



Lauren McFalls/Photo intern

Our Lady of Mercy's Melanie Heeder competes in the long jump at the Section 5 Class A track and field championships, held May 28 at Pittsford Mendon High School.

Track sectionals favor diocesan squads

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

A lot of things didn't go as expected at these track meets.

And that's just fine with several diocesan high-school squads.

Case in point: McQuaid Jesuit was supposed to battle it out with Fairport for the Section 5 Class A championship. Instead, it was Churchville-Chili which came out of nowhere to finish in second place — but the Knights won six events to capture the team title last Saturday, May 28, at Pittsford Mendon High School.

"(Churchville-Chili) literally got every single point they could have gotten," remarked McQuaid Coach Dave Warth, whose Knights scored 109 points to Churchville's 101 in the 16-team competition.

Another eye-opening performance came from the Elmira Notre Dame girls, who struggled in dual meets this year but came up huge at the Section 4 Class D championships, held May 21 at Windsor. ND totaled 99 points to easily place first in the 21-team meet; second-place Odessa-Montour only scored 62 points.

"I knew we had a chance going in. But I was really surprised by how much we won it by," said ND Coach Ed Shelling.

The same could be said for the Geneva DeSales girls' 3,200-meter relay. This quartet was a strong contender for the

Section 4 Class D title on May 28 at Hornell, but the Saints went well beyond winning: their time of 10 minutes, 32.7 seconds shattered a 12-year-old meet record by more than seven seconds.

Also making dramatic strides forward in sectional competition were the Bishop Kearney boys, who took second in Section 5 Class B; and the Nazareth Academy girls, who finished fourth in Section 5 Class B. Both meets were held May 28 at Hornell.

Sectional highlights

McQuaid dominated the distance events in capturing the Class A title. Winners included: Dan Lesser in the 1,600 and 3,200 runs; Shawn Watts in the 800; Brian Kubiak in the high jump; the 1,600 relay consisting of Alan LaChapelle, Watts, Jim Barnum and Tim Tyre; and the 3,200 which included Jeff Clark, Adam Reitz, Barnum and Lesser.

Several Knights will now compete in the Section 5 Meet of Champions state qualifier, set for Saturday, June 4, at Hornell.

Elmira Notre Dame's girls earned their Section 4 crown by winning five events. Amanda Fusco took the 800 while Jenny Spaziani captured the 100 high hurdles, and the Crusaders swept the relay competition: Spaziani, Jeanette Klee, Christina Bruner and Kristi Colavita won the 400; Fusco, Colavita, Bruner and Klee took the 1,600; and Fusco, Lori

Spaziani, Katrina Buttleman and Bruner won the 3,200.

DeSales' Stephanie Nearpass took part in three winning races. She repeated her 1993 Section 5 championships in the 1,500 and 3,000, and also anchored the record-setting relay. Other relay members were Emily Phillips, Sue Nearpass and Kelly Pike.

Six winning performances spurred the Kearney boys to their second-place team finish. BK champions included Sherrard Sloan (100 and 200); Richard Cannon (triple and high jumps); Tobias Zahlman (800); and the 400 relay.

Nazareth's depth proved valuable in its fourth-place showing at the Class B sectionals. The Lasers earned three second places, along with a pair of thirds, to post their highest finish ever in team scoring.

Our Lady of Mercy runner Danni LaMagna captured the 1,500 in helping the Monarchs to a seventh-place finish in Section 5 Class A on May 28 at Mendon. Earlier last week, the Monarchs hosted and won the Private-Parochial League championships on May 23.

Aquinas Institute's Joe Hayes won the shot put and placed second in the discus at the Section 5 Class A boys' meet on May 28 at Mendon.

Notre Dame's Scott Cyr claimed second place in both the 400 run and triple jump at the Section 4 Class D meet on May 21 at Windsor.

Monarchs, Knights step it up

Squads score big league triumphs

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

If momentum means anything, then the Our Lady of Mercy softball and McQuaid Jesuit baseball teams are much more dangerous than their Section 5 tournament seeds — numbers 10 and 9, respectively — would indicate.

As sectional play began earlier this week, both Mercy and McQuaid were still smoking from hot streaks which resulted in league championships.

Mercy won the Private-Parochial League title outright when Aquinas Institute was upset by visiting Harley Allendale-Columbia, 17-16, last Tuesday, May 24. The Monarchs finished with a 6-2 league record to gain their first Private-Parochial title in more than 10 years, while AQ and Bishop Kearney tied for second at 5-3.

Although the league race was closely contested, Mercy's performance in the Private-Parochial tournament was another story. The Monarchs defeated Nazareth 30-7 in the opening round and then topped BK 16-1 in the finals, raising their overall record to 13-7. Both games were held May 28 at McAvoy Park in Irondequoit.

Mercy's 46-run outburst in the two-game tourney raised its season scoring average to 15.4 runs per game.

"Judging from the weekend, hopefully we're peaking at the right time," said Coach Mike Baxter.

McQuaid, meanwhile, earned at least a tie for the City-Catholic League championship with a 5-1 win over host

Continued on page 9

Kearney player agrees to Div. I scholarship

IRONDEQUOIT — Fred Tillinghast, a senior baseball star at Bishop Kearney High School, will attend the University of Richmond, Va., in the fall.

Tillinghast will receive an 80-percent scholarship from Richmond, an NCAA Division I baseball school. The Kearney third baseman has been a four-year starter for the Kings.

Tillinghast is also an honor student with a 90.49 grade-point average. He has participated in Student Council, Students Against Drunk Driving, Peer Ministry and KBC-TV, Kearney's in-school television station.

Parish will conduct June 12 golf tourney

MOUNT MORRIS — St. Patrick Church will hold its annual "Tee Party" golf outing on Sunday, June 12, at Barber Lea Golf Course in Nunda.

The \$32 entry fee includes golf (shotgun start at noon), cart, steak dinner and prizes. Dinner-only reservations can also be made for \$12.

To register, call Geri Crowley at 716/658-4243, Bobbi Sinnott at 658-4762, Betty Flynn at 658-2209 or Jim Ryan at 658-3457.