

All-Area from page 4C

either first- or second-team all-state honors from the high school coaches association.

Three players — Steve Williford and Scott Sersen of Stevenson and Plymouth Canton's George Tomasso — are repeat All-Observer selections.

Redford Catholic Central's Chris Kennedy and Tom Dehake were second-team picks last year. Stevenson has four players on the 1995 team, Salem three, Livonia Franklin and CC two apiece, Churchill and Canton one each.

ALL-AREA TEAM

George Tomasso, goalie, Canton: The senior keeper was a Class A all-state selection the last two years, including first team honors in 1995. Tomasso allowed only 12 goals in 20 games this year — five in the last 10 — and had 11 shutouts along the way. He had a goals-against average of 0.6. As a junior, Tomasso helped the Chiefs win the Class A championship, recording

13 shutouts while letting in a mere 13 goals in 24 games.

"He's definitely a big game keeper, no doubt about it," Canton coach Don Smith said. "He's a strong kid, good in the air, a good all-around athlete."

Scott Sersen, defender, Stevenson: The senior sweeper was the best defensive player on a team that posted 12 shutouts. Sersen also managed to contribute five goals and six assists to the offense.

"We ran a zone defense that was second to none, and Scott was instrumental in the execution of it," coach Walt Barrett said, adding Sersen should have been a first team all-star but was overlooked.

"He's a leader by example and can organize complicated defensive schemes. He's the salt of the earth when it comes to defensive players."

Chris Curry, defender, Salem: The lone junior on the All-Observer team was a two-year starter at sweeper and the top defender on the state championship team.

Curry also managed to score four goals and was the Salem co-MVP.

"Chris kicks the ball a mile," coach

Ken Johnson said of Curry's ability to clear the ball. "We allowed just five goals in eight playoff games, and the last three regular-season games were shutouts, too."

Chris Kennedy, defender, CC: The Catholic Central senior received All-Catholic and second-team all-state honors after a fine season for the Shamrocks (10-5). Besides being the team leader on defense, Kennedy also scored six goals and had one assist. He was a three-year letterman.

"Chris has great physical size, with outstanding skills to go with it," CC coach Phil Lajoy said. "From time to time, he'd get involved in the offense, especially when we really needed him. He created problems for the other team; he has a real dangerous shot."

Steve Williford, midfielder, Stevenson: Williford's 18 assists serves as a testament to his playmaking ability and value as a midfielder. He also ranked among his team's top scorers with 10 goals.

Williford was named to the high school coaches all-state dream team.

"Steve is a self-motivated, hard-working player," coach Walt Barrett said. "He was our quiet leader and a player with great individual skills. All we had to do was win one more game, and he would have been Mr. Soccer."

Matt Quinter, midfielder, Stevenson: Quinter was the other half of an outstanding midfield combination for the Spartans. The second-team all-star was involved in the offense a lot, accounting for eight goals and 10 assists, and also contributed heavily on defense.

"Matt has fantastic athletic abilities, great skill," coach Walt Barrett said, adding Quinter's name is well-known by college scouts. "His personality helped to unite and solidify our team. For a Virginia Beach surfer, he turned out to be a helluva soccer player."

Robby Masani, forward, Salem: Masani played four years on the Salem varsity and distinguished himself by earn-

Brian Zewitzak, midfielder, Churchill: Zewitzak was voted the most valuable player on the Churchill team by his teammates, leading the Chargers with 10 goals and nine assists.

The first-team all-star started every game and rarely came off the field. Churchill coach Chad Campau tutored Zewitzak once or twice the whole season. "Brian got our offense started most of the time," Campau said. "He's good at trapping the ball and bringing it to his foot. He's quick and can beat guys one-on-one."

Tom Dehake, midfielder, CC: Dehake was often the player who coordinated and initiated the attack. The senior halfback had 23 total points this year with five goals and 13 assists.

Dehake, a three-year starter and two-time All-Catholic player, usually marked the other team's best player. He had 15 goals and 23 assists during his career. "Tom is extremely intelligent and plays the game in a very smart manner," Lajoy said. "He has great vision and does a real good job of distributing the ball."

Eric Bowman, midfielder, Franklin: Bowman's intensity and high energy made him a leader by example and a key player in the Franklin lineup.

