

Indoor track

North, South fare well in Big Apple debut

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

By all accounts the Williamsville North and Williamsville South indoor track teams' first venture to New York City was a success.

North coaches Julian Blake and Greg Stang and South coaches Sam Hasan and Dan Syracuse each took 22 athletes to compete in the Marine Corp Holiday Classic last Thursday at The Armory Track and Field Center in New York City.

"It was fantastic," said Blake. "They announced all of the kids names and welcomed Williamsville North and Williamsville South to the Armory for the first time."

"We wanted to see what the competition was like around the state, not just at home," added South coach Sam Hasan.

All events were relays, very similar to Section VI's version of the Western New York Relays, to be held on Feb. 9 at Fredonia State College. All times on the track were fully automated times. The results published in this article are from what is recorded on armorytrack.com so they may be incomplete.

Williamsville North

The North girls competed in nine total events.

Its best finish came from the girls' 4x200-meter sophomore relay of Shelby Gray, Mackenzie Miller, Megan Winkle and Raven Baxter, which took second out of

33 schools in a time of 1:58.51.

North's girls 4x200 relay of seniors Sarah Mikulski and Meredith Kirby, junior Amy Loud and sophomore Jessica Little, took 21st out of 94 teams in a school record 1:51.88.

The Lady Spartans' 4x400 relay of seniors Michele Bauman and Kim Schueler, junior Kim Berus and Kirby took eighth out of 17 teams in 4:19.35.

The 55-meter shuttle hurdle relay of Loud, Gray, junior Caitlin Triantafillou and Mikulski finished 16th out of 28 schools in 42.50.

The distance sprint medley relay (400-meter leg, two 200-meter legs, 800-meter leg) of Little, senior Emily Curry, Baxter and Miller went 5:03.05 to finish 29th out of 40 teams.

The 4x800 relay of eighth-grader Rachel Dorogi, sophomore Natalie Worley, Triantafillou and Schueler finished 11th in 11:14.60.

The distance medley relay (1200, 800, 400, 1600) of Berus, Bauman, Worley and Dorogi ran a time of 14:09.16.

The North boys 4x200 relay of freshman Collin Preston, senior Steve Oehler, junior Evan Hughes and sophomore Sinclair Johnson took 49th out of 94 schools in 1:42.01.

The boys sprint medley relay of sophomore Ryan Perry, Johnson, Hughes and senior Mike Thielman finished 10th in its heat in 4:16.68. The distance medley relay of junior Joe Seitz, Oehler, Perry

and Thielman went 12:05.09.

Preston triple jumped 37-8.

Williamsville South

South's 55 shuttle hurdle relay of eighth-grader Kailyn Arcury, sophomores Amanda Breymeier and Allie Van Buren and senior Kristina Arcury took second in a school record 37.10. Hasan said the 55 shuttle hurdle relay competed against 150 schools.

The Lady Billies' sprint medley relay of Van Buren, the Arcury sisters and Breymeier finished in 4:33.82.

The distance medley relay of sophomore Jenny Mooney, juniors Ashley Ferenczy and Laura Johnston and senior Colleen Hurtubise had a time of 14:19.02.

The girls' sophomore 4x400 relay of Rachel Zucker, Rachele Moyer, Mooney and Meagan Monroe were timed in at 4:47.50.

The 4x400 relay of Ashley Ferenczy (1:05 split), Hurtubise, Johnston and Allison Ferenczy ran a time of 4:48.55.

Breymeier was 10th in the open 800 in 2:28.84.

The South boys team was highlighted by junior R.J. Grampp and senior Alex Podvezko, who com-

bined for a 33-9/4 in the long jump relay.

Juniors Nicholas Hoffman and John Stark, sophomores Peter Galbo and Bruce Hibler and freshman Nick Helmick also competed.

The Williamsville district did not pay for the trip. Blake said his athletes fundraised through candy bar sales; Blake and Hasan said the rest was out of pocket expense.

Blake and Hasan hope to go back to the event next year.

