

Mercy skiers earn all-area accolades

Clarkston coach Tami Mitchell named coach of year. See story, Page D6

BY DANIEL STICKRAOT
STAFF WRITER

It was another banner winter for girls skiers from the area, as several of them dominated their divisions around Southeastern Michigan.

Individually, 12 area skiers earned all-state honors, while numerous performers stood on the medals stand at big meets throughout the season. As for teams, five area squads advanced to the state meet, four in Class A and another in Class B-C-D, signaling this area as a hotbed of talent.

Below is a brief profile of all of the area's top skiers who made the first-team or second-team, as selected by a panel of area coaches.

**2003 ALL-AREA
GIRLS SKI TEAM
FIRST TEAM**
Logan Hayes, Birmingham, Senior
Ma Welland, Clarkston, Sophomore
Pam Wylie, Clarkston, Senior
Rachel Lord, BH Cranbrook, Junior
Elizabeth Foglia, FH Mercy, Junior
Blair Hosan, BH Andover, Senior
Kristen Stencil, BH Lathrup, Sophomore
Brooke Bones, BH Lathrup, Junior

COACH OF THE YEAR
Tami Mitchell, Clarkston, 5th Season

SECOND TEAM
Birmingham: Marissa Kalle Ball, sr.; Meghan McCallister, jr.; Bloomfield Hills: Cranbrook-Kingswood: Kaitie Post, soph.; Clarkston: Lindsey Mazer, jr.; Jessie Band, jr.; Farmington Hills: Nicole Zaleski, sr.; Lake Orion: Kristen Truini, jr.; Kelle Rivers, soph.; Rochester Adams: Becca Morgan, sr.



**Liz Kujala
FH Mercy**

HONORABLE MENTION
Birmingham: Courtney Day, Kristin Lowry, jr.; Birmingham Groves: Carin Serba, sr.; Lauren Rule, jr.; Birmingham Marian: Lauren Robinson, jr.; Hannah Juettl, jr.; Birmingham Seaborn: Jennifer Forey, sr.; Emily Rossa, jr.; Bloomfield Hills Andover: Emily Parr, sr.; Lisa Goode, jr.; Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood: Libby Miller, jr.; Jessica Kille, sr.; Andrea Galbraith, sr.; Bloomfield Hills Lathrup: Lauren Smith, sr.; Paige Larkin, soph.; Clarkston: Jody Pechura, sr.; Jamie Collier, sr.; Farmington Hills: Margie Spilo, sr.; Rochelle Beazley, soph.; Lake Orion: Paula Marchand, sr.; Christine Coleman, sr.; Oriskany/Ontonville: Rochelle Lueder, Karen O'Brien, jr.; Grace Archer/Aurora: soph.; Rochester: Heather Dwyer, jr.; Rochester Adams: Andrea Rutkowski, sr.; Victoria Horton, soph.; West Bloomfield: Emily Dubokas, sr.

FIRST TEAM
LOGAN HAYES, Birmingham: Hayes suffered some knee problems during her sophomore year and a bout with mononucleosis during her junior year caused her to miss the state meet, but her senior status was a different story. Clearly one of the most dominant skiers in Southeastern Michigan, Hayes grabbed a spot on the Class A All-State First Team after a stellar campaign. She won the team slalom and finished third in the slalom at the Alpine Valley Divisional and followed that up with the exact same result at the Mt. Brighton Regional. Hayes, a four-year varsity performer and captain this year, was also the SEMSL champ in the GS and finished sixth in the slalom in the event held at Mt. Holly while she took 10th in the GS and 12th in the slalom at the Class A state meet held at Marquette Mountain.

"She was most definitely one of the best skiers around, and she proved that when she won the GS at the (SEMSL) meet and had a great state meet," said veteran Marian coach Rob Rhodes. "She was a heckuva team slalom racer all season and very consistent in the slalom. Logan was always one of the top finishers at every meet."

NO WELLAND, Clarkston: A repeat first team slalom medalist and a top performer in the slalom in her second varsity campaign. "She has perhaps the best technique of any girl skier I've seen since I've been here," said Bruce Rosengren, Clarkston's director of coaching. "Ma was on top of the world this season. She finished strong in all but two of her races this year. She is a very focused

young lady, very consistent." Her first team slalom of the Pine Knob Division SEMSL mega conference, Welland swept first place in the slalom and GS in all three events. She also placed second in the Dancesport Division I meet (GS only), swept first place in both events at the Pine Knob Divisional, won the slalom and placed 21st in the GS at the Pine Knob Regional, claimed second in the slalom and fourth in the GS at the SEMSL meet, and capped the season by placing third in the slalom and 13th in the GS at the Class A state meet.

PAM WYLIE, Clarkston: Wylie could have been the No. 1 skier at most schools, but at Clarkston she joined forces with Welland to complete a dynamic 1-2 punch. The senior and three-year varsity performer was named to the Class A All-State Second Team after a fine season.

"Realistically, she would have been the No. 1 skier at a lot of schools around here," said Rosengren. "Her and Ma (Welland) complement each other well. Pam rarely had a bad finish in a race. She was the most improved skier on our team this year."

