

Spartans indoor track teams take fifth at team championships

The Williamsville North Indoor track team placed fifth in the boys and girls division at Fredonia State College in the Section VI League Championships held Feb. 10 at Fredonia State College. The boys scored 37 points while the girls scored 34½.

Out of a field of 30 schools, the boys took two first places, two third places, a fourth place, and a sixth place. Senior Matt Losi went 8.76 FAT in the 55-meter hurdles for sixth and 20-5¼ in the long jump to place third. Senior Arthur Collins (fourth) and junior Sean Felton (third) both leaped 5-8 in the high jump event. However, it was senior, Greg Losi who took two first place finishes in the triple jump (44'-3 ½") and long jump (21-4¾). Losi's long jump was just 7½ off the school record.

Also setting a personal best and having an exciting season for the Spartans is Casey Middle eighth grader, Collin Preston. This is Preston's second season with the team and has managed to secure himself a sectional spot in the 55-meter dash with a time of 7.08 FAT. Preston also has a personal best in the triple jump (35-5½) and is a pivotal runner in the 4x200 meter relay.

The boys' team is coming off a remarkable cross country and track and field season last year. Losing athletes like John Bau-

man, Mike Dobmeier, Kurt Wende, Andrew Mikulski, Richard Wong, Jeff Nelson, William Du to name a few, this year's team has managed to stay pretty competitive. With captains Greg and Matt Losi leading the way, others are stepping up. Those contributing include junior Steve Oehler in the 55 hurdles, Collins and senior David Woods in the 600 meter run, senior Alex Weiser in the 55 meter dash and the triple jump, Michael Thielmen in the 1500 and 3200, and senior Richard Wiess in the shot put.

North girls
After coming home with a third place trophy five weeks ago at the Western New York Relays and an impressive showing at RIT on Feb. 3, the Lady Spartans tried to fight their way through what has to be the section's toughest group of girls ever.

With teams like Lancaster, North Tonawanda, and West Seneca West, the Spartans are finding themselves competing right with them. Sophomore Lauren Triantafillou ran 1:48.4 in the 600 meters to finish sixth. Senior co-captain Ashley Redino went 8-0 in the pole vault for sixth. Junior Sarah Mikulski ran a 9.36 FAT in the 55-meter hurdles for fifth and junior co-captain Meredith Kirby went 31-10½ in the triple jump to place fifth.

Sophomore Amy Loud also ran

the 55 hurdles, taking fourth place and setting a new school record with a time of 9.28 FAT. Loud is also apart of another school record set this season by the 4x 200 relay team.

Junior Emily Curry finished second in the triple jump with a leap of 32-2 ¾ and took fifth and qualified for sectionals with a long jump of 15-3. In the girls' 1000 meter run, senior Kim Dohn and sophomore Kim Berus broke the school record set in 2003-04, but it was Berus taking sole position of the title with a time of 3:19.5.

The girls have already managed to break five school records - Redino (50 meter hurdles), Loud (55 meter hurdles), Berus (1000), eighth grader from Casey Middle Ashley Fillmore, freshmen, Molly Mitchell, Berus, and junior Kim Schueler (4x800 relay), and Dohn, Mikulski, Kirby, and Loud (4x200 relay).

"This is a very talented group of women coach Stang and I have to work with," said coach Julian Blake. "I can see more improvements to come before the season's end on Saturday at sectionals. They have been showing a lot of strength and competitiveness in their training and performances and really starting to come together. They have good balance from the field to the track and depth in all most every event. I am very

pleased with the direction my girls team is heading in. I see great things to come for them."

FAT = Fully Automated Timing (.24 difference from hand held times).



LEAGUE CHAMPS — St. Gregory the Great's Christian Youth Organization basketball team defeated Our Lady of Blessed Sacrament, 46-38, on Feb. 7 to win the league playoffs. Members of the team, pictured from left, are: first row — Gianna Pelosi, Katherine Tramosch; second row — Lindsey Grande, Katherine Gloekler, Diana Maher, Nora Balon and coach Mary Ann Grande.

Sports briefs

University at Buffalo wrestler Andrew Stella, a Sweet Home High School graduate, recorded the team's match-clinching win over Binghamton on Saturday.

Stella won 8-4 over Brandon Toro-Segarra at 141 pounds. UB won the match 22-18, ending a five-match losing streak.

University at Buffalo's Brad Agustin, a Williamsville East High School graduate, had three hits in the Bulls' 14-5 opening baseball win over Delaware State on Saturday.

James Piazza, a Williamsville North grad, had two hits. Zach Anderson, another East graduate pitched the ninth inning for the Bulls.

Boehm named Fisher's female athlete of the week

Sacred Heart Academy graduate and Cheektowaga resident Allison Boehm has been named St. John Fisher College's Female Athlete of the Week for the week ending Feb. 4.

As a member of the women's basketball team, Boehm averaged 16.5 points, 12.5 rebounds, 4.5 assists, 2.0 steals and 2.0 blocked shots, while shooting 43.3 percent from the floor and 41.2 percent from three-point range.

In Fisher's 67-56 win over visiting Nazareth Col-

lege on Feb. 2, the junior scored a career-high 22 points, while adding nine rebounds, four assists, three blocked shots and two steals. Boehm shot 9-of-17 from the floor and was 4-for-8 from three-point range.

On Feb. 3, Boehm finished with a career-high 16 rebounds, while adding 11 points, five assists and two steals, but it wasn't enough, as the Cardinals lost to visiting Rochester Institute of Technology, 64-61.

Gleason's Gymnastics

Farrell, Aronica, DeCicco excel at meets

The Niagara gymnasts from Gleason's Gymnastics competed in two meets this past weekend.

Amherst gymnast Jamie Farrell traveled to Long Island, N.Y. to compete in the Winter Wonderland Invitational gymnastics meet on Feb. 9.

Farrell, a member of the Niagara Gymnastics Level 8 team, placed fourth on vault, bars, and floor exercise and fifth on balance beam. She captured the fourth place all-around trophy. Her team proudly carried home the third place banner.



Megan Aronica, left, and Abby DeCicco helped the Level 4 team from Gleason's Gymnastics take first place at the Nickel City Classic held Feb. 9 to 12 in Orchard Park.

Farrell is a senior at Sweet Home High School.

The Levels 4 to 6 teams competed in the Nickel City Classic held on from Feb. 9 to 12 in Orchard Park. For the Level 6 team, Lydia Penberthy placed fourth all-around and had a high score of 9.25 on vault. Lydia is in sixth grade at Sweet Home Middle School.

The Level 4 team from Niagara took first place in the team competition with a final score of 186.425.

Amherst resident Megan Aronica, a fifth grader at Willow Ridge Elementary, was fantastic on the bars, earning 9.1, which was good for the silver medal. She also took second on the beam with 9.05. Those scores, combined with a floor worthy of sixth place and a solid vault, earned Aronica sixth place overall with a score of 36.025. She competed in the 11 year old division.

Another athlete from Amherst, Abby DeCicco, seven-years old who attends second grade at St. Christopher, looked strong in competition. DeCicco had her high score of the season on vault, earning 9.2. She also placed sixth on bars and eighth on beam. DeCicco competed in the 6-8 year old division.



Jamie Farrell captured the fourth place all-around trophy at the Winter Wonderland Invitational gymnastics meet on Feb. 9 in Long Island, N.Y.

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