

Portrait of an Academic All-Star

If I were to paint a portrait of an *Eccentric* Academic All-Star, it would have these features beyond his or her amazing test scores and all-A (or nearly) grade point averages:

She or he would be going into science or engineering, would come from an intact family with one sibling, would run varsity track and/or cross country, and would play a musical instrument.

This is true of many of the record-setting 26 Academic All-Stars you will meet who represent the Class of 2002. They come from the nearly 40 public and private schools in *The Eccentric's* coverage area. It is also a pattern that has emerged over the 18 years that *The Eccentric Newspapers* has been honoring these students.

Of course every group of All-Stars is an original. Although some were still deciding at our press

time, it was evident that they were more eclectic in the colleges they will attend.

Usually, the University of Michigan, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Stanford and Harvard universities attract a fairly even number of students.

But this year, perhaps more are committed to U-M and somewhat fewer to the other three schools. Instead, they are attending Michigan Tech (two) and fanning out to Amherst, Wheaton and Bowdoin colleges, Columbia and Yale universities and California Institute of Technology.

Four students among this group have matched perfect grades with perfect scores on the Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT). Lusi Fang from Troy High, Matthew Klason from Rochester Adams and Robert Wilson from Detroit Coun-

try Day all scored 36 on the ACT, while Xiaojue Hu from Troy High scored 1600 on the SAT. That certainly is among the most ever. Last year, for example, there was just one to achieve that mark.

All the Academic All-Stars are, of course, members of their school's chapter of National Honor Society or its equivalent. Most have won major scholarships. Those who are still listed as National Merit Finalists will generally be named winners of either the standard \$2,500 National Merit Scholarship or a college or corporate National Merit Scholarship that generally pays even more. They may not have been notified by our press time. Nominees for Presidential Scholar also had not yet been notified if they had won.

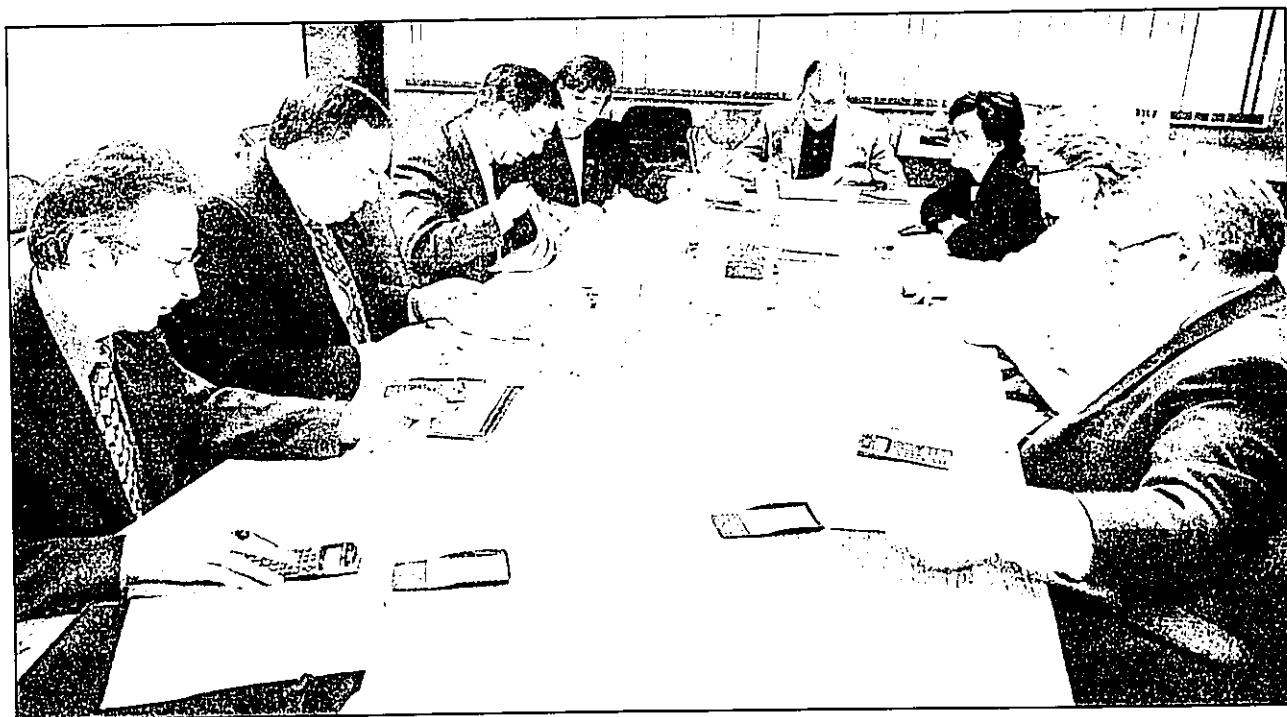
We are, once again, grateful to the committee of high school principals that verifies the grades and

test scores and selects the team. Thanks especially to Troy High School principal Dr. Larry Boehms, who chairs the committee. We also are most appreciative that Oakland Community College is sponsoring this special section for a second year.

Judith Doner Berne
Eccentric Newspapers
Academic All-Stars Coordinator

CREDITS

Editor: Mary Klemic
Writer: Judith Doner Berne
Cover photo: Tom Hoffmeyer
Cover design: Mary Morz
Ad placement coordinator:
Sheryl Labon
Advertising coordinator:
Bill Clugston
Sponsor:
Oakland Community College



STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY ZOJINSKY

Selection committee: Thanks to the school principals who verified and calculated the grades and test scores by which this year's *Eccentric* Academic All-Stars were chosen. At work here (from left) are John Dilegghio, Don May, Dr. Larry Boehms, Dr. Catherine Cost, John Toma, Jennifer Hammond, Carol Baldwin and Tom Neville.