

2003 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC ALL-AREA BOYS BASKETBALL

FIRST TEAM

Table with columns: ATHLETE, YEAR, SCHOOL. Lists players like Vova Severovas, Glordan Watson, Adrien Schaeffer, Ije Hwaniko, Armando Martin, John Andrews.

SECOND TEAM

Table with columns: ATHLETE, YEAR, SCHOOL. Lists players like Marcus McCobb, Jason Massoglia, Ed Richardson, David Holston, Chris Johnston, DeWayne Watkins.

THIRD TEAM

Table with columns: ATHLETE, YEAR, SCHOOL. Lists players like Kyle Wood, Brandon Bradford, Kassel James, Tyrone Jordan, Mike Jones, David Merritt.

FOURTH TEAM

Table with columns: ATHLETE, YEAR, SCHOOL. Lists players like Anthony Williams, Jason Trotter, Mike Korynski, Marcus Holman, Gary Kennedy, Jason Jones.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Table with columns: NAME, SEASON, SCHOOL. Lists Larry Moore, Fourth, West Bloomfield.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

West Bloomfield: Kyle Flanbaum, Kevin Lamb; Seaholm: Drew Blimeyer, Nick Vukosavlitch, Charlie Billingsley; Groves: Matt Osher, Mike Salcedo, Patrick McNamara, Steve Jacobites; Andover: Julian Cruz, Michael Miner; Lahser: Nick Fritz, Rocky Gust, Steve Hill; N. Farmington: Sean Mockler, Darrin Rawls; Harrison: Brandon Giles; Farmington: Tim DePaulis, George Holt; St. Mary's: Andrew Ratliff; Brother Rice: Kyle Hoover, Brad Brinkman; Country Day: Gerome Hunter, Arlanaro Nelson, Alex Credit, Dean Curry; Cranbrook Kingswood: Ryan Karolak, John O'Connell; Rooper: Jeff Gunnip, Erik Zinser; Southfield: Jamal Jones, DuJuan Warren; Lathrup: Ryan Carthage, Chris Caréker, Eddie Citchen; Southfield Christian: Josh Belacqua, Geoffrey Davis; Lutheran Northwest: Mike Lepor, Pat Slade; Troy: Mike Nalso, Datsun Cummings; Athens: Matt Abo, Anthony DaDeppo; Rochester: Steve Knoblock; Adams: Eric Van Dam, Ryan Kuhl; Stony Creek: Anthony Gratson; Clarkston: Justin Whelstone, Robbie Clark, Brad Goodman, Mark Thornberry; Oxford: Chad Birch, Ryan Stull, Andrew Bukoski, Bryan Mattack; Lake Orion: Joel Matkasilan, Carl McDonald; Springfield Christian: Jon DeMasellis, Alec Costock, Matt DeMasellis; Lake Orion Baptist: Brandon Watterworth, Justin Rettger; Oakland Christian: Matt Green, Pete Whitting, Kevin Hatt, Mike Peterson; L.O. Shalom Baptist: Jordan Platt; Bethany Christian: Joe Boulanger, Joshua Hierman; Roch. Hills Christian: Robert Southern.

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Grumbling and Ferris State are interested in recruiting him. "He works hard and has great post moves," Porritt said. "His upside is going to be very big. He's quick up and down the floor and he can finish."

THIRD TEAM

Kyle Wood, senior, Seaholm: A four-year varsity player, Wood had a reputation as an outside shooter. He made 71-of-182 3-point shots for 39 percent this year and averaged 11.8 points overall.

The 6-2 Wood ended his career with 701 points, placing him sixth on the school's all-time scoring list. He holds the Seaholm record for career triples (190) and ranks 13th among the state's 3-point shooters with that number.

"Of all the players I've coached at the school's all-time scoring list, none was as good a shooter from as far away from the basket as he was," coach Keith Hart said. "Opposing teams had to watch him at all times, because he was just a pass away from heating up and knocking down three or four triples in a row."

Brandon Bradford, junior, Country Day: The 6-foot point guard did more than handle the ball for the Yellow Jackets. Besides six assists, Bradford averaged 15.5 points and three steals.

"He was our glue," Flawicki said. "We look to him to be a coach on the floor in terms of directing the offense. He's really a tough kid. He plays very hard and doesn't back down."