In Section VI competition, the South girls are ranked in the top 15 in almost every category.

As of December 30, South has the first (Kristina Arcury, 9.07), second (Van Buren, 9.14), seventh (Breymeier, 9.76) and 11th (Kailyn Arcury, 9.97) spots in the 55 hurdles.

Van Buren is fourth in the 300 dash in 43.6. Ashley Ferenczy and Van Buren are third (1:44.9) and fifth (1:47) in the 600. Mooney has the second-best racewalk (8:35.1). Breymeier is second in the high jump (5-1). Kristina Arcury is also ranked fifth in the long jump in 15-9-7.5 and tied for

10th in the 55 dash (7.90).

Kailyn Arcury is tied for 11th in the 55 dash (7.94) and 11th in the 55 hurdles (9.97). Senior Jennifer Lopez has the eighth-best shot put (31-9).

North is also faring well in Section VI competition.

In the 55 hurdles, Mikulski is third (9.25), Loud is eighth (9.79) and Gray is 13th (9.99).

Kirby is fifth in the 300 dash (44.3), Berus is fourth in the 1000 (3:15.9), and Loud is tied for 10th in the 55 dash (7.94).

Sarah Khan and Amanda Sheriff are tied for fourth in the pole vault with leaps of 7-6.

In the triple jump, Kirby is third (33-5), Curry is fifth (33-11) and Bauman is seventh (31-10).

North also has the fastest 4x400 relay time (4:19.35) and second-fastest 4x200 relay time (1:51.88) followed by South (1:52.7).

South and North will run at 4:30 p.m. on Friday at Buffalo State College and 9 a.m. on Saturday at the Southern Tier Invitational at Cornell University.

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Hockey

Panthers place second in Rome tourney debut

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

The Sweet Home Federation hockey team got a glimpse last week of the kind of competition it could face if they advance to the New York State Division II playoffs this March.

The Panthers split games last Thursday and Friday at the Rome Free Academy Tournament held in Rome, N.Y. located east of Syracuse and west of Albany. It was the first time the team had played in Rome.

Sweet Home won a wild 4-3 double overtime shootout in the opening round over Section I's Rye Thursday night and fell 3-0 in the final to Section II's Queensbury on Friday afternoon.

Rye and Queensbury were state semifinalists last year. Rye fell 5-2 to eventual state champion, Section IX's Monroe-Woodbury, in the state semis. Monroe-Woodbury eliminated Sweet Home, 2-1, in the state quarterfinals.

Despite outshooting Rye, 25-14, in the third period and two 7.5 minute overtimes, the game was still knotted at 3-3 and had to be decided by a shootout.

Rye's Jordan Eck was the first shooter in the shootout and scored. Sweet Home senior forward Ryan Marko followed with a top corner goal. Rye's Paul Mudinger tried to use a backhand shot to score but Panther senior goalkeeper Rob Castiglia filled up the net and made the save. The Panthers' Chris Covell used his own backhand shot and flipped the puck in the air and into the goal. Castiglia secured the win with a glove save on Rye's Kevin Gardner.

"I think getting the first victory the way we did was great because we had never played in a shootout before," said Sweet Home coach Dave Gerspach.

Sweet Home trailed the entire game. Rye's Chris

Wenzel banked the puck off Castiglia's leg 17 seconds into the game. Colin Cardinale tied it from Jim Cardinale at 11:43.

The second period featured three goals from each team — Rye's Mudinger, Chris Fudener and Ellie Beper of Rye and Sweet Home's Colin Cardinale and two goals by Jim Cardinale — but Sweet Home was never ahead. Justin Reich, Covell and Rich Beaudet tallied assists for the Panthers.

Sweet Home outshot Rye, 45-35.

The Panthers beat Queensbury in shots, 24-23, but not on the scoreboard.

Tournament MVP Anthony Soprano gave Queensbury a 1-0 lead at 12:07 of the first period after a Sweet Home defenseman accidentally kicked the puck into the net. Matt Soprano and Kevin Valenti added third period goals.

