

# Elite gymnasts lauded for perfect achievement

By DAN O'MEARA

**BRAYN WATZES**  
The All-Area gymnastics team serves as a final salute to several veteran performers for their long-standing excellence.

Plymouth Canton seniors Kim Rennolds and Jenny Tedesco and Plymouth Salem senior Courtney Gonyea made the first-team honor roll all four years during their high school careers.

Salem senior Kim Miller was on the team three times and most certainly would have made it four straight, also, had she competed in high school gymnastics last year.

All 10 first-team gymnasts have been all-area performers in the past, and all but Miller are repeat selections from a year ago.

Salem's junior Alyssa Soflos made the team for a third consecutive year, and two-time honorees include Salem junior Sarah Makins, Salem sophomore Melissa Hopson, Canton junior Kim Lewke, North Farmington junior Michelle Tsai and Canton's Johanna Anderson. All are Division I gymnasts except for Tedesco and Lewke.

Salem's Johanna Anderson, who was an all-area selection from Canton two years ago, was named coach of the year after guiding the Rocks to the Class A title in her first year as a head coach.

## ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM

**COURTNEY GONYEA, Salem:** Gonyea placed in three state events — fourth on vault, fifth on balance beam and third on floor exercise. She was 11th on bars and just missed earning a medal. Gonyea finished fourth in the all-around at state.

Gonyea was the WLLA champion on vault and floor. She was fourth on bars and beam at the league meet, and she was second in the all-around. Gonyea was regional champion on vault and shared first place with teammate Kim Miller in the all-around. In that meet, she also finished second on beam and floor.

She had the best area score of 9.6 on floor and was second on vault (9.25), and beam (9.45) and all-around (37.05). Her best beam score was 9.2. "This was definitely her best year," coach Johanna Anderson said. "She was our most consistent performer. She had a perfect year on beam — no falls — which is her best event. She's a very graceful, consistent performer, and that's what makes her such a good gymnast."

**KIM MILLER, Salem:** Miller placed in every event at state. She was 10th on vault, fifth on bars, eighth on floor and fifth on beam, and she was third in the all-around.

Miller was the WLLA all-around champion and won individual titles on bars and beam. She was fifth on vault, fourth on floor. Miller also was the regional champion on bars and in all-around. She was second on vault, fourth on beam in that

## ALL-AREA GYMNASTICS

### 1993 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS GYMNASTICS

| FIRST TEAM       |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| Courtney Gonyea  | Salem         |
| Kim Miller       | Salem         |
| Kim Rennolds     | Canton        |
| Jenny Tedesco    | Canton        |
| Marissa Maybough | John Glenn    |
| Alyssa Soflos    | Salem         |
| Sarah Makins     | Salem         |
| Melissa Hopson   | Salem         |
| Kim Lewke        | N. Farmington |
| Michelle Tsai    | N. Farmington |

| SECOND TEAM       |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Kim Nowak         | Canton        |
| Adrienne Brennan  | Canton        |
| Christine Angello | Salem         |
| Zoe Yocky         | Salem         |
| Dana Driscoll     | John Glenn    |
| Mary Dean         | John Glenn    |
| Jenni Japenta     | N. Farmington |
| Kevin Jud         | N. Farmington |
| Crista Taylor     | N. Farmington |
| Tracy Carothers   | N. Farmington |

**HONORABLE MENTION**  
Salem's Kristin Atkinson, Nancy Andrews; Canton's Kari Jackson, Mandy Soren; Mt. Carmel's Camie, Jamie Skelly; Clarenceville's Amber Teets, Holly Fockler, Katy Kosky; Farmington's Alameen Gower; Lowell's N. Farmington's Hilary Lum, Stephanie Wagner, Debbie Hersh; Salem's Kristen Nichols; Wayne Kim Giorco, Lisa Ruty.

