

Panther boys crowned champions at sectionals

Senior Andrew Hopkins and junior Josh Blango each won Section VI Championships for the Sweet Home boys track team last weekend at Strider Field in Jamestown.

Hopkins won the Division I shot put for the first time with a throw of 52-5. Blango was a double winner, taking first in the Division I 110-meter hurdles in 15.01 and 200 dash in 22.72.

Hopkins and Blango will compete at this weekend's New York State Public High School Athletic Association meet at the University at Buffalo.

Sweet Home coach Mike Lauria said it was especially gratifying to see Christman do so well after fouling out of last week's ECIC competition in which he didn't receive a mark.

"He has struggled in the last several sectionals and we went into this one with a different approach," said Lauria.

"Andrew just wanted to have fun and in doing so, got a personal best throw for the 2008 track season."

Lauria said Blango was a favorite in the 110 hurdles but wasn't planning on running the 200 after ECICs.

"I told him I was going to enter him anyway, and he could make the decision as the week went on," said Lauria. "After deciding to run it, he finished first in his heat of trials but was seeded behind McKinley's Willie Burnett Jr. (22.64-22.75). After the trials he said, 'I am going to get him tomorrow coach' and sure enough he did."

Blango had won a section title in the 55 hurdles during the indoor season.

Christman and Blango are the only ones going to states but junior Ken Anaya and senior Dan Miranda fared well in their events. Anaya placed fourth in the Division I 110 hurdles (15.49) and 200 dash (22.90) and took sixth in the

high jump (5-8). Miranda took sixth in the Division I pentathlon with 2,735 points.

Sweet Home girls

Sophomore Katie Niblock set a new school record in the 800, placing fourth in the Division I girls race at sectionals in a time of 2:17.2.

Niblock also took second in the Division I 1500, running a 4:56.56.

She also anchored the Lady Panthers' Division I 4x800 relay to a fourth place time of 9:58.99. Sabrina Bush, Colleen Kozlowski and Elyse Cramer ran the other legs.

Sophomore Rebecca White placed sixth overall in the Division I long jump with a leap of 15-11.

Sophomore Raylin Brooks competed in the Division I shot put and discus and placed 10th in the shot put with a throw of 30-2.

East's Allen continues impressive season on track

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

Williamsville East's Kala Allen remained undefeated in the 400 dash after winning the Division I race at last weekend's Section VI Championships at Strider Field in Jamestown.

Allen, only in eighth grade, won the 400 in 57.54. She also took second in the 200 dash in 25.47 but qualified for the state meet because it was the best time among Division I and II entrants, and it met the state qualifying standard.

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association meet is Friday and Saturday at the University at Buffalo.

Allen also placed third in the 100 dash with a time of 12.58.

"Kala has continued to run consistently strong," said East coach Kurt Holme. "Her work ethic is outstanding. She's very determined when she's on the track and shows a competitive nature than is more advanced than her age and grade in school."

"She's also physically tough," said Holme. "There were weekends where she didn't miss a beat running six to eight races."

Allen also anchored the seventh place 4x400 relay that finished in 4:16.04. Caroline Steele, Amy

French and eighth-grader Sarah Spitznogle ran the other legs.

Holme said Spitznogle passed up on middle school competition, where she could have set district records at the middle school level, to help the varsity track team.

"She consistently ran well all year," said Holme. "She set the freshman record in the 800 (2:32)

and was the team's second fastest 400 runner. She was a good point scorer for the varsity team. She has shown tremendous potential."

East boys

Senior Colin Begy capped off his career with the Flames by setting a school record in the 800-meters.

Begy took fifth in the 800 at

sectionals in a time of 1:57.93, beating the old record by three hundredths of a second.

Classmate Max Fogel placed 12th in the 800 in 2:05.27.

East's 4x400 relay of Matt Pawlicki, Greg French, Fernando Recio, and Begy finished seventh in a season best time of 3:32.37.

The 4x100 relay of Dan Egan, Zinan Cheng, Begy, and Simon

Park took fourth in 45.7.

Andrew MacDonald placed fifth in the 1600 in 4:41.08. French took sixth in the 400 hurdles in 1:00.40, 10th in the 110 hurdle prelims in 17.18, and 11th in the triple jump in 40-4.75. Egan was ninth in the long jump with a leap of 19-2.75.

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Sports brief

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Clarence Center	4	2
Newstead	4	2
Clarence	4	2
Snyder	3	2
North Bailey	3	2
Egbertsville	2	2
Akron	2	2
North Amherst	3	4
Bowmansville	2	3
Ellicott Creek	2	3
Getzville	1	4
Harris Hill	1	6
Swormville	0	5

June 13

Egbertsville at Snyder
Harris Hill at Swormville
Clarence Center at Ellicott Creek
East Amherst at Clarence
Getzville at North Bailey
Newstead at North Amherst



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