim team as selected by area coaches.

## FIRST-TEAM INDIVIDUALS

Tina Caranickas, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson: The junior posted a season-best time of 1:58.03 in the 200 freestyle (second best in the area). She also clocked the second-best area time in the 500 freestyle (5:13.25).

Caranickas was a Western Lakes Association champion in both events, as well as the Salem Invitational.

She was unbeaten in dual meets. "Although injured this year, we look forward to Tina coming back next season and being a major part of our team's success," Stevenson coach Greg Phill said.

Anna Aristo, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson: The sophomore is without a doubt the premier swimmer in the area. She led the area with best times in seven individual events. Aristo never lost an individual race in 1994.

She capped an outstanding season by winning Class A titles in the 200 individual medley (2:04.39) and 500 freestyle (5:52.50). Aristo was also WLA champion in the 100 backstroke and 100 freestyle, and Salem Invitational champ in the 100 butterfly and 200 IM.

She held WLA records in the 100 freestyle (51.57) and 100 backstroke (57.97). The 10th-grader already owns school records in the 200 freestyle, 200 IM, 100 freestyle, 500 freestyle and 100 backstroke.

Aristo has All-American status in the 200 IM and the 100 and 500 free.

"Anna is simply the finest swimmer I've ever worked with," Phill said. "I can't wait until next year."

Cheri Farber, 800 free, N. Farmington: The ninth-grader clocked a 25.34 at the state Class A meet, second best in Observeland. She was also WLA champion in the 50 freestyle.

Voted North's most valuable swimmer, Farber also went 1:03.26 in the 100 backstroke; 1:02.54 in the 100 butterfly (at the Oakland County Meet); 2:21.07 in the 200 IM; 57.2 in the 100 freestyle; and 2:04.03 in the 200 freestyle.

Kelly Johnson, diving, F.H. Mercy: The senior set a school record with a dive performance (248.2 points) in a dual meet against Birmingham Seaholm.

She lost only one dual all season (vs. Ann Arbor Pioneer).

Johnson also won the Catholic League with a total of 395.6.

She added a fifth in the Oakland County Meet (234.05), eighth in the Class A regional and was 20th overall in the state.

"We not only will miss Kelly's high scores on the board, but more importantly we will miss her leadership and coaching of the young divers," Mercy coach Greg Phill said.

Kelly Carlisle, 100 IM, Liv. Stevenson: The junior was a state qualifier in the 100 butterfly and 200 IM, posting personal bests of 1:00.98 and 2:16.53, respectively.

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## 1994 ALL-AREA GIRLS SWIM TEAM

### FIRST-TEAM INDIVIDUALS

200 free Tina Caranickas, Liv. Stevenson  
200 IM Anna Aristo, Liv. Stevenson  
800 free Cheri Farber, N. Farmington  
100 IM Kelly Carlisle, Liv. Stevenson  
100 free Jaime Strauch, Liv. Churchill  
500 free Kristie Cordts, F.H. Mercy  
100 backstroke Adrienne Turri, Westland Glenn  
100 breast Bethany Budde, F.H. Mercy

### FIRST-TEAM RELAYS

200 medley Livonia Stevenson (Julie Gallagher, Becky Noehel, Kelly Carlisle and Anna Aristo)  
200 freestyle North Farmington (Cheri Farber, Becky Ashburn, Stephanie Cohen and Amy Finkel)  
400 freestyle Livonia Stevenson (Julie Gallagher, Tina Caranickas, Anna Aristo and Maria McKenzie)

### SECOND-TEAM INDIVIDUALS

200 free Lisa Richardson, Farm. Harrison  
200 IM Julie Gallagher, Liv. Stevenson  
800 free Karyann Williams, F.H. Salem  
100 IM Bethany Budde, F.H. Mercy  
100 free Amy Finkel, N. Farmington  
500 free Heather Yagels, Farm. Mercy  
100 backstroke Yvonne Lynn, Plymouth  
100 breast Meagan Wagmoeller, Mercy  
100 breast Beth DeWolf, Liv. Stevenson

### SECOND-TEAM RELAYS

200 medley North Farmington (Cheri Farber, Amy Finkel, Becky Ashburn and Stephanie Cohen)  
200 freestyle Farmington Mercy (Caroline Kenna, Emily Szurek, Kary Ranyan and Jennifer MacDonald)

### HONORABLE MENTION (Qualified state qualifiers)

Lacyne: Andrea Dele-Monache; Mercy: Jennifer MacDonald; Caroline Kenna; Becky Ashburn; Stephanie Cohen; Cheri Farber; Amy Finkel; Beth DeWolf; Heather Yagels; Kristie Cordts; Julie Gallagher; Tina Caranickas; Anna Aristo; Maria McKenzie; Kelly Carlisle; Jaime Strauch; Adrienne Turri; Bethany Budde; Kristie Cordts.

She won the WLA in both the 100 butterfly and 200 IM.

Carlisle was also a member of Stevenson's second place 200 medley relay team at the state Class A meet.

"Being a part of the season injured, but is very determined and will be back for a fine senior year," Phill said.