Miller had the highest all-around score (37.2) in the area, as well as the best scores on vault (9.3), bars (9.7) and beam (9.65). Her best on floor was 9.45.

"She had the most difficulty in her routines," Anderson said. "What makes her stand out is that she's such a strong competitor. She physically looks and she is displayed in her bars and beam routines."

Kim Rennolds, senior, Canton: Rennolds was named Gymnast of the Year by the Michigan High School Gymnastics Coaches and Judges Association.

In the state meet, she was seventh on floor and 11th on beam. In the league, Rennolds finished sixth on bars, seventh on vault and second on floor. She was second among all-arounders.

Rennolds was the regional champion on floor and, in other events, placed fourth (vault), sixth (bars) and third (beam). She was third behind Gonyea and Miller in the all-around.

Her high scores were 8.85 (vault), 9.05 (bars), 9.3 (beam), 9.2 (floor) and 36.8 (all-around). She ranked second in the area on floor, and her score at a Canton record.

"Kim has been Canton's premier gymnast for four years, and she still stopped her performances up several notches with new tricks and difficulties to highlight her routines," Canton coach John Cunningham said.

Jenny Tedesco, senior, Canton: Tedesco placed fourth on beam in Division II at the state meet. She was among the top 25 in every event, and she was 11th in the all-around.

In the regional, Tedesco was 13th (vault), 11th on bars, 10th on floor and fifth (all). Her best league events were bars (ninth) and floor (sixth), and she was 11th in the all-around.

Tedesco's best scores were 8.85 (vault), 9.2 (bars), 9.0 (beam), 9.1 (floor) and 36.0 (all).

"Jenny's improved performance — her 36 all-around for example — higher level vault and fourth-place finish in the all-around on beam were especially gratifying," Cunningham said. "No Canton gymnast has ever finished higher in state competition."

Marissa Maybough, senior, Glenn: Maybough qualified for state on bars and floor and finished 26th and 29th, respectively. In the WLLA meet, she was ninth (vault), eighth (floor) and 13th (all-around).

In the regional, Maybough placed eighth (vault), seventh (bars), ninth (beam) and seventh (floor). She was eighth in the all-around. Her 8.85 on bars, 8.85 on beam and 9.4 in all-around were among the top area scores. Maybough is an All-American on bars and floor.

Coach Tom All-American "was her main goal," Glenn coach Debbie Trosko said. "Score-wise she did better last year, but this year she did her glants top order and had twists on floor. She's a hard worker. When she sets her mind to something she does it."

Alyssa Soflos, junior, Salem: Soflos earned a medal by finishing eighth on bars at state, and she just missed on floor and vault in which she was 11th and 12th, respectively. She was 10th in the all-around.

Soflos had an excellent regional meet, finishing seventh (vault), second (bars), fifth (beam), third (floor) and 10th (all). In the WLLA meet, she was 10th (vault), second (bars), eighth (beam), fourth (floor) and fourth (all). Her best scores were 9.05 (vault) and beam, 9.5 (bars and floor) and 36.6 (all).

"Alyssa is a very dynamic competitor; she has a lot of showmanship in her performances," Anderson said. "That's what sets her apart. She lights up the floor when she's out there."

Sarah Makins, senior, Salem: Makins competed at state for the Rocks and was among the top 25 in each event. Her best was bars in which she was 12th in qualifying order and just missed going to the final by one 10th of a point. She still had a fine 34.95 and was 19th in the all-around.

Lewke was the regional champion on beam and also placed sixth (vault) and fifth (bars) in the all-around and earned a medal.

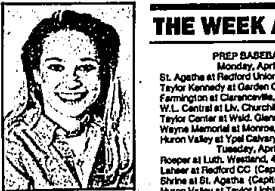
She had a good league meet, too. She was tied for 10th (vault), fifth (bars), beam and all-around and sixth (floor).

