

Observerland's top female runners honored

By Steve Kowalski
staff writer

If this fall was any indication, then the future for girls cross country in Observerland looks unbelievably bright.

All eight runners on this year's All-Observer first team are underclassmen, including three sophomores and one freshman.

The area is loaded with talent and who else better to comment on the state of affairs than Livonia Stevenson's Paul Holmberg, the 1991 Observerland girls cross country Coach of the Year.

"I thought the Western Lakes Association was unbeatably strong," said Holmberg, a veteran of more than 20 years as Stevenson's coach. "You've got a team (Walled Lake Western) that was fourth at the Class A meet, we were ninth, and North Farmington. If it was in any other regional, would have been in the state meet. There were other good, solid teams that any other year would have qualified for the state meet."

Around here, Stevenson was the best of the bunch.

The Spartans, who haven't lost a dual meet in 1991, won the WLAA Division with a 6-0 record. Finished second in a Class A regional and ninth in Class A, Stevenson, which won the Schoolcraft College Invitational, was runnerup to Western in the WLAA meet.

There's even more to look forward to next year as Stevenson's top four runners, including All-Observer first-team selections A.J. Korink and Bridget MacKinnon will return. This definitely was one of Holmberg's more memorable teams, he

said.

"I think we're going to be

stronger next year," he said.

Malia Dixon, of Westland, Ladywood

Stacy Moore, Salem

Paul Holmberg, Coach of Year

Emily Shively, N. Farmington

Keegan Keefer, N. Farmington

Sharmila Prasad, Mercy

A.J. Korink, Stevenson

Bridget MacKinnon, Stevenson

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