Jaime Strauch, 100 free, Liv. Churchill: The senior has been Churchill's team MVP the past three years and has finished in the top three in Observeland in the 100 freestyle the past four years.

The Chargers' team captain was state finalist in the area in the 100 freestyle with a time of 54.42.

Strauch finished third in the WLA in both the 200 and 500 freestyles.

"Jaime is one of the hardest working, most dedicated and motivated swimmers I've ever coached," Churchill coach Ken Stark said. "She always looks for a challenge and knows what it takes to succeed."

Kristie Cordts, 500 free, F.H. Mercy: The sophomore finished 12th in the 500 freestyle at the state meet with a time of 5:24.89 after posting a 5:20.07 in the preliminaries.

Cordts finished first in the 200 freestyle and third in the 500 at the Catholic League meet.

In the East Lansing Invitational, Cordts took third in the 200 and was second in the 500.

"Kristie's year-round swimming background and her tenacity as a workout swimmer make the 500 freestyle a perfect event," Phill said. "Her ability to pace her races correctly has allowed Kristie to begin the process of becoming one of the future forces in Michigan high school swimming."

Adrienne Turri, 100 back, Westland Glenn: The freshman recorded one of the area's best performances at the state Class A meet with a fourth-place finish in 59.32. She also qualified in the 50 freestyle.

At the WLA meet, Turri took second in the 100 backstroke and third in the 100 butterfly.

"She was the only freshman in the (state) finals of the backstroke, and I thought that was a nice reward for her," Glenn coach Ron Staples said. "She is very sound on her stroke technique. Her first stroke is as good as any in the state."

"We have set goals for her to be the state champ before she graduates."

Bethany Budde, 100 breast stroke, F.H. Mercy: The junior finished sixth at the state meet in the 100 breast stroke with a time of 1:07.79 (after going 1:07.5 in the prelims).

She also took a fourth in Class A in the 200 IM with a time of 2:12.5 (after going 2:12.3 in the prelims).

In the Catholic League meet, Budde took first in both events (200 IM and 100 breast stroke).

"The big surprise of the season was Bethany's fourth place finish at the state," Phill said. "Her philosophy is to go out and race in all her events and that has helped her gain success. She's a great kid who has a promising senior year ahead."

### FIRST-TEAM RELAYS

Julie Gallagher, Becky Noehel, Kelly Carlisle and Anna Aristo, 200 medley, Liv. Stevenson: This Spartan relay quartet, which will receive All-American consideration, did not lose a race all year in the state finals when they settled for second (1:51.23).

At four swimmers will be back next year, Gallagher and Carlisle are juniors, while Aristo is a sophomore. Noehel is only a freshman.

Cheri Farber, Becky Ashburn, Stephanie Cohen and Amy Finkel, 200 freestyle, N. Farmington: This Raider foursome took 13th at the state meet, fifth in Oakland County and second in the WLA. They posted a season best of 1:42.39 to lead Observeland.

They also set both varsity and pool records.

Ashburn is a senior. Cohen and Finkel, next year's captains, are juniors. Farber is just a freshman.

Tina Caranickas, Maria McKenzie, Anna Aristo and Julie Gallagher, 400 freestyle, Liv. Stevenson: The quartet finished first in the WLA and fifth in Class A. Their season best was a 3:39.59.

"With every swimmer coming back for another year, we could be tough in 1995," Phill said.

Caranickas and Gallagher are juniors, while Aristo is a sophomore. McKenzie is a freshman.

### SECOND-TEAM INDIVIDUALS

Lisa Richardson, 200 free, F.H. Harrison: The sophomore was Harrison's first swimmer in nine events. She was a state finalist in both the 200 freestyle (2:00.29) and 100 freestyle (55.12), the latter of which is a Hawks varsity record.

Richardson was also a member of Harrison's record-setting 200 freestyle relay squad (1:47.01).

"Lisa is such an outstanding swimmer that she brought the whole team up to a higher level of performance," Harrison coach Mark Hodge said.

Julie Gallagher, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson: The junior was a state qualifier in both the 200 IM (2:16.34) and 100 backstroke (1:02.3).

She also led off Stevenson's 200 medley relay team that took second in the state and anchored the Spartans' fifth-place 400 freestyle relay.

"Julie is a very hard worker who has just begun to realize her potential," Phill said.

Karyann Williams, 800 free, F.H. Salem: Williams, a sophomore, took fifth in the WLA Championships (25.68) and eighth in the Michigan High School Swim Coaches Association Invitational (25.8), the latter time her season best.

The state quarter carrier is a 3.0 grade-point average.

"Karyann is proving to be one of the fastest sprinters in the area," Salem coach Chuck Olson said. "With more experience, she could be a force at the state level the next two years."

Zoe Yockey, diving, Plymouth: The junior posted Observeland's best all-dive performance with a point total of 265.05 (a Salem varsity mark).

At the WLA Championships, Yockey won the meet with a score of 409.0.

Voted Most Improved for 1994, Yockey also carries a 3.5 GPA.

"Zoe is a tough competitor in practice and meets," Olson said. "She is always respected and has encouraged the efforts of teammates and opponents."