Michelle Tsai, North Farmington: Tsai had season bests of 8.7 (vault), 9.05 (bars), 9.15 (beam) and 9.25 (floor). Her top all-around score was 35.4. She also placed third (floor), fourth (bars) and fifth (bars, all-around) at the Canton Invitational.

"She was by far our most consistent gymnast, our first all-arounder," North Farmington coach Jeff Dwyer said. "She is a leader in terms of how hard she works. She helped carry the team."



Courtney Gonyea Salem



Kim Miller Salem



Jenny Tedesco Canton



Marissa Maybough Glenn



Sarah Makins Salem



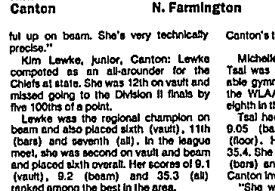
Alyssa Soflos Salem



Kim Lewke Canton



Michelle Tsai N. Farmington



Johanna Anderson Salem coach

ful up on beam. She's very technically precise."

Kim Lewke, junior, Canton: Lewke competed as an all-arounder for the Rocks at state. She was 17th on vault and missed going to the Division II finals by five 100ths of a point.

Lewke was the regional champion on beam and also placed sixth (vault), 11th (bars) and seventh (all). In the league meet, she was second on vault and beam and placed sixth overall. Her scores of 9.1 (vault), 9.2 (beam) and 35.3 (all) ranked among the best in the area.

"Kim was our most consistent performer on vault and beam," Cunningham said. "She won division medals and a regional crown, and she was a major factor in

Canton's team success."

Michelle Tsai, junior, N. Farmington: Tsai was North Farmington's most valuable gymnast. She was 10th on vault in the WLLA meet, seventh on bars and eighth in the all-around.

Tsai had season bests of 8.7 (vault), 9.05 (bars), 9.15 (beam) and 9.25 (floor). Her top all-around score was 35.4. She also placed third (floor), fourth (bars) and fifth (bars, all-around) at the Canton Invitational.

"She was by far our most consistent gymnast, our first all-arounder," North Farmington coach Jeff Dwyer said. "She is a leader in terms of how hard she works. She helped carry the team."

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**PREP BASEBALL**  
Monday, April 6  
St. Agatha at Redford Union (2), 3:30 p.m.  
Taylor Catholic at Garden City, 3:30 p.m.  
Farmington at Clarenceville, 3:30 p.m.  
W.L. Central at W.L. Central, 4 p.m.  
Taylor Catholic at W.L. Central, 4 p.m.  
Wayne Memorial at Monroe, 4 p.m.  
Huron Valley at Ypsilanti, 4:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 7  
Roper at Luth. Westland, 4 p.m.  
Lutheran at W.L. Central, 4 p.m.  
Shrine at St. Agatha (Catholic), 4 p.m.  
Huron Valley at Taylor Light, 4 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 7  
Garden City at Taylor Tunnar, 3:30 p.m.  
Farmington at Troy (2), 3:30 p.m.  
Liv. Stevenson at Liv. Stevenson, 4 p.m.  
Dearborn at Red. Thurston, 4 p.m.  
Taylor Kennedy at W.L. Central, 4 p.m.  
N. Farmington at Birm. Grove, 4 p.m.  
Northville at Redford Union, 4 p.m.  
Trant at Wayne Memorial, 4 p.m.  
Redford CC at L.S. Westland, 4 p.m.  
Ann Arbor at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.  
Ply. Christian at Taylor Daptist, 4:30 p.m.

