



MITCA Cross Country Coach of the Year – 2006

**Boys DIVISION 1**

Coach of the Year

**Tom Carney, Pinckney**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	1
Number of All-State Runners:	6

Season and Career Highlights

Tom has been coaching for a total of seven years; five as head coach at Pinckney. Repeating last years' accomplishments, Tom's team won both the regional and final meet. This was accomplished with his top six runners earning MITCA all-state honors, more than doubling the total number of all-state runners he has coached to eleven.

**Robert L Smith, Novi**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	2
Number of All-State Runners:	1

Season and Career Highlights

Robert has been coaching for a total of twenty-six years; twenty-five as head coach at Novi. Rob's team again captured a regional crown, but improved dramatically on the ninth place final meet finish in 2005, making it to second place and extending his continuous multi-year top ten final meet finish streak to nine.

**John Lober, Traverse City Central**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	3
Number of All-State Runners:	0

Season and Career Highlights

John has been coaching for a total of twenty years; eighteen as head coach at Traverse City Central. A fourth place finish in last years' regional meet kept John's team at home from MIS in 2005. A win at this year's regional meet brought his team back – and a sweet third place it was as TCC defeated cross town rival TCW on the sixth man tie-breaker.

**Brian Salyers, Milford**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	2
Final Place:	5
Number of All-State Runners:	1

Season and Career Highlights

Brian has been coaching for a total of eleven years; all as head boys and head girls coach at Milford. Milford boys made the final meet in 2005 as a fourth qualifier out of the Holly regional and then finished seventh at the final meet. The two place improvement in finish at this years' region also brought a two placement improvement in finish at this years' final meet. This years' final meet makes ten, top ten finishes for Brian's boys.



MITCA Cross Country Coach of the Year – 2006

**Boys DIVISION 2**

Coach of the Year

**Jaime Dudash, *Dexter***

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	1
Number of All-State Runners:	5

Season and Career Highlights

Jaime has been coaching for a total of nine years; all as head coach at Dexter HS. Who hasn't heard of Dexter in 2006? Ranked number 1 in the Midwest and number 4 nationally – Jaime's team placed five individuals as all-state, matching the number of state championships his teams have enjoyed over the past five years. Equally remarkable were the Dreadnaught's four invitational perfect scores of fifteen, including wins over the top ranked D1 Pinckney team.

**Cliff Somers, *Fremont***

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	3
Number of All-State Runners:	3

Season and Career Highlights

Cliff has been coaching for a total of ten years; eight as head coach at Fremont. Last year, Fremont narrowly made the final meet top ten. This year, with a sixth straight regional win, they improved on that finish with a solid third place. Three all-state runners brings Cliff's total number of all-state runners coached to fifteen.

**Rick Cradit, *Fenton***

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	4
Number of All-State Runners:	2

Season and Career Highlights

Rick has been coaching for a total of seven years; this is his first year as head coach at Fenton. Rick's boys had an undefeated dual meet season and were conference champions. Add to that his regional win, and top five finish at the final meet makes for a successful season.

**Nick Stration, *Bloomfield Hills Lahser***

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	6
Number of All-State Runners:	2

Season and Career Highlights

Nick has been coaching for a total of eighteen years; eight as head coach at Bloomfield Hills Lahser. This years' regional title makes the fifth straight for Nick's Knights; their sixth place final meet finish is their sixth straight top ten final finish.



MITCA Cross Country Coach of the Year – 2006

**Boys DIVISION 3**

Coach of the Year

**Justin Keyes, *Erie Mason***

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	1
Number of All-State Runners:	3

Season and Career Highlights

Justin has been coaching for a total of two years; both as head coach at Erie Mason. His teams have won two conference championships, this year with a score of fifteen points. Justin's harriers are quick learners as a fifth place finish at last years meet taught the lessons necessary to be champions this year. Three all-state runners at this year's final meet more than doubles the total number of all-state runners coached to five.

**Paul Nilsson, *Williamston***

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	2
Final Place:	2
Number of All-State Runners:	3

Season and Career Highlights

Paul has been coaching for a total of thirty-four years; all as head coach at Williamston. Thirteen points kept Paul's team from repeating last years' final meet title, but brings his total number of runner-up trophies to three. Additionally, three all-state runners bring his total count of all-state runners coached to thirty-two (including three state-champions).