Becky Noehel, 200 butterfly, Liv. Stevenson: Noehel, a freshman, qualified for the state meet in four events including the 100 butterfly (1:01.59), 200

## IM, 500 freestyle and 100 breast stroke.

She was the breast stroke leg on Stevenson's 200 medley relay team that gained second in the state.

"Becky had a terrific freshman year," Phill said. "She works very hard and will be a real impact swimmer as a sophomore."

Amy Finkel, 100 freestyle, N. Farmington: The junior posted individual state cuts of 55.54 in the 100 freestyle and 25.52 in the 50 freestyle.

She earned seconds at the WLA meet in the 50 freestyle, 200 medley and 100 freestyle. Finkel added a fifth in the 100 freestyle at the WLA Championships.

She was second in points this season after leading the team in 1993 (where she earned team MVP honors). She's been elected captain for 1995.

Heather Yagels, 500 free, F.H. Mercy: Yagels, a senior, won the Catholic League 500 freestyle and qualified for the state Class A meet with a personal best of 5:23.21.

Yagels has also been nominated for the Catholic League's Scholar-Athlete Award.

"Heather swam with so much confidence this year and was the team leader of the distance crew," Phill said. "Her ability to smile during the hardest work-out helped to keep everybody focused toward our common goal."

"Mercy swimming will miss her."

Yvonne Lynn, 100 backstroke, Plymouth: The sophomore finished first in the 100 backstroke (1:03.38) at the WLA Championships and clocked a personal best of 1:02.39 at state meet.

The Raiders' team MVP was also a member of Salem's state-qualifying 200 medley relay team.

"Yvonne is one of the hardest trainers in the pool and weight room," Olson said of Lynn, who also carries a 3.0 GPA. "She consistently swam fast every meet, no matter what the event. She's a great team person in support and accomplishments."

Meagan Wagmoeller, 100 breast stroke, F.H. Mercy: A junior, Wagmoeller recorded a personal best of 1:11.02 in the 100 breast stroke, good enough to qualify for the state meet.

The Raiders' captain was also second in the Catholic League meet.

"Meg's desire to swim fast is an important aspect of her success," Phill said. "But her leadership and concern for other Mercy swimmers is also commendable. Meg Weg (her nickname) loves the breast stroke and her goal for next year is a top-12 finish at the state meet."

Beth DeWolf, 100 breast stroke, Liv. Stevenson: DeWolf, a senior, was a state qualifier in the 100 breast stroke (1:11.02) and 200 IM (2:18.52).

She was third in both events at the WLA meet.

"Beth is the type of girl a coach dreams of because she is very hard working and very committed," Phill said. "Stevenson will miss Beth DeWolf."

## SECOND-TEAM RELAYS

Cheri Farber, Amy Finkel, Becky Ashburn and Stephanie Cohen, 200 medley, N. Farmington: This quartet only swam together on three occasions before qualifying for the state meet.

They placed 11th (1:53.76) in Class A, the first North team to make the finals in four years. They also took a second in the WLA meet.

Caroline Kenna, Emily Szurek, Kary Ranyan and Jennifer MacDonald, 200 freestyle, F.H. Mercy: This Mercy foursome dropped from 1:44.29 to 1:43.52 at the state meet, 21st best overall.

They added a sixth at Oakland County and were Catholic League champs.

Ranyan, Mercy's co-captain, is a senior. Kenna is a sophomore, while Szurek and MacDonald are freshmen.

Jennifer MacDonald, Katie Scallen, Bethany Budde and Kristie Cordts, 400 freestyle, F.H. Mercy: These Mercy girls saved their best for last, clocking a 3:49.93 at the state meet.

They went 3:51.51 to finish sixth in Oakland County.

Scallen, a co-captain, is a senior. Budde is a junior, while Cordts is a sophomore. MacDonald is a freshman.

This relay honor is exciting for our senior Katie Scallen," Phill said. "And with three of our four back next year, we hope to go in the low 3:40s."

## Stevenson medley: The Spartans had the best medley relay with (front from left) Kelly Carlisle, Becky Noehel, (back from left) Anna Aristo and Julie Gallagher.

North relays: North Farmington had the best 200 freestyle and runner-up medley relays with (seated) Amy Finkel, (back from left) Stephanie Cohen, Cheri Farber and Becky Ashburn.

Stevenson 400 free: The Spartans had the top 400 freestyle relay with (standing from left) Anna Aristo, Julie Gallagher, (seated) Tina Caranickas and Maria McKenzie (not pictured).

Mercy 200 free: The Marlins had the second-best time in this relay with the team of (seated) Jenny MacDonald, (standing from left) Caroline Kenna, Emily Szurek and Kary Ranyan.

Mercy 400 free: Mercy had the runner-up team in the 400 freestyle relay with (standing from left) Bethany Budde, Kristie Cordts, Jenny MacDonald and (seated) Katie Scallen.

Julie Gallagher Stevenson

Karyann Williams Salem

Zoe Yockey Plymouth

Becky Noehel Stevenson

Amy Finkel N. Farmington

Heather Yagels Mercy

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