

Weight events beneficial for Western girls

By DON HOMLER
Reflector Sportswriter

BUCYRUS — There must be something in the water at Western Reserve when it comes to the weight events.

For the third straight year, a pair of Lady Roughriders will be working in the discus event in the Division III Fostoria regional meet.

Thursday in district action at Bucyrus High School, sophomore Branigan Fannin won the discus with a throw of 122-3.

In third place was junior Amanda Patrick, who threw her personal best of 111-0. Fannin has thrown the platter as far as 132-0.

"Last year it was Branigan and Jenny Tinney that advanced to the state with Jenny finishing sixth," Western coach Todd Pooch said. "Two years ago, Jenny was fourth in Dayton with Tiffany Sommers also in the state field.

"Now the challenge is to do the same thing in the shot on Saturday," the coach added. "If we also got those two out in that event, it would be two years in a row for that event. It's been a nice run."

Also advancing after a fourth place finish in the girls' 3200-meter relay was the Western team of Danielle Sidell, Jessica Patrick, Caitlin Bement and Brittany Pickett, who clocked in 10:37.

South Central senior Jordan Ray took his first step to returning to the state meet in the pole vault when he placed second in his specialty.

He actually tied Seneca East's Eli Nichols at 13-0, but was placed second due to earlier misses.

"It is definitely going to be a tougher road to the state meet," Trojans coach Jeff Ray said. "Last year he got out of here (Bucyrus) with a vault of 10-6. This year it took 11-6 to get out. Just getting to Columbus will be the challenge."

Another second place finisher in Bucyrus and one that is looking for a ticket to Columbus in his senior year is Monroeville shot putter, senior Josh Perry.

The senior putted the shot at a best 53-0.

"Josh was a little tight," Eagles coach, Bernie Yoder said. "I know he is not happy with that effort but



Monroeville senior Josh Perry gets ready to put the shot Thursday in Division III district competition at Bucyrus High School.



Western Reserve's Tiffany Patrick (left) gets ready to take the handoff from Colleen Nitchman during a relay event Thursday in Division III district competition at Bucyrus High School.

TRACK AND FIELD

I keep telling my athletes to get into the top four and then you have a week to figure out why you didn't do better."

Aaron Robinson is a second Monroeville athlete to advance to the regional after placing third in the long jump 19-10 1/2.

Western Reserve freshman Matt Martineau also made a fine showing in this event, finishing sixth with a leap of 19-0.

A huge number of athletes extended their seasons by advancing either into running semifinals or finals Saturday.

The semi-finals of the sprints and hurdles are scheduled for 12:45 p.m.

The remaining field events, how-

ever, start at noon. The running finals are slated for 1:30 p.m.

RUNNING SEMIS

GIRLS

St. Paul: Veronica Goretz, 100 and 300 hurdles and Alicia Crum, 200.

Western Reserve: Stephanie Tinney and Colleen Nitchman 100; Jenny Hall and Tinney, 400; Alyssa McPeck, 100 hurdles; 800, 400 and 1600 relays; Danielle Sidell, 800 and Jennifer Ryan, 200. The 1600 relay is the fastest time entering the finals at 4:06.43.

Monroeville: Kate Bores and Stephanie Stang, 100; Brandi Ackerman and Amanda Myers, 100 hurdles; Myers, 300 hurdles; Stang, 200 and 800 and 400 relays.

New London: Katie Tyras, 100; Tashawna Randleman, 200 and 400; Megan Shepherd and Gabrielle Wuensch, 800.

Plymouth: Kristen Keaton, 100 and 300 hurdles; Megan Hedeon, 400; Nicole LaCroix, 800 and 1600 relay.

South Central: Ashley Green and Kell Gahring, 200 and 800 and 400 relays

BOYS

St. Paul: Nate Myers, 110 hurdles and Josh Boebe, 800.

Monroeville: Nick Wise and Brad Pierce, 100 and 200; Zak Hancock, 200; Zac Sendelbach, 1600; Kyle Cramer, 800 and 1600 relay.

New London: Brent Thompson, 110 hurdles; David Dvorak, 1600; Duane Berry, 100 and 200; Brian Sheller, 100 and 400; Zac Sendelbach, 1600; Kyle Cramer, 800 and 1600 relay.

Plymouth: Mike LaCroix, 100; Jeremy Rowe, 1600; Lucas Keaton, 300 hurdles; Keaton and Skylar Branstool, 800.

South Central: Mike Coburn, 110 and 300 hurdles; Cody Roswell, 100; Clint Hackney, 1600; Casey Ehler, 300 hurdles.

FINALS RESULTS

GIRLS

3200 relay: 1. Mohawk 9:58.81, 2. Seneca East 10:07.55, 3. Col. Crawford, 10:07.56, 4. Western Reserve (Danielle

Sidell, Jessica Patrick, Caitlin Bement, Brittany Pickett), 10:37.85, 5. Tiffin Calvert 10:49.09, 6. New London (Megan Shepherd, Holly Perkins, Danielle Wuensch, Gabrielle Wuensch), 10:53.03, 7. Wynford, 8. Monroeville, (Emily Mastrianni, Charlene Downing, Val Beck, Lynsey Schaffer), 11:15.02.

