

The stars who made the

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The contrast between pre-season predictions and post-season reviews always makes for some moving prose — usually about the fulfillment of dreams or the heartbreak of near-misses.

The boys and girls track seasons provided ample instances of both: Waterford Kettering's P.J. Osika overcoming his disappointment with second place in the 800-meter run at the state meet to win the Midwest Meet of Champions; Pontiac Northern's Lisa McCoy winning four events at the regional and Oakland County meet; John McCleary's win in the 800 at the state meet and Brother Rice teammate Joe Davey's second-place finish at the same meet; the crestfallen look of Southfield's Glen Williams after Terry Whitt held on in the mile relay to win the regional meet for Rochester and, in contrast, William's elation at placing second in the 110-meter hurdles at the Class A championships.

What follows is a special mention of the boy and girl athletes who made the track meets memorable, in Oakland and beyond.

Boys team

■ 100-meter dash

Robert Hess, Rochester: Had the county's best 100-meter time this season — 10.8. After a strong start, a leg injury hampered him late in the year. Though he didn't duplicate his pair of fifth place finishes at last year's state meet (in 100 and the long jump), he's still one of the county's top sprinters and long jumpers and a valuable relay team runner.

Honorable mentions: Terence Robinson, Southfield; Reggie Williams, Pontiac Northern.

■ 110-meter hurdles

Greg Williams, Dondoro: A close call between two good friends. Greg nipped Southfield's Glen Williams (no relation) at the county meet, but Southfield's Williams came back to take second at the state meet. Greg took fifth at states. Both runners' best time this season was 14.2.

Honorable mentions: Glen Williams, Southfield; Pat Lareau, Troy.

■ 200-meter dash

Hank Woodmore, Avondale: Woodmore, a basketball star who says he runs just to keep in shape, electrified the crowd at the county championships with a meet record of 21.9. That day, Woodmore won easily over one of the best fields in any race at the meet. He also won the Class B state championship in the 200.

Honorable mentions: Terence Robinson, Southfield; Steve Gallero, Holly; Terry Whitt, Rochester.

■ 300-meter hurdles

Glen Williams, Southfield: Williams excels in both hurdle races, and he won the county championship in this event. At the state meet, Williams, running in Lane 9, finished a strong fifth in the 300 hurdles. Besides the two hurdles races Williams also ran the anchor leg on relays for Southfield. Next year, he'll be running for Eastern Michigan University's fine track team.

Honorable mentions: George Smith, Southfield; Greg Drothier, Groves.

