



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer
Aquinas Institute's Gabe Bauza (center) finished a strong fourth in the finals of the 110-meter hurdles at the Section 5 Track and Field Championships. The meet was held at Pittsford Mendon High School May 29. Also pictured are Terrance Parker (left) of Edison Tech and McCallom Corbett from Hornell.

Stars come out at track sectionals

DeSales runner sets new record in Class D race

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

Nearpass? A curious-sounding last name.

Nearpass, the track athlete. Hmmm, let's see. Writers could have fun with this one. Lots of cute possibilities. Does she stay *near* her opponents and then *pass* them just before the finish line, or something to that effect?

Oops, just saw the Section 5 Class D meet results. Guess this Near and Pass angle isn't going to work — because nobody got anywhere near this Nearpass person.

And, considering that she's only a sophomore, it's quite possible that nobody in the Finger Lakes area is going to pass her soon, either.

Geneva DeSales High School's Stephanie Nearpass is making a big impression in a big hurry. Although this is only her first year of competitive running, Nearpass has already emerged as one of the best female 3,000-meter runners in all of Section 5.

Nearpass posted a time of 10 minutes, 45.1 seconds, shattering the previous sectional Class D record by an incredible 14 seconds, in winning the 3,000 during the championship meet held this past Friday evening, May 28, at Hornell High School.

Her time was not only more than a minute ahead of her nearest competitor, but it was also the second-best clocking among the five sectional classifications. Only Williamson's Kate Walker went faster last weekend, finishing in 10:44.6.

Nearpass has earned the No. 1 seed



McQuaid's Eric Garsin finds himself all alone in front of the pack in the third lap of the 1600-meter run. Garsin went on to win the event 4 minutes, 27 seconds.

for the Meet of Champions, a state-qualifying event for all sectional divisions. That meet will be held this coming Saturday, June 5, at SUNY College at Brockport beginning at 1:30 p.m.

The scary part about Nearpass is that her record 10:45.1 clocking at Hornell is even slower than her previous — albeit unofficial — best.

"I ran a 10:40 earlier this year," Nearpass noted. "So I'd be satisfied with another 10:40, but my goal is to be around 10:35 (at the Meet of Champions)."

In addition to her staggering sectional performance in the 3,000, Nearpass won the 1,500 with a time of five minutes flat. She edged Canister's Kelly Turner, who finished in 5:01.6.

DeSales coach Bob Wood is fairly awed by Nearpass' abilities, especially since her career has started under less than ideal circumstances.

"This the first year DeSales has had a track team, and we have no track to practice on," Wood remarked. "Stephanie obviously has a lot of natural talent."

Since she's so new at the sport, Nearpass hasn't had much opportunity to accumulate press clippings.

"I like it that way," she commented. "It's more fun to be a surprise."

However, she realizes that her talents are quickly thrusting her from obscurity into the limelight.

"I'll like it that way, too," Nearpass laughed.

Nearpass's record running was part of several first-place sectional showings by diocesan athletes.

McQuaid Jesuit, competing in the boys' Section 5 Class AA division, earned three first places en route to a third-place team finish. The meet was held on May 29 at Pittsford Mendon High School.

Winning finishes for the Knights in-
Continued on page 9

Colleges announce tuition increases

PITTSFORD — The boards of trustees at both St. John Fisher College, 3690 East Ave., and Nazareth College, 4245 East Ave., have approved tuition hikes for full-time undergraduates in the 1993-94 school year.

Under a budget recently passed by St. John Fisher, full-time undergraduate tuition will increase \$540, from \$9,350 to \$9,890. In addition to the 5.8-percent tuition rise, room and board expenses will increase \$260, or 5.1 percent, from \$5,050 to \$5,310. The combined increase will be \$800, or 5.6 percent, for a total annual cost of \$15,200.

At Nazareth, full-time undergraduate tuition costs will go up \$590, or 6.1 percent, from \$9,650 to \$10,240. Room and board, meanwhile, will increase \$250, or 5.4 percent, from \$4,660 to \$4,910. The overall cost growth is \$840, or 5.9 percent, for a total figure of \$15,150.

Owego school slates barbecue and yard sale

OWEGO — St. Patrick's School, 309 Front St., will hold its annual yard sale and chicken barbecue on Saturday, June 12. The event will take place on the school grounds and at St. Patrick's Church, 300 Main St.

Rented tables are available for those wishing to sell their own items. The school is also requesting the donation of items for volunteers to sell. Pickup arrangements can be made for donated articles.

For details, call Cindy Blackwell at 716/687-9034.