Discus: 1. Brandigan Fannin (WR) 122-03, 2. Jenny Steward (Crestview) 121-06, 3. Amanda Patrick (WR) 108-00, 4. Kristen Swerlein (Carey) 109-00, 5. Andrea Lofay (Mohawk) 107-00, 6. Kendra Shaffer (Carey), 111-00, 7. Victoria Lawrence (SMCC) 99-11, 8. Melissa Reinhart (Mohawk) 97-00.

High jump: 1. Karl Weimerskirch (Mohawk) 5-0.2, Shelly Cooper (Lucas) 5-0, 3. Bobby Cundiff (Col. Crawford) 4-10, 4. Abby Weimerskirch (Mohawk) 4-10, 5. Jenna Yeager (Crestline) 4-10, 6. Megan Watson (Crest.) 4-10, 7. Tiffany Patrick (WR) 4-10, 8. (tie) Emily Ruffing (Seneca East) and Alysha Vehre (Carey) both 4-8.

BOYS

Long jump: 1. Ryan O'Dell (Crest.) 21-7, 2. Cody VanMeter (Lucas) 20-6, 3. Aaron Robinson (Mv.) 19-10 1/2, 4. Eli Nichols

(Seneca East) 19-2 1/2, 5. Chris Heringhaus (Mans. St. Peter) 19-1/2, 6. Matt Martineau (WR) 19-0, 7. Seth Haler (Seneca East) 18-11, 8. Tim Ahrhar (Col. Crawford) 18-10 1/2.

Shot put: 1. Brandon Baxter (Wynford) 53-7 1/4, 2. Josh Perry (Mv) 53-3, 3. Dwayne Perry (Wynford) 49-9, 4. Bruce Crawford (Crestline) 49-1 1/4, 5. Troy Dillinger (SMCC), 48-2 1/4, 6. Jeff Niedermeier (Buckeye Central) 48-5, 7. Corey Beck (Crestview) 48-3/4, 8. Andy Howell (Crestview) 47-2.

3200 relay: 1. SMCC 8:37.03, 2. Col. Crawford 8:38.56, 3. Carey 8:40.9, 4. Ashland Crestview 8:41, 5. Plymouth Lucas Keaton, Skylar Branstool, Jeremy Rowe, Evan Packler, 8:45.50, 6. Western Reserve (Joey Zimmerman, Shawn Martz, Kevin Stoll, Daniel Cammann), 8:36.57, 7. Tiffin Calvert, 8:53.84, 8. Seneca East, 8:54.94.

Pole vault: 1. Eli Nichols (Seneca East) 13-00, 2. Jordan Ray (SC) 13-00, 3. Matt Dyer (Wynford) 12-00, 4. Cory Stanfield (Seneca East) 11-6, 5. Michael Buckingham (Tiffin Calvert) 11-6, 6. Sean McGraw (Crestview) 11-00, 7. B.J. Herold (New London) 10-00, 8. Andrew Roberts (South Central) 10-00.

Crestline stops Plymouth again in D-IV district final

By MICHAEL GRECO
Reflector Sports Editor

BUCYRUS — For the third straight year, Plymouth had the chance for advancement to the next level in the postseason tournament.

But the Lady Red were denied all three times in the district finals, including the last two by Crestline.

Thursday, the Lady Bulldogs capitalized on early miscues to score in the opening four innings they batted for a 6-2 Division IV win at Bucyrus High School.

Plymouth dropped to 16-5 overall, 11-2 in the Firelands Conference. The Big Red still have to play New London in a league game.

Meanwhile, Crestline improved to 23-4 and advanced to the Kent regional site. The Dogs are scheduled to play at 4:30 p.m. Thursday.

"Last year they hit us early (in a 6-1 loss) and this year they hit us early," Lady Red coach Rick Reeder said. "You can't do that against a team like Crestline. They have a good defense, good offense and they are well coached."

Leadoff hitter Amanda Ronk spearheaded runs in three innings for the winners by reaching base.

In the top of the first, the senior started with a triple. After an out, Lauren Hoffer hit a comebacker to Plymouth pitcher Katie Coon.

■ FOR a photo of the game see / Pg. A-10.

Coon looked Ronk back to third, but an errant throw allowed Ronk to score the first run.

Brittany Kick followed with an infield hit. Maggie Heiby's sacrifice plated Hoffer with the second run.

A slow roller for an infield hit by Meghan Ronk scored pinch runner Emily Hatfield with the third run.

"I thought we were very aggressive on the bases," Lady Bulldogs coach Heath Sager said. "We knew we had to be aggressive, but at the same time we had to be able