

1998 Academic All-Stars

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His academic honors include being a finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Competition and achieving second round in the Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition.

Heraty expects his generation's contributions to society to be in the area of government. "Day after day, we see stories of government corruption and White House scandals. It is obvious that a change is necessary. I believe that the leaders of tomorrow will be more conscious of their moral obligations as elected officials."

Heraty says third-grade teacher Cheryl Patterson influenced his love of learning. "She made learning fun by making it a hands-on experience. In my third- and fourth-grade class, she worked with us on activities about chivalry, galleons, and future problem-solving. She made me look forward to going to school and learning."

Heraty is the son of Keith and Barbara Heraty and brother of Brian, 19, Amber, 14, Ashley, 11, and Katie, 8.

Emily Curtin of Farmington Hills will major in mechanical engineering at Kettering University. She is a National Merit Commended Scholar and a four-year honor roll student. She volunteers at senior residences and works at the Farmington Library. She sings in her school's choir and plays viola and piano. She toured Europe and the United States with the International Youth Symphony during the summer of 1995. In December 1996, she played viola with a small chamber group at a White House Christmas party.



Emily Curtin
Farmington

Christopher O'Brien of Livonia plans to major in mathematics or German, maybe both, at Calvin College, Hope College, Valparaiso University or Concordia College.

His academic honors include: National Merit Scholarship Finalist, Academic All-Conference, 1996 Football Team Academic All-State and class co-valedictorian.

O'Brien is National Honor Society president, Christian Growth Committee chairman, and member of the Chamber Choir. He has played baseball, football and participated in school musicals.

He said his generation "may be the generation to turn the trend of America's falling moral values."

For O'Brien, the teacher who had the most influence was "Mr. Zehnder, my seventh-grade teacher, with whom school first became fun and my desire to learn really grew."

O'Brien is the son of Cliff and Tinn O'Brien and brother of Renee, 15, Sean, 13, and Kelly, 11.



Christopher O'Brien
Lutheran High

Area principals' judging is no small task

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers take pride in presenting our 13th annual Academic All-Star Teams. But it wouldn't happen without the help and guidance of Larry Boehms, principal of Troy High School, who organizes the selection committee.

The All-Star Team Selection Committee meets in Livonia and reviews nomination forms and makes calculations to choose the all-star teams for the Observer Newspapers and the Eccentric Newspapers.

This year, seven area high school administrators took on the task: Larry Boehms of Troy High School, Dale Collier of Livonia Stevenson High School, David S. Symington of Lahser High School, Pat Patton of Canton High School, Carol A. Baldwin of Avondale High School, Tom Johnson of Northville High School, Rebecca Jeffries of Troy High School and George Fornero of West Bloomfield High School.

The group reviewed nomination forms from more than 50 public, pri-



Choosing: High school principals review candidates for the Academic All-Star team. This year, seven area high school administrators took on the task of selecting the top high school seniors.