

Girls cross-country

■ **TEAM OF THE YEAR:** Traverse City ended a near-perfect season by winning the first Class A title in school history. The Trojans scored 110 points to outdistance Dearborn Edsel Ford (121). The Trojans finished third in their first invitational of the season and then won everything else. "It's been a while since the team going in ranked No. 1 actually won," said coach **Mark Fries**. "The girls handled themselves very well." The runners were junior **Karleen Kurtz** (8th, 20:37), senior **Lori Klingelamith** (14th, 20:53), junior **Erika Schmilik** (15th, 20:55) senior **Jenny Peters** (34th, 21:23) and sophomore **Sara Jefferson** (39th, 21:31). "We knew when we crossed the finish line that we ran well," Fries said. "The girls started crying when they found out they were first. A lot of schools have one or two good runners, but we have good depth. That was a significant factor."

■ **ATHLETE OF THE YEAR:** Sterling Heights Stevenson's **Christy Goodson** hasn't had a lot of publicity this year, but she will after winning the Class A title with a time of 19:17. It wasn't easy. Goodson had to beat last year's winner, **Molly Lori** of East Kentwood, and 1989 winner **Bridget Mann** of Ann Arbor Pioneer.
By Rich Hava, special writer

Boys cross-country

■ **TEAM OF THE YEAR:** Milford Lakeland brought home the school's first state championship in any sport Saturday in its ninth straight trip to the finals. The Eagles scored 144 points at Terra Verde Golf Course in Wyoming, edging second-place Walled Lake Central (166), and Monroe (168). "I've been here since the school first opened," said Lakeland coach **Randy Wilkins**. "I feel real fortunate and thankful for it." The runners were senior **Dean Rugh** (4th, 16:49), **Warren Johnson** (6th, 16:51) and **Jason Runnells** (17th, 17:17) and sophomores **Jeff Clarke** (53rd, 15:55) and **Dave Collier** (64th, 16:01). They're not only winners on the course, but in the classroom as well. The team's grade-point average is 3.70. "They are a very intelligent group, and I think that's one of the reasons we were successful," Wilkins said. "The kids did a solid job this year. We have been consistent all year, and the kids have stayed focused. We used each week as a stepping stone towards the state championship. We probably haven't had our due all year. Now we can talk about it."

■ **ATHLETE OF THE YEAR:** **Bill Crosby** of Walled Lake Western capped an exceptional senior season by winning the Class A title in 16:18. Crosby defeated rival **Brian Pickl** of Milford, who ran a 16:38. Last year, Crosby finished second to Pickl. "It was like a dream that came true, really exciting," Crosby said. "I felt that I had to relax the first half of the race and stay with everybody, and then I went all-out the last mile."
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FP end of year awards

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