"I thought we played well," said Gerspach. "It was the best we moved the puck on defense all season. I thought in the third we had more scoring chances but they got the goals."

"I don't think anyone on the team was overly disappointed with how we played in the second game," he added.

Sweet Home's Ryan Gutt had a breakaway in the second period but the Queensbury goalie got a piece of it and deflected it wide.

Sweet Home's Jim Cardinale and Dominic Puntilio were chosen to the all-tournament team.

Besides playing good competition, the Sweet Home coaching staff and players bonded.

"We spent two full days together which is good for us because we have so many new kids on the team," said Gerspach. "It will help us grow as a team."

Sweet Home (5-5-2, 1-1-1) plays Amherst at 9 p.m. on Thursday on the Amherst Pepsi Center Olympic Rink and Williamsville South at 1 p.m. on Saturday on the Pepsi Center Feature Rink.

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North finishes third in Morrisville

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

Williamsville North's Federation hockey team had won the Morrisville IcePlex Tournament three out of the last four years, but not this season.

The Spartans fell to Whitesboro, 5-2, on Thursday night then bounced back with an 8-5 victory over Clinton on Friday night to

finish third.

North coach Bob Rosen said one of his team's problems as of late has been getting off to a slow start and that's what happened against Whitesboro, 9-1-1 and in first place in Division II-East in Section III.

North, on the power play, turned it over in its own zone in the first period and Whitesboro's David Abdou scored a

short-handed goal.

"You can't win hockey games if you don't come ready to play at the beginning of a game," said Rosen. "They had most of the shots in the first period — 10."

Pat Dundon (Jim Engler) gave Whitesboro a 2-0 lead after two periods.

North cut its deficit to 2-1 and 3-2 on goals by seniors Nick Angelo

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HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCOREBOARD

Amherst Central

Girls basketball — Mt. St. Mary's Tournament — def. Alden 61-37; final — def. Mt. St. Mary's 47-44 (OT)

Federation hockey — lost to St. Francis 4-1

Wrestling — 14th at Maryvale Invitational, 45

Sweet Home

Boys basketball — Ken-Ton Holiday Classic — lost to Ken. West 66-62; consolation — lost to Cardinal O'Hara 65-52

Girls basketball — Gates-Chili Tournament — lost to Churchville-Chili 65-47; lost to Nazareth 59-19

Federation hockey — Rome Holiday Tournament — def. Rye 5-4 (2 OT); final — lost to Queensbury 3-0

Wrestling — 10th at Akron Tournament, 56.5

Williamsville East

Boys basketball — Clarence Basketball Boosters Club Tournament — lost to Riverside 80-70; consolation — def. Niagara-Wheatfield 65-44

Girls basketball — Williamsville East Holiday Tournament — def. Newfane 53-20; final — def. North 57-35

Federation hockey — tied Bishop Timon-St. Jude 3-3; lost to Ken. East 4-2

Wrestling — first at Akron Tournament, 184

Williamsville North

Boys basketball — Williamsville Rotary Tournament — def. Newfane 72-61; final — lost to South 79-73

Girls basketball — Williamsville East Holiday Tournament — def. South 56-30; final — lost to East 57-35

Federation hockey — Morrisville IcePlex Tournament — lost to Section III's Whitesboro 5-2; def. Section III's Clinton 8-5

Club hockey — lost to Olean 4-2; def. Ken. East/West 4-3; lost to Niagara-Wheatfield 8-0

Williamsville South

Boys basketball — Williamsville Rotary Tournament — def. Fredonia 85-82; final — def. North 79-73

Girls basketball — Williamsville East Holiday Tournament — lost to North 56-30; consolation — def. Newfane 67-25

Federation hockey — def. Niagara Falls 2-0; lost to Ken. West 6-2; lost to Ken. East 5-3

Sacred Heart

Girls basketball — Fredonia Tournament — def. Silver Creek 70-18; final — def. Frontier 54-43