**David J Miller, *Jackson Lumen Christi***

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	3
Number of All-State Runners:	1

Season and Career Highlights

David J has been coaching for a total of twelve years; all as head coach at Jackson Lumen Christi. Dave's runners were undefeated in dual meets this year, raising his overall dual record to 80-16. In many ways, this season mirrored last season with a regional championship and third place at the final meet.

**Eldon "Pete" Moss, *Benzie Central***

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	5
Number of All-State Runners:	1

Season and Career Highlights

Eldon "Pete" has been coaching for a total of thirty-six years; all as head coach at Benzie Central. In that time, Pete's teams have accumulated five final meet championships. This year, Pete's one all-state runner raises to forty, his total number of all-state runners coached.



MITCA Cross Country Coach of the Year – 2006

**Boys DIVISION 4**

Coach of the Year

**Doug Baird, Hesperia**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	1
Number of All-State Runners:	0

Season and Career Highlights

Doug has been coaching for a total of twelve years; all as head coach at Hesperia. Doug's team ran to a state title with the unusual distinction of not a single all-state runner. This was accomplished through a pack of five runners having a differential of less than nineteen seconds!

**Matt Carpenter, Hudson**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	2
Final Place:	2
Number of All-State Runners:	1

Season and Career Highlights

Matt has been coaching for a total of five years; three as head coach at Hudson. It's tough to win a conference or regional meet when the champion also happens to be the state champion team. This is exactly the place Hudson found itself this year, a bridesmaid to Erie Mason who just this year came into D4 from D3. Nevertheless, three top ten finishes and two runner-up trophies in four years is something of which to be proud.

**Larry Steeb, Whitmore Lake**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	3
Number of All-State Runners:	3

Season and Career Highlights

Larry has been coaching for a total of thirty-six years; all as head coach at Whitmore Lake. As boys coach, this regional win was Larry's eighth. Additionally, Larry has coached three different individual state champions adding to this years' three all-state runners.

**Mike Shaw, Saugatuck**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	4
Number of All-State Runners:	1

Season and Career Highlights

Mike has been coaching for a total of eight years. Those eight years have all been at Saugatuck, coaching the sport he began at the school. In that time, Mike's greatest successes have come from his girls' teams. This year, the boys shine with a first regional championship, and second all-state runner.



MITCA Cross Country Coach of the Year – 2006

**Girls DIVISION 1**

Coach of the Year

**Budd Ciccirelli, Rochester Adams**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	1
Number of All-State Runners:	2

Season and Career Highlights

Budd has been coaching for a total of twenty-six years; all as head coach at Rochester Adams. Budd has coached the MIS course record holder Katie Boyles and this year adds two all-state runners to his current count of nine. In his fifteenth straight final meet appearance, Budd's girls got it right, bringing him his first state title – this, in addition to one runner-up trophy and six other top ten finishes.

**Susan Tatigian Tatro, Livonia Churchill**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	2
Number of All-State Runners:	4

Season and Career Highlights

Susan Tatigian has been coaching for a total of seventeen years; eleven as head coach at Livonia Churchill. Susan is no stranger to the final meet having finished now four times in the top ten (seven appearances total). Churchill's top four girls ran an impressive fifteen second differential at the final meet and were runner-ups on the six-runner tie breaker rule.

**Benjamin Watson, Rockford**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	3
Number of All-State Runners:	1

Season and Career Highlights

Benjamin has been coaching for a total of four years; this was his first year as head coach at Rockford. Ben's girls were undefeated in dual meets and won their conference crown..

**Michael Smith, Saline**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	4
Number of All-State Runners:	2

Season and Career Highlights

Michael has been coaching for a total of thirty-five years; thirty as head coach at Saline. This season, Mike's girls' team won four invitationals, their eleventh straight conference title, and fifth consecutive regional meet.



MITCA Cross Country Coach of the Year – 2006

**Girls DIVISION 2**

Coach of the Year

**Doug Jager, *Grand Rapids Christian***

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	1
Number of All-State Runners:	2

Season and Career Highlights

Doug has been coaching for a total of sixteen years; all as head coach at Grand Rapids Christian. Last year's MITCA XC COY, Doug returns to the spotlight with another state title. His team won their conference crown with a team score of sixteen points. This year's regional championship is Doug's third in five years.