After finishing a disappointing 30th in the slalom and failing in the GS at the Traverse City Invitational, Wylie went on to finish second at the OAA Division I meet. She was capped her prep career by landing in the slalom and 21st in the GS at the Class A state meet.

RACHEL LORD, Cranbrook-Kingswood: After knocking heads with the area's elite skiers, Lord was the surprise pick at the Class B-C-D finals against different competition, finishing fifth in the slalom and sixth in the GS on

ly veteran, Nossan's only off day all season came at the SEMSL finals, where she was 10th in the slalom and 23rd at the GS. The senior placed third at the OAA Division I meet, and finished eighth in the slalom and 10th in the GS at the SEMSL championships.

"She's a great all-around athlete," said Andover coach Al Cottrell. "Blair just had a great season for us, always near the top of every race."

KIRSTEN STENCIL, Lathrup: Only a sophomore, Stencil put together a strong finish to the season, which enabled her to garner Class A All-State Honorable Mention acclaim. Stencil won the OAA Division II title, finished 10th in the GS and 28th in the slalom at the Pine Knob Divisional, finished fifth in both races at the Pine Knob Regional, and capped the year with a pair of top 10 finishes at the Class A state meet, taking 25th in the slalom and 29th in the GS.

BROOKE BONES, Lathrup: A junior, Bones' season was much the same as Stencil's, as she swept her best for the four weeks of the season. Another Class A All-State Honorable Mention selection, Bones was second at the OAA Division I meet and at the Pine Knob Divisional, finished fifth in both races at the Pine Knob Regional, and capped the year with a pair of top 10 finishes at the Class A state meet, taking 25th in the slalom and 29th in the GS.

SECOND TEAM

KATIE BALL, Marquette: The Mustangs graduated seven of their top eight skiers from a year ago, but Ball was quickly able to fill in one of those spots. A senior in her first varsity campaign, Ball finished 33rd in the GS and 37th in the slalom at the Class A state meet. That was preceded by finishing eighth in the slalom and 10th in the GS at the Alpine Valley Divisional, 15th in the slalom and 16th in the GS at the Mt. Brighton Regional, and 15th in the GS and 22nd in the slalom at the SEMSL championships at Mt. Holly.

"Katie had a great season, and we needed her to because we lost so much from the previous year," said Mazer. "It was her first season on the varsity, but she was very solid. Katie was one of our top four skiers just about every time out."

MICHAEL McCALLISTER, Marquette: McCallister, much like Ball, was walking in the wings last year on Marisan's junior varsity, but this year the junior more than helped the Mustangs cause as she finished 15th at the Class A state meet, individually, McCallister was always one of Marisan's top four skiers, as she finished ninth in the slalom and 15th in the GS at the Alpine Valley Divisional, top 20 in both races at the Mt. Brighton Regional, and took 23rd in the GS and 25th in the slalom at the SEMSL meet. She was also inside the top 40 finishers in both events at the Class A state meet.

KATIE POST, Cranbrook-Kingswood: Cranbrook's No. 2 skier this season was consistent all the way throughout the season, finishing in the top half of every big meet. A sophomore in her second varsity campaign, Post was third in the GS at the SEMSL championships and ended the season by taking 10th in the GS and 17th in the slalom at the Class B-C-D state meet at Nub's Nob. For her efforts, Post was selected to the Class B-C-D All State



**Logan Hayes
Birmingham Marian**



**Ma Welland
Clarkston**



**Rachel Lord
BH Cranbrook**



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**Tami Mitchell
Clarkston Girls Coach**

Division and this junior was the leader of the Dragons' pack. A third-year varsity performer, Truini never finished outside of the top 10 until the Class A state meet, where she claimed 27th in the GS and 29th in the slalom, which helped her gain All-State Honorable Mention status.

"Since Ma was a freshman, Kristen has been one of our top skiers and she keeps getting better," said Lake Orion coach Norm McKee. "She is just a flat-out competitor. Her competitiveness took off on the younger girls and makes us a better team."

KATIE RIVERS, Lake Orion: Rivers was consistently in the picture for the Dragons in her sophomore season, rarely finishing outside of the top 20. A second-year varsity skier, Rivers began the season by taking 13rd at the Flushing Invitational and was consistent throughout. She finished the year off by placing 34th in the GS and 40th in the slalom at the Class A state meet.

"Katie is pretty much our most technical skier, her technical skills are very good and she keeps getting faster because of that," said McKee. "She's an extremely talented skier who might be one of the area's dominant skiers by the time she graduates."

BECCA MORGAN, Adams: Morgan's season was cut short, as she tore her ACL in her second slalom run at the Pine Knob Regional after finishing second after the first run. Despite that, Morgan was still amongst the area's top competitors. A three-year varsity veteran, the senior placed fifth at the OAA Division I meet and was sixth in the slalom and eighth in the GS at the Pine Knob Divisional. Always amongst the top 10 finishers in dual meets at Pine Knob, Morgan missed the SEMSL meet and state finals due to her injury.

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