

SPRING SENSATIONS

Suburban News Publications

SPRING ATHLETES OF THE YEAR 2008

It's apt to describe the athletic attributes of our eight Suburban News Publications Spring Athletes of the Year winners as sensational, but you could just easily substitute divine, keen, marvelous, smashing or superb.

Superlatives aside, each played a significant role in their high school team's success this spring. While there were many impressive nominees, our selections represent, in our opinion, the best in their sport from among the communities we cover.

We congratulate each.



Lindsay Godard

Senior - Lacrosse - Upper Arlington

One local coach called her arguably the best player in the Midwest. Another said she was the best player in the area – by far.

All opinions aside, Upper Arlington senior Lindsay Godard forever will be characterized as a state champion.

Fittingly, the Golden Bears' All-American midfielder blasted four goals and dished three assists in a 14-8 dismantling of Cincinnati Sycamore (19-2) in the Division I state lacrosse final. Godard was voted the tournament's offensive Most Valuable Player, as she helped UA (21-2) hang its fourth state banner since 2002.

Foreshadowing the final victory, Godard's school record-tying seven goals earlier in the season helped snap Sycamore's 34-game winning streak.

"If we could beat any team, it'd be Sycamore, because they've always been one of our biggest rivals," said Godard, a University of Pennsylvania recruit who piled up 78 goals and 27 assists in 2008.

"They beat us last year for the state championship, but it's an amazing feeling knowing that all the hard work and extra sprints paid off in the end."

-CHRIS GALOSKI