"He's learned how to get other kids into the offense. He recognizes mismatches and what type of play to call depending on the situation."

Kassel James, junior, Lathrup: The 6-1 point guard was the floor leader for the Chargers, averaging 5.5 assists, but he also contributed 12 points, five rebounds and two steals per game.

James helped lead 14-7 Lathrup to share of the OAA Division I championship with Pontiac Northern and Clarkston.

"He's a coach on the floor for me," coach Mike Avery said. "He's a guy who needs to leave the basketball late in the game. He's a good creator; he gets other guys open shots."

Tyrone Jordan, senior, Rochester: Jordan had a solid senior season for the Falcons, scoring 10 points and dishing three assists per game. He scored 10 points twice against Southfield and once vs. rival Adams.

"Tyrone is one of the finest players I've ever coached," coach Hal Cummings said. "He's a hard worker and a very dedicated player."

Mike Jones, senior, Adams: Jones was a three-year starter for the Highlanders and was second in scoring and rebounding with 10.1 points and 8.2 rebounds per game.

The 6-0 athlete, who quarterbacked Adams to a share of the OAA Division I title and a playoff berth last fall, plans to play football at Harvard.

"Mike Jones is the single best student-athlete I have coached," coach Hall said. "His work habits and leadership skills are unmatched by any player I have ever had the honor to work with."

David Merritt, junior, West Bloomfield: Merritt was third in scoring and second in assists for the Lakers, but his forte was defense.

The 6-10 guard did score more than 20 points in three games, including 32 against Pontiac Central, and was in double figures 14 times.

"Dave is my best defensive player," Moore said. "He usually gets to guard the best offensive player on the other team. He guarded Giordan Watson every time and was instrumental in our three wins over Groves."

FOURTH TEAM

Anthony Williams, junior, Lahser: Williams contributed equally at both ends of the floor and helped the Knights post a 14-8 record.

The 6-foot-3 forward aver-

aged 13.5 points and 7.2 rebounds. He made 55 percent of his field goals, and his athleticism was an asset on defense.

"Anthony was part of a balanced scoring attack that featured four players in double figures," coach Chris Drogosch said. "Anthony attacked the basket very well, finished strong and was a good rebounder. He had some key baskets in many close wins."

Jason Trotter, senior, Andover: The 6-foot-6 center averaged a double-double the last two seasons, and he led the county in scoring this year with 26.2 points per game. He also averaged 14 rebounds.

A three-year starter, Trotter averaged 20 points for more than half the season. He had a high game of 46 points and others in which he scored 40, 37, 33 and 31.

"Jason was pretty much meat and potatoes, not flash and dash," coach William Jones said. "College coaches who have seen him are impressed with his understanding of where he is under the basket. He stays within himself, keeping it simple and effective without trying to create highlights."

Mike Korynski, junior, Troy: The 6-1 guard was the Colts' top player, averaging 14 points and 4.5 rebounds.

He scored a single-game high of 31 points against Ferndale and had 24 against Farmington Harrison. Korynski was a 70-percent free-throw shooter.

"Mike is hard to guard because he can shoot the three and also put the ball on the

floor and go to the basket," coach Gary Pralick said.

Marcus Holman, junior, Farmington: Good defense was the hallmark of the Farmington team, and Holman was one of its most tenacious defenders. The 6-4 junior also averaged 10.5 points and 9.5 rebounds.

"Marcus is aggressive and athletic at both ends of the floor," coach Steve Norgrove said. "He's a tough competitor who can be a dominating rebounder. He's a consistent post player who can step out and create on the perimeter. He is tough to guard and only getting better."

Gary Kennedy, junior, North Farmington: Kennedy's first year of varsity ball was a good one. He started all 21 games and led the Raiders in scoring with 15 points per game. He scored a career-high of 31 points in one game.

"He had as good a junior year as anyone I've coached," Negrobian said. "He has an uncanny ability to score."

Jason Jones, junior, Lathrup: The 6-4 guard/forward is rated a Division I college prospect, as well as James, by his coach. Jones averaged 16 points, 14 rebounds and three blocked shots.

"His strength was inside-outside play," Avery said. "I can rely on Jason to give me strong, tough moves around the basket, and he also can step out and hit the 3-point shot. He was a sleeper (in the OAA), I thought. He came on strong and was pretty consistent for us."

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