**Nick Hopkins, *East Grand Rapids***

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	2
Final Place:	2
Number of All-State Runners:	1

Season and Career Highlights

Nick has been coaching for a total of fourteen years; seven as head coach at East Grand Rapids. Last year's tenth place final meet finish was a great learning experience for Nick's girls' as they returned to the finals this year, racing to win the runner-up trophy. One all-state runner brings Nick's total number of all-state runners coached to nine.

**Bob Brown, *East Lansing***

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	3
Number of All-State Runners:	2

Season and Career Highlights

Bob has been coaching for a total of twenty-six years; twenty-four as head coach at East Lansing. This year's regional win was Bob's fourth as well as his fourth straight year qualifying to the final meet. This year's third place finish is easily predicted from a fourth place finish last year and a fifth place finish the year before. Math question: in what year will Bob win a state title?

**Bob Jazwinski, *Dexter***

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	5
Number of All-State Runners:	1

Season and Career Highlights

Bob has been coaching for a total of seven years; one as head coach at Dexter. In his tenure as a cross country coach, Bob has now raised his number of regional championships to two, and increased his number of all-state runners coached to twelve.



MITCA Cross Country Coach of the Year – 2006

**Girls DIVISION 3**

Coach of the Year

**Mike Woolsey, Jackson Lumen Christi**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	1
Number of All-State Runners:	1

Season and Career Highlights

Mike has been coaching for a total of twenty-eight years; all as head coach at Jackson Lumen Christi. Voted national cross coach of the year in 2004, Mike has captured thirteen regional and now seven state championships. Again, Mike's team was undefeated in duals, extending his W-L record to 205-19.

**Cecil Burch, LeRoy Pine River**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	2
Number of All-State Runners:	1

Season and Career Highlights

Cecil has been coaching for a total of twenty-three years; all as head coach at Pine River. The Pine River girls won every jamboree and invitational this year except for two second place bookend meets – the Benzie Invite in August and the MHSAA Final Meet. One all-state runner brings Cecil's total number of all-state runners coached to three.

**Timothy Grotelueschen, Lutheran North**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	6
Number of All-State Runners:	0

Season and Career Highlights

Timothy has been coaching for a total of five years; all as head coach at Lutheran North. In that time, Tim has revitalized the Mustangs, ending a nine year conference title draught to bring home now five straight conference championships and three straight top-ten finishes at MIS. The regional win this year was the school's first since 1987.

**Paula Maurer-Westbrook, Williamston**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	2
Final Place:	7
Number of All-State Runners:	2

Season and Career Highlights

Paula has been coaching for a total of twenty-eight years; all as head coach at Williamston. Paula has had great success over her coaching career having won three regional titles and now eleven top ten final meet finishes. Two freshman all-state runners this year bring her total number of all-state runners coached to twenty-five.



MITCA Cross Country Coach of the Year – 2006

**Girls DIVISION 4**

Coach of the Year

**Todd Schenck, NorthPointe Christian**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	1
Number of All-State Runners:	2

Season and Career Highlights

Todd has been coaching for a total of nine years; all as head coach at NorthPointe Christian HS. This is Todd's first regional championship with his girls' team and first state title ever. Todd says "...my success is inextricably bound to the heart and God-given talents of those who run the race."

**Daniel Brunk, Potterville**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	2
Number of All-State Runners:	2

Season and Career Highlights

Daniel has been coaching for a total of nine years; nine as head coach at Potterville HS. Dan's regional championship was not only his fourth, but the fourth in a row. The Potterville top seven placed in the top fifteen runners at both their conference and regional meets. This year's final meet brings to Dan his first runner-up trophy.

**Emily Kloss, Harbor Springs**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	1
Final Place:	3
Number of All-State Runners:	3

Season and Career Highlights

Emily has been coaching for a total of ten years; eight as head coach at Harbor Springs. Her team's regional win this year was her team's third in the last five years. That performance catapulted her from a prior best finish at the final meet from sixth to third (one point shy of a trophy) and brought her number of all-state runners to a total of seven.

**Tammy Laurie, Ubly**

2006 Season Data

Regional Place:	2
Final Place:	6
Number of All-State Runners:	3

Season and Career Highlights

Tammy has been coaching for a total of two years; both years as head coach at Ubly. This years' team won several invitationals, and their conference crown. Ubly's regional meet and final meet finish and number of all-state runners of two, six and three respectively, exactly match last year's numbers.