

Kingswood, Seaholm girl netters look good

By JOHN BOZKO

KINGSWOOD SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP girls' tennis team leads a long lineup of strong local net squads.

"I don't like to overstate," says Kingswood coach Nancy Ryan, "but we will be a strong contender. We've always had winning seasons. The most matches we've ever lost in a season was 10. Over seven years, we've only lost five matches while winning 32."

"I've been coaching tennis and head of athletics for eight years," she said. "We've had tennis teams much longer than the public schools have, and it's really good to see them getting into it."

June, Meg Meyer will be a strong player for Kingswood. She will hold the number one singles position and finished in the quarterfinals of the state tournament in 1975.

Also returning from the state championship round is senior Carol Secret. Secret finished second in the state doubles tournament with her partner last year and may, Ryan said, hold the number one or two singles position this fall.

University of Michigan, a sophomore, was part of a state championship doubles team in 1975. There are now more players eligible to return from the 1975 team, and Ryan is expecting 30 for try-outs. Kingswood will carry a squad of 18 players throughout the season.

University of Michigan is the team to beat in the Metro Conference, Ryan said. "We beat them twice last year, but I wasn't easy. They were runners-up in the state to us."

Kingswood netters face an ambitious schedule with matches against several Class A schools like Holland, East Grand Rapids, Birmingham Groves, Birmingham Seaholm and Bloomfield Hills Laher.

BIRMINGHAM SEAHOLM coach Bill Stiles has a unique problem in putting together a girls' tennis team. He has six

steady varsity players returning to compete for the school's fourth straight Southeastern Michigan Association title and a talented group of sophomores joining the team.

"The problem is that they're (the young sophomores) so good that what I put for a JV squad might take the SMA," Stiles said. "I'm going to have to do a little cutting, and it's going to be hard. I'm going to keep about 30, and I already had 24 come to practice. I haven't made an announcement at school yet, but that's the way it's going to be a girls' tennis team."

"I don't know what I'm gonna do if a lot of kids come out after I make the announcement," he added. "But I've got to make the announcement—there may be some Chris Everett lurking there."

"I'm going to hang on to some of these kids because in the next couple years, I can see something good coming out of them."

This year Stiles also expects a lot of good from the team, especially Lisa Reed, a three-year varsity veteran and an all-Southeastern Michigan Association player last year.

Other veterans include junior Amy F. Venter, senior Kay Wagner, senior Sue Shaw, senior Wendy Denderlin, junior Jean Grammatine and senior Vicki Seyferth.

Three impressive sophomores were also mentioned by Stiles. They are Glenda Brown, Karen Keyton and Erin Elmerger. "I'm really excited about this team," Stiles said. "What I'm looking forward to is doing something in the regionals. I don't think we should have trouble in the SMA at all this year."

Kimball always was the big stumbling block in the SMA, but they've lost three real top-notch players. Southfield has been coming up quite a bit, but the local boys, and they might replace Kimball as the threat."

season in the state tournament with six letterwinners returning from the 1975 team. Senior co-captains Jayne Rex and Patsy Cox lead the veterans who include seniors Amy Kuhl, Karen Ring, Laurie Smith and junior Sandy Hummer. Julie Kimball played some exhibition tennis for Birmingham Groves last year.

"We have what looks like real good potential coming in," said Groves coach Audrey Cox, Patsy's mother. "One in Marianne Ring, the sister of Karen. Marianne will be a sophomore, and she's an extremely strong player."

Cox, who has coached Groves girls' tennis for the past four years, said, "You never know from one year to another, who is going to be good."

"You know who they lose, but you don't know who will be coming up to their team."

Cox expects a tough battle from Laher, a team that finished second to the Falcons in the Metro Suburban Association last year, losing two dual meets to the Falcons by identical 4-3 scores.

Bloomfield Hills Laher is without a coach at press time.

WEST BLOOMFIELD will be under the direction of new coach Marcia Pappas. "This is my first chance at coaching," said Pappas, who added that she also plays tennis.

Six players are returning from last year to help the new coach, seniors Kathy Boyle, Jean Ahern, Mary Blunzy, Brenda Weingarten, Sandra Gotman and junior Tracy Boyle.

"I presume that our toughest foes probably will be Andover, that's usually the one that they have the most trouble with."

BLOOMFIELD HILLS ANDOVER coach Keith Johnson is indeed shooting for West Bloomfield and notes that West Bloomfield has enough players returning from last year's Greater Oakland Activities League championship team to again be the top contender.

West Bloomfield's Pappas said that she agreed verbally to take over the West Bloomfield squad, but as of Sept. 7 has not signed a contract. She said Vasejian is on a leave of absence.

Johnson also has some tennis players back this year, and he hopes to improve on Andover's second-place finish in the league last season.

He expects Betsy Shapiro, a junior, to return as the number one singles player on the team and become one of the top girls' tennis players in the area.

Also returning is the top Andover doubles team of Meg Morrison and Pam Ringer, both are juniors. Johnson is unsure that the duo will play doubles again in 1976, but he expects senior Ann Lent, who has two years experience, to hold the second singles position.

West Bloomfield should be the team to beat, and we're going to try to beat them."

DETROIT COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL coach Mary Fleming is also in her first year as varsity tennis coach, but she has coached the middle school team at Country Day for the past three years. She was unsure of Country Day's 1975 varsity record, but said her junior varsity team finished 3-3.

Five players are returning from last year's varsity to bolster the lineup. The veterans are senior Michele Touma, juniors Rosemary Hollis, Cindy Hoekland and sophomores Stacy Henderson and Betsy Moss.

The team is also strengthened, Fleming said, by a group of freshmen that includes Dora Djuric, Pat Fisher, Sharon Moore, Marcy Lynn and Pam Jacobs.

"I really have a lot of hopes for the team. I think they will do well, and I'm

looking forward to this being our best season," said Fleming, who added that she doesn't believe Country Day has had a winning season in girls' tennis.

"The attitude of the kids is real nice," she added. "If you got that going for you, you really can't ask for any more as a coach."

Fleming said she is cutting down on the number of matches the team will play to 10 from 18.

Last year, the team sometimes had four matches in a week and few days for practice," she said. "They did a lot of traveling and I think they were worn out from competition."

THE ACADEMY OF THE SACRED HEART is under the direction of second-

year coach Sister Anne Byrne, who hopes to improve over last year's winless record. "We'll do our best," she said. "We didn't do too well last season, but we hope we'll do better this season. The kids will practice real hard and put a real team effort into making our matches exciting. I'm hoping that having the girls play tennis this summer will help."

One of the stars of the team is defending state Class C singles champion Julie Bookmeyer.

Julie Kelly is also returning to the team from last year's squad. Sister Byrne reports that Julie, a junior, was on a winning doubles team in a tournament sponsored by the Daily Tribune and that she won the 16-18-year-old singles championship at Pine Lake Country Club.

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