

Tracksters compete in districts

News-Messenger Reports

Lakota, Woodmore and Oak Harbor claimed district track championships and Fremont St. Joe finished a surprising seventh in the Class A girls district track meet at Bowling Green High School Saturday.

The Lakota boys team got the best of Oak Harbor, finishing ahead of the Rockets in the Class AA meet at Oak Harbor High School. Woodmore claimed the girls title in the Class A meet at Bowling Green while Oak Harbor's girls won the Class AA, also at Oak Harbor High School.

In the Class AAA at Malabar High School in Mansfield, the Ross boys and girls teams recorded fifth place finishes while sending seven and six individuals, respectively, to the regional meet this Thursday and Saturday. The top four finishers advanced to the regional meets.

Following is a roundup of the district meets by classifications:

CLASS AAA
Dave Kovaleski and Pam Pitts were the lone winners for the Ross teams. Kovaleski leaped 6-foot-6 to win the high jump by four inches. The Ross boys had 36 points while title winner Lima Senior rolled up 80 points.

Bill McCoy was second in the

pole vault for Ross while Todd Beatty was third in the shot put. The Ross 3200 relay team of Kevin Hively, Brian Doty, Pat Hetrick and Mike Robinette finished second to Galion in that race.

Other Ross points were scored by Hively with a fifth in the 400 dash, Robinette with a sixth in the 800 and the Ross 1600 relay with a sixth.

Ross had 49 points in the girls race with winner Lima Shawnee getting 67.

Pitts, despite a bad cold, won the 200 meter dash in a Ross record 25.6 seconds. Teammate Shannon Carter was third in that race. Pitts also had a second in the 100 and anchored the fourth place 400 meter relay team. Pitts took the baton with Ross in seventh place and pulled the Lady Giants team into the regionals.

"Pitts sounded like she just got out of a hospital ward," Coach Harold Zienta described.

Kelly Wolfe qualified for regional competition for the third straight time for Ross with a third in the 100 hurdles and a fourth in the long jump with a personal best leap of 16-1/4.

The Lady Giants' 800 relay team of Monak, Rollins, Provard

and Carter was second in 1:49.7.

CLASS AA

Lakota racked up 123 points to average a runnerup finish to the Rockets in the recent Suburban Lakes League meet. Oak Harbor was second with 96 points.

Junior Gary Smith, with firsts in the long jump and 800 meter run to go with a second in the 1600, led the Raiders to the title. Joe McKown racked up firsts in the 1600 and 3200 meter runs to back up Smith's efforts.

Phil Rickard picked up the other Lakota first, winning the 300 meter low hurdles.

Oak Harbor first places went to Dave Hetrick in the discus, Brian Hammond in the shot put, and Brian Michael in the pole vault: The pole vault finals were held on Thursday.

In the running events, the Rockets picked up firsts in the 3200 and 1600 relays.

Oak Harbor had 117 points to easily win the girls meet. Second place Swanton was 50 points off that pace.

Tammy Gackstetter, the defending state champion in the 300 meter hurdles, won that event plus the 100 meter hurdles for the Lady Rockets. Other Oak Harbor firsts went to Marge Alexander in the 200 with the Oak Harbor 800 and 400 meter relays winning those events.

At Bellevue, Lexington won the meet with Bellevue fourth, Margaretta 12th and Clyde 13th.

Greg Hogue, with a second in the 110 high hurdles, and the 400 relay team of Mike Ricci, Ed Haynes, Jeff Haynes and Mike Hosang, were the top placers for the Redmen.

Margaretta got thirds from Keith Brummitt in the discus and Brian Stimmel in the pole vault.

Clyde's best showing was a fourth in the 400 relay. That squad was comprised of Luis Garcia, Scott Mills, Steve Miracle and Scott Harrington.

Bellevue finished third in the girls portion of the meet, racking up 48 points while champion Perkins had 85. Margaretta was

10th with 25 and Clyde 13th with 14.

Karen Lepley was first with a 5-5 high jump for Bellevue. The 3200 relay team of Tara Chase, Lepley, Altise Vandervee and Kim Gillette was also first for the Lady Redmen.

Clyde's top finish was a second by Rhonda Meadows in the shot put.

Andrea Bath was second in the 3200 for Margaretta and the 3200 relay team of Kelly Hartsook, Terri Jones, Bath and Lara Knapp also finished second.

CLASS A

The Woodmore girls racked up 95 points to finish ahead of Hopewell-Loudon with 80. St. Joe, fielding a partial track team for the first time in the school's history, had 27 points to finish seventh. Gibsonburg was 10th with 20 and Old Fort 16th with three.

Lori Kuhlman won the high jump and Lisa Sandwisch the 100 hurdles to go with a first place in the 3200 relay for Woodmore. In the 100 hurdles, Sandwisch and teammate Marci Reineck finished in a near dead heat in a Woodmore record 15.6 seconds. On the taped replays, however, Sandwisch was the winner, breaking her own school record.

Pam Lieske, Lisa Brown, Merri Emch and Emily Kruse comprised the Woodmore 3200 relay team.

Paulette Dickman won the 1600 and 3200 meter runs for St. Joe and teammate Joann Reardon was third in the 200 dash.

"I'm tickled as all heck," St. Joe Coach Gary Logsdon said.

In the boys meet, Todd Rosenberger of Gibsonburg was second in the 3200 and teammate Tim Baker was third in the high jump.

Jeff Davidson was fourth in the high hurdles and third in the 400 dash for Old Fort. Scott Spencer was fourth in the long jump, also for Old Fort.

Mike Shuman was fourth in the 3200, and the 3200 relay team was third for the Woodmore boys.

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