He had 10 goals, including the winning goal in the district semifinal, and six assists. Bowman was the team MVP.

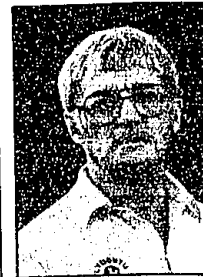
"As much as I hate analogies linked to soccer, (Lance) sports editor Brad Emory's description of Eric as Franklin's version of Pete Rose in soccer shorts was correct," Franklin coach Dave Hobeitzel said.

"In some games, we played with only one center, because Eric could handle both the physical aspect as well as the technical and mental requirements that come with the position."

Ronny Masani, forward, Salem: Masani played four years on the Salem varsity and distinguished himself by earn-



George Tomasso



Ken Johnson

ing a place on the coaches dream team this year.

He scored 13 goals and assisted on 21 others as a senior, pushing his respective career totals to 30 and 31. Masani was the other co-MVP at Salem.

"The main thing he brought to the team, besides his versatility, was his toughness and aggressiveness," coach Ken Johnson said. "He was kind of our rock."

Drew Drummond, forward, Salem: Drummond received Salem's top-scorer award, tallying 22 goals and 10 assists this year.

He led a school record for most goals in one game with five against Walpole Lake Central and ended his career with 20.

Drummond, a second-team all-star, also scored the winning goals in the playoffs against Stevenson, Ann Arbor Pioneer and Novi.

Masani and Drummond rotated between the forward and midfield positions.

"We used to drive teams crazy, switching them; they're both real versatile," Johnson said. "Drew played off Robby real well and used his speed to his advantage."

Jeff Urbats, forward, Stevenson: Urbats was the leading scorer in Observerland and was at the finishing end of most Stevenson scores. He had an outstanding senior season in which he had 30 goals and six assists.

"His release was the quickest around; that's why he scored so many goals," coach Walt Barrett said. "He scored four times against Pioneer and had at least a half dozen hat tricks."

Roberto Vega, forward, Franklin: Vega was a clutch player for the Patriots, scoring five game-winning goals. He finished his senior season with 10 goals and led the Patriots with 10 assists.

Vega was named the offensive MVP on the Franklin team and helped the Patriots win their first district championship in school history.

"Rob was one of our tri-captains, and he proved his value with his on-field leadership," Franklin coach Dave Hobeitzel said. "Rob was able to find a way to score in the big games and played consistently throughout the year. His leadership abilities will be sorely missed."

Raiders from page 1C

tion is solid with 5-9 Cochran there.

"He does a great job giving us a push on the ball and making good decisions in transition," he said. "He understands how to make other people better by penetrating, dishing and hitting the open man."

Jones (5-10) is similar to Beal in the way he plays, working hard and challenging all over the court. He averaged 3 1/4 points and three rebounds.

"He's the kind of kid who will

make hustle plays for us, diving on the floor, chasing loose balls, pulling down rebounds and putting up putbacks," Swinehart said. "He plays the game with a lot of intensity and emotion, and he can really give us a spark."

The Trzos brothers give North side and strength inside. Bill is 6-6 and 220 pounds; Jeff goes 6-5 and 205.

The latter averaged six boards in his brief varsity stint. In five of his last seven JV games, he went

wild with games of 16, 13, 13, 17 and 11 rebounds.

"He plays physically and plays hard; he's a monster on the boards," Swinehart said. "He's a smart post player, and (assistant coach) Pete (Mantyla) does a great job teaching kids how to play the post."

Bill Trzos uses his size better to move people away from the basket and rebound, Swinehart said. Kemp is a good athlete with soccer and track experience and also can shoot the three.

Joining the varsity are five new members. Four are juniors and former JV players: 6-2 forward Scott Gold, 6-0 forward Dave Rut and 6-7 guards Ernest Yeldo and Corey Forth. The fifth is sophomore Kirk Taylor, a 6-4 transfer from Redford Catholic Central.

The Raiders begin the season Tuesday at home against Lakeland. On Friday, they visit Southfield-Lathrup, which features Duke University recruit Mike Chappell.

And on the seventh day... they brunched.

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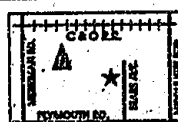
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