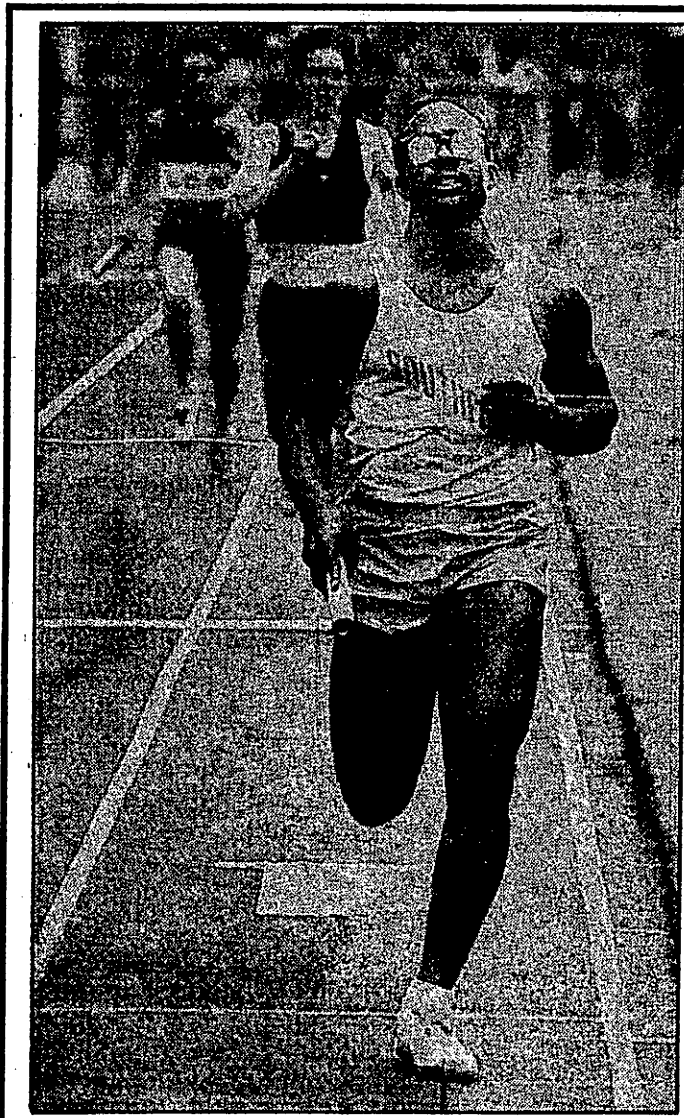
■ 400-meter dash

Jeff Zurgable, Rochester: A vital part of the league and regional championship team. In addition to a best of 50.4 in the open 400, Zurgable ran the opening leg on the mile relay team that beat Southfield in the last event of the regional meet to lift Rochester to the team championship.

Honorable mentions: James Danforth, West Bloomfield; Roger Berkeley, Cranbrook.

■ 800-meter run

P. J. Osika, Waterford Kettering: It's hard to make the state champion in this event an



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honorable mention, but Osika, a senior, beat Brother Rice's John McCleary two out of three times in head-to-head races this season — at the county meet and at the Midwest Meet of Champions, where Osika won the 800 title. Osika had the county's best time — 1:52 flat — and his only loss this season was at the Class A state meet, when McCleary nipped Osika at the wire.

Honorable mention: John McCleary, Brother Rice

■ 1600-meter run

Mark Kring, Cranbrook: Kring ran a county best of 4:16.3 at the Class B state meet and still finished only third in what was a great mile race. That time would have won him the championship at any of the other three state meets for boys (Class A, C and D).

Honorable mentions: Eric Wittenberg, Seaholm; Joe Davey, Brother Rice.

■ 3200-meter run

Joe Davey, Brother Rice: This season, Davey's best of 9:16.4 was three full seconds faster than his nearest challenger in Oakland County. He took the county title in the 1600 and won the regional title in the 3200, running all alone and lapping several runners in that race. At the Class A state meet, he took second place. He plans to follow a family tradition and attend Tennessee — perennially one of the nation's top track schools.

Honorable mentions: Bob Thompson, Rochester; Eric Wittenberg, Seaholm.

■ 400-meter relay

Pontiac Northern: Reggie Williams, John Washington, Cornelius Herring and Nelson Johnson combined to run a 42.8 this season and take third place at the state meet.

Honorable mentions: Southfield, Rochester, Troy.

■ 800-meter relay

Southfield: Darryl Saitor, Chris Key, Garrett Dunn and Terence Robinson ran a county best of 1:29.9 this season. The 200-meter dash finals at the Oakland County meet looked like a Southfield team picture. When the runners came around the curb for the homestretch of the 200, four Southfield sprinters filled up the lanes. Such team depth made for a great relay team.

Honorable mentions: Pontiac Northern, Rochester.

■ 1600-meter relay

Rochester: Scott Balter, Jeff Zurgable, Chad Hallor and Terry Whitt won the regional title for Rochester. In the meet's last event, Whitt took the baton with a five-foot lead on the anchor leg and held off Southfield's Glen Williams on the backstretch to give Rochester the regional team championship. As Rochester coach Hal Commerson said, "What an ending!"

Honorable Mentions: Southfield, Brother Rice.

■ Shot put

Pete Brown, Farmington: Though many of the top performers were hard pressed to find stiff competition, Brown had only to look around the county. Brown, Derrick Perry, Jim Davis and Brian Clouse of Lake Orion all qualified for the state meet. Brown beat them all to win his second consecutive Oakland County championship. His best this year was 57-feet, 9/4-inches. He took third place at the Class A state championships this season.

Honorable mentions: Derrick Perry, Troy; Jim Davis, Southfield.