**GIRLS SOFTBALL**  
Monday, April 6  
Liv. Franklin at W.L. Central, 3:30 p.m.  
Garden City at Taylor Kennedy, 3:30 p.m.  
R.L. at W.L. Central, 4 p.m.  
Monroe at Wayne Memorial, 4 p.m.  
Liv. Ladywood at Bishop Foley, 4 p.m.  
Farm. Mercy at Birm. Grove, 4 p.m.  
Huron Valley at Ypsilanti, 4 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 7  
Shrine at St. Agatha (Catholic), 4 p.m.  
Divine Child vs. Liv. Ladywood at Bicentennial Park, 4 p.m.  
Ply. Christian at Taylor Baptist, 4:30 p.m.  
Huron Valley at Taylor Light, 4:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 7  
Liv. Ladywood at H.W. France, 3:30 p.m.  
Garden City at Red. Thurston, 3:30 p.m.  
R.L. at W.L. Central, 3:30 p.m.  
W.L. Western at Liv. Stevenson, 4 p.m.  
Wayne Memorial at Trantion, 4 p.m.  
Luth. Westland at Ann Arbor, 4:30 p.m.

**BOYS TRACK**  
Monday, April 6  
Garden City at Liv. Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.  
Liv. Agate-Catholic, Holy Redeemer at R.U. at Kraft Field, 8 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 6  
Redford CC at Dearborn, 3:30 p.m.  
Benedictine at Red. Thurston, 3:30 p.m.  
Ply. Christian, St. Field Christian, Roper at Lutheran High Westland, 4 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 7  
Liv. Church at Ply. Salem, 3:30 p.m.  
R.U. at Liv. Franklin, 3:30 p.m.  
Ply. Canton at W.L. Central, 3:30 p.m.  
D.H. Greenwood at Garden City, 3:30 p.m.  
Wayne Memorial at Monroe, 3:30 p.m.  
Northville at Farmington, 4 p.m.  
W.L. Western at Liv. Franklin, 4 p.m.  
Farm. Mercy at Liv. Stevenson, 4 p.m.  
Saturday, April 7  
Redford CC at A.A. Westland, 10 a.m.

**GIRLS TRACK**  
Monday, April 6  
Liv. Stevenson at Garden City, 3:30 p.m.  
Liv. Agate-Catholic, Holy Redeemer at R.U. at Kraft Field, 8 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 6  
Benedictine at Red. Thurston, 3:30 p.m.  
Liv. Ladywood at Farm. Mercy, 4 p.m.  
Ply. Canton at Don. Edson Ford, 4 p.m.  
Ply. Christian, St. Field Christian, Roper at Lutheran High Westland, 4 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 7  
W.L. Central at Liv. Franklin, 3:30 p.m.  
Liv. Stevenson at Farm. Mercy, 3:30 p.m.  
Farm. Mercy at Ply. Canton, 3:30 p.m.  
D.H. Greenwood at Garden City, 4 p.m.  
Wayne Memorial at Monroe, 3:30 p.m.  
Farmington at Northville, 4 p.m.  
N. Farmington at W.L. Western, 4 p.m.

**GIRLS SOCCER**  
Monday, April 6  
Farm. Mercy at Liv. Ladywood, 4 p.m.  
Dobson at Garden City, 4 p.m.  
Palmer at Red. Thurston, 4 p.m.  
Redford Union at Green Bay, 4 p.m.  
Liv. Stevenson at Liv. Franklin, 4:30 p.m.  
N. Farmington at Farm. Mercy, 5:30 p.m.  
Troy at Ply. Canton, 6:30 p.m.  
Liv. Church at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.  
W.L. Western at St. Agatha, 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 7  
Garden City at Red. Thurston, 4 p.m.

## BASEBALL

**LIVONIA CHURCHILL**  
Head coach: Herb Ortland, 14th season.  
League affiliation: Western Lakes Athletic Association (Western Division).  
Last year's overall record: 9-7.  
Titles won last year: Livonia City Champs.  
Notable losses to graduation: Marcus Garveyville.  
Leading returnees: Mark Rutherford, senior shortstop/pitcher (second-team All-Area and team's second-best hitter); John Decker, senior pitcher/center fielder (leading hitter); Mike Marchetti, senior second baseman/pitcher; Todd Siedack, senior pitcher/center fielder; Kenyatta, senior pitcher/infielder; Jason Carter, senior pitcher/first baseman.  
Promising newcomers: Vince DeLasse, junior third baseman/outfielder.  
Ortland's '93 outlook: "Our nucleus has been starting quite well. It's a solid senior team. They can all play different positions. They have a good attitude and we're going to have some fun this year."

