

B-2 The News-Messenger, Fremont, O., Saturday, May 27, 1978

State track meets

Brown sets season low

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COLUMBUS — Ross High School's Jeff Brown recorded his best time of the year to advance to today's state finals of the Class AAA 300-meter low hurdles.

Brown was one of four Fremont area participants who advanced to the running event finals after Friday's semis of the 71st Ohio High School Boys Track Meet held at balmy Ohio Stadium on the campus of Ohio State University.

The boys meet is being held for the first time in conjunction with the girls state track meet.

Brown was clocked at 37.2 in the hurdles to beat his season's best by two-tenths of a second. It was good enough for second place in his heat behind Mike Lee of Columbus Briggs who ran the race in 37-flat. The best time of the semis was 36.8 by Darren Hill of Middletown.

Other final boys running event qualifiers from the Fremont area are Jerry Priddy of Old Fort in the Class A 440-yard dash, Arnold Scherger of Lakota in the Class AA 120-yard high hurdles, and Gary Haynes of Bellevue in the Class AA 220 and 440.

Priddy, a Stockader senior who is making his second straight appearance

in the state meet, had the best time in his 440 heat with a 50.7. It was the second best time overall behind Joe Sassler of Ashtabula St. John who finished in 50.2.

Scherger's qualifying time in the high hurdles was 15-flat, second best in his heat and just one-tenth of a second behind the best time in the semis by John Krimm of Columbus Watterson.

Scherger's teammate Bill Ireland was fifth in his high hurdles heat in 15.8 and failed to qualify for the finals.

Haynes, Bellevue's sensational junior sprinter, appeared in the 100, 220, and 440 Friday and qualified in the latter two.

His 440 time of 50-flat was fourth best in his heat and sixth overall. The best 440 time of the semis was recorded by Tim Tripp of Dayton Jefferson who ran a 49.5.

In the 220, Haynes was third in his heat and fourth overall at 22.1. The best time of 21.7 was recorded by Mike Kozma of Elyria Catholic.

Haynes finished out of the running in the 100 with a 10.2.

Another Fremont area boy in Friday's semis, Mike Benner of Oak Harbor, failed to qualify for the finals in the Class AA 300-meter low hurdles. Benner was third in his heat at 39.7, one full second

behind the second best time, with the top two from each heat advancing to the finals.

Making their first appearance in the meet today from the Fremont area will be Dave Kontak of Woodmore in the Class A two-mile, Jim Blausey of Oak Harbor in the Class AA two-mile, and Ed Stone of Genoa in the Class AA mile run.

In Friday's field events, Paul Colavincenzo of Clyde and Pete Yaskowitz of Old Fort both failed to place in their events.

Colavincenzo's best jump of 20-5 in the Class AA long jump wasn't good enough to reach the finals.

Yaskowitz equaled his district mark in the Class high jump by clearing 6-4 on his second attempt, but was unable to break the 6-5 mark.

The Class A and AA field events were held Friday with the AAA field events slated for today.

The highlight of Friday's field events was Dublin's Chris Mand's record breaking performance in the Class AA pole vault. Mand cleared 15-8, breaking the mark of 15-6¼ set last year by Brian Binau of Upper Sandusky.

The meet was held in 90-degree heat with the temperature soaring above that on the artificial surface at the horseshoe-shaped stadium.

18 The News-Messenger, Fremont, O., Tuesday, May 30, 1978



JEFF BROWN (right) of Ross begins his run Friday in the semifinals of the Class AAA 300-meter low hurdles at the Ohio High School State Track Meet. Brown was second in his heat in

the semis to advance to the finals. On Saturday, the Ross athlete placed third in the finals with his best time of the season at 36.6. (News-Messenger photos by Bill Stewart)

Brown, Scherger third in hurdles

COLUMBUS — A pair of hurdlers led the Fremont area in the 71st Ohio High School Boys' Track Meet, which concluded here Saturday at Ohio Stadium on the Ohio State University campus.

Ross High School's Jeff Brown, who set a personal best in Friday's prelims, chipped six-tenths of a second off Friday's time Saturday in finishing third in the Class AAA 300-meter low hurdles.

Earlier in the day Saturday, Arnold Scherger of Lakota placed third in a close race in the Class AA 120-yard high hurdles finals.

The only other Fremont area contestant to place in Saturday's running event finals was Gary Haynes of Bellevue, who came in fifth in the Class AA 220-yard dash.

It was late in the long, hot afternoon that Brown ran in the low hurdles. The University of Iowa bound athlete was clocked in 36.6, which bettered his seasonal best of 37.2 during Friday's prelims that vaulted him into the finals.

Winning the race was Friday pace setter Darren Hill of Middletown, who finished in 35.7 to set a state record in the first year the event has been held. Mike Lee of Columbus Briggs, who edged

Brown in their heat during the semifinals Friday, was second in 36.2.

Scherger, only a sophomore for the Lakota Raiders, was timed at 15.1 in the AA high hurdle finals, just nipping John Krimm of Columbus Watterson across the finish line. Krimm had recorded the best time in Friday's semifinals at 14.9.

Haynes was clocked at 22.2 in the 220, behind the winning time of 21.6 recorded by Ray Armstrong of Elyria West. The Bellevue junior had earlier Saturday failed to place in the 440 finals.

Jerry Priddy of Old Fort, who had the second fastest qualifying time Friday, finished seventh in the Class A 440 with a 50.7, equaling his time on Friday. Only the top six in each event placed.

A trio of area distance runners came close to placing in the state event.

Ed Stone of Genoa, who was in fifth during the first half mile, finished seventh in the Class AA one mile run with a clocking of 4:27.1.

In the two mile, Dave Kontak of Woodmore and Jim Blausey of Oak Harbor were eighth. Kontak was clocked at 10:03.1 in the Class A race held Saturday morning and Blausey finished in 9:57.7 in the Class AA two mile.

Flores leads local boxers

CINCINNATI — Fremont's Hecktor Flores captured the gold medal in the 90-pound senior division at

Sports
news

Doty Clark of Ross failed to place in the Class AAA mile run and Bev Lynch of Old Fort did not place in the Class A mile.