■ Discus

Derrick Perry, Troy: Perry, an avid weightlifter, had the county's best throw this season with a 166-3. His coach, John Bancroft, calls him the Hulk. Walled Lake Central's Steve Thibert deserves special mention for his second-place finish at the Class A state meet with a throw of 160-8.

Honorable mentions: Steve Spowock, Lakeland; Steve Thibert, Walled Lake Central; Pete Brown, Farmington.

■ Long Jump

Reggie Williams, Pontiac Northern: After a season off, Williams and the rest of Pontiac Northern's track team came back with a bang. In addition to posting a county best leap of 22-4 in the long jump this season, Reggie ran just about every sprint event — the 100, 200, several relay legs, and the high hurdles. In the off-season, he trains with the track team at Alabama State University. As a sophomore in high school, he ran a 9.7 100-yard dash.

Honorable mentions: Hank Woodmore, Avondale; Robert Hess, Rochester.

Track meets memorable

Robinson, left, was a member of Southfield's 800-meter relay team; Alice Short, of Farmington Harrison, broke the state shot put record in the course of the season just past.



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High jump

Ed Wilcox, Oak Park: Wilcox, a lanky junior, has finished second the last two seasons at the Class B state championships. He improved this season to 6 feet, 8 inches, and won the Oakland County and regional championships. He's also a starting forward for the Redskins' basketball team that made it to the state finals before losing to Corunna.
Honorable mentions: Joe Saluski, Lakeland; Craig Compton, Birmingham Groves.

Pole vault

Ed Lumm, Holly: Lumm won the Class B state pole vault championship in 1982. Due to enrollment changes, Holly moved up a flight to Class A this season, and Lumm took second place honors at the state meet in Jackson with a personal best of 14-1. He won his first Oakland County Championship this season with the third best vault in the meet's 23-year history.
Honorable mentions: Chris Kramer, Troy Athens; John Hutchinson, Milford Lakeland.

Girls team

100-meter dash

Lisa McCoy, Pontiac Northern: After a year without sports in 1982, Pontiac Northern coach Jimmy King thinks McCoy, a senior, has not reached her potential. But what McCoy has done in the meantime is completely acceptable. The senior took fourth in the 100 and third in the 200 meter dashes at the state Class A meet despite being hampered late in the year by shin splints and a slight hamstring pull. She also ran the anchor leg for two of Northern's sprint relay teams.
Honorable mentions: Sabrina Arnold, Pontiac Central; Carolyn McQueen, Seaholm; Molly Acton, Troy Athens.

100-meter hurdles

Kristi Jackson, Detroit Country Day: Jackson, only a junior, broke the state Class C record with a 14.2 just days before the state meet, then went on to win her second consecutive high hurdles title with a time of 14.3. She was the only repeat winner at the Class C boys and girls meet at Caro. Later in the day, Jackson came back to finish seventh in the 300-meter hurdles.
Honorable mentions: Alice Short, Farmington Harrison; Julie Beamer, Clarkston; Kim Hobbs, Lake Orion.

200-meter dash

Lisa McCoy, Pontiac Northern: McCoy took third place at the state meet in the 200 to cap an unbelievable season that included four victories at both the regional championships and the Oakland County meet. In addition to running the 100 and 200, McCoy anchored Northern's 400 and 800 meter relay teams.
Honorable mentions: Dedra Bradley, Pontiac Central; Sue Tomanek, South Lyon; Paula Buckhault, Avondale.

300-meter hurdles

Cindy Panowicz, Northville: Panowicz took third at the state meet with a time of 43.9. Her nearest rival in Oakland County ran over two seconds slower than that.
Honorable mentions: Kristi Jackson, Detroit Country Day; Julie Beamer, Clarkston; Dedra Bradley, Pontiac Central.

400-meter dash

Dedra Bradley, Pontiac Central: Bradley's second place finish in the 200, coupled with her second place in the 400 and a fourth place with the 400-meter relay team, was one of the best individual performances at the Class A meet. Bradley — an exceptional athlete — was a mainstay all season for Central. She competed in the sprints and on relay teams, the 300-meter hurdles, and the long jump, where she took second at the county championships. At the Class A state meet, Bradley finished with a time of 56.5 in the 400. She put on a late rush and almost caught Barb Stinson of Jackson, who won the 400 by just one-tenth of a second.
Honorable mentions: Sue Tomanek, South Lyon; Judy Janusz, Rochester.