**WESTLAND JOHN GLENN**  
Head coach: Norm Hoewe, 27th season.  
League affiliation: WLLA (Lakes Division).  
Last year's overall record: 17-8.  
Titles won last year: Class A district and regional champions.  
Notable losses to graduation: John Ward, first-team All-Area outfielder (365); Chris Kelly, pitcher; Greg Tamas, second-team All-Area pitcher; Martin Pickett, catcher; Terry Farley, first baseman; Bobby Hayes, utility.  
Leading returnees: Aaron Schaffer, first-team All-Area pitcher/outfielder (8-5, 205 ERA); Derek Bisco, junior shortstop/pitcher; Jarrod Bura, senior third baseman; Mike Birt, junior first baseman; Bryan Bisco, junior pitcher/outfielder; Brian Beck, senior catcher; Greg Nesbitt, senior pitcher/outfielder.  
Promising newcomers: Brian Morrison, junior pitcher; Jamie Carlington, senior infielder; Matthew Birt, senior outfielder; Jeremy Cozby, junior outfielder.  
Hoewe's '93 outlook: "I hate to say it too loud, but we've got a lot of pitching. We have two or three top-notch pitchers and there's our strong ball."

**LIVONIA STEVENSON**  
Head coach: Mike Keller, first season.  
League affiliation: WLLA (Lakes Division).  
Last year's overall record: 4-17.  
Titles won last year: None.  
Notable losses to graduation: Chris Stockton, shortstop; Wayne Kruse, second baseman; John Marshall, catcher; Craig Breck, pitcher.  
Leading returnees: Matt Copwell, senior pitcher/first baseman (All-Lakes Division); J.J. Rorog, senior pitcher/outfielder; Bob Drummond, senior third baseman; Mike Stockton, senior outfielder (RBI leader); Mark Peterson, senior utility; Brad Morgan, junior pitcher/outfielder.  
Promising newcomers: Chris Holman, junior infielder; Brian Costello, junior catcher; Chris Chichka, junior pitcher; Chris Kondopigis, junior pitcher.  
Keller's '93 outlook: "Everybody will contribute one way or another. We have a tough schedule. Our division (Lakes) is loaded with John Decker, Brian, W.L. Central and North Farmington. We're making progress as each day passes. I'm excited about the upcoming year."

**LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE**  
Head coach: Mark McDonald, fourth season.  
League affiliation: Metro Conference (West Division).  
Last year's overall record: 9-7.  
Titles won last year: None.  
Notable losses to graduation: Tony Malinowski, second-team All-Area infielder; Jeff Gaudin, pitcher.  
Leading returnees: Carl Holston, senior shortstop/captain (hit .320 last year); Mark Johnson, senior third baseman/pitcher; Ryan Jacobsen, senior left fielder; Jeff Balenger, senior first baseman; Mark Straka, junior outfielder; Steve Daley, sophomore infielder; Chris Frow, junior infielder; AJ Hamek, sophomore infielder; Scott Carlisle, senior outfielder; Chris Clark, senior infielder.  
Promising newcomers: Brian DeClerk, freshman catcher; Robby Ashton, freshman pitcher; Scott Deitz, senior pitcher; Kevin Kild, junior infielder/outfielder; Brian Balenger, junior catcher; Steve Parks, sophomore infielder/outfielder.  
McDonald's '93 outlook: "This is one of the better ball clubs we've had lately-wise, but we're young. "I'm happy with our infield. It's outstanding. Our outfield is adequate. We have six or seven kids who can throw the ball. I'm worried about our overall hitting consistency."

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