800-meter run

Kelly Geiger, West Bloomfield: Geiger closed out an exceptional season at West Bloomfield with a second at the state Class A meet in the 800-meter run. Geiger's time was 2:17 flat. The finish more than made up for a disappointing fourth place in the 800 at the county meet.
Honorable mentions: Mary Ballantyne, Birmingham Seaholm; Terri Esslink, Rochester Adams; Amanda Shilts, Kingswood.

1600-meter run

Kelly Geiger, West Bloomfield: Geiger took sixth at state meet with a time of 5:07.9, more than six seconds below her time at the Oakland County championships a week earlier.
Honorable mentions: Kathy Kubicki, Rochester Adams; Tere Stouffer, Royal Oak Shrine.

3200-meter run

Kathy Kubicki, Rochester Adams: Kubicki ran extremely well to take third in a scorching race at the state meet. Clio's Kelly Shumate won the race in 10:56.6. Kubicki, the Oakland County champ, ran an 11:11.7. Kubicki knocked 23 seconds off her season best time in the two weeks between the May 28 regional meet and the June 4 state championship meet. The senior won both the county and regional titles.
Honorable mentions: Tere Stouffer, Royal Oak Shrine; Kelly Geiger, West Bloomfield.

400-meter relay

Pontiac Central: Sabrina Arnold, Jerisa McDougal, Cynthia Wright and Dedra Bradley. This team concluded with a fourth place finish at the Class A state meet with a time of 48.9. Bradley ran the anchor leg of the relay, then came back moments later to take second by a fraction of a second in the next race, the 400-meter dash.
Honorable mentions: Rochester, Pontiac Northern, Avondale.

800-meter relay

Pontiac Northern: Aileen Owsley, Stephanie Snoddy, Linda Adams and Lisa McCoy took eighth at the Class A state meet with time of 1:44.9.
Honorable mentions: Rochester, Avondale.

1600-meter relay

Pontiac Northern: Beverly Wilson, Tonya Terpley, Alma Levler and Linda Adams placed fifth at state meet with a time of 3:58 flat.
Honorable mentions: South Lyon, Rochester, West Bloomfield.

Shot put

Alice Short, Farmington Harrison: During the past season, Short broke the state shot put record three times before Temperance Bedford's Karen Sapp beat out Short at the state meet. Short is a fine all-around athlete. In addition to the field events, she is also one of the county's best high hurdlers and a top-flight basketball player. Short took second in the shot put at the state meet with a 44-foot, 8-inch effort. Short was the 1982 Class A shot put state champion. She qualified for the 1983 state meet in three events.
Honorable mentions: Kay Wells, West Bloomfield; Caryn Lamb, Walled Lake Central.

Discus

Kim Woods, Avondale: Woods threw well all season for Avondale, climaxing with a third place finish at the state Class B championships. Woods' personal best of 128-1 to win the county championship beat her nearest Oakland rival by almost 13 feet.
Honorable mentions: Alice Short, Farmington Harrison; Beth Sherman, Farmington.

Long jump

Lisa Roselle, Walled Lake Western: Roselle won the Oakland County Championship with a leap of 16-feet, 9¼-inches, and qualified for the state meet in the long jump. She scored all but one of her team's points at the county meet.
Honorable mentions: Kim Davis, Troy; Karyn Finucan, Seaholm.

High jump

Karyn Finucan, Seaholm: Finucan, another versatile performer, ended the season with some steady improvement to finish second at the Class A state championships. Finucan won the regional meet with a jump of 5-5, took the Oakland County title with a leap of 5-6, then jumped 5-7 at the state championships at Jackson High. This season, Finucan also long jumped and ran the 300-meter hurdles for Coach Ken Shively.
Honorable mentions: Marcia Thompson, North Farmington; Lisa Neubacher, Waterford Mott; Kelly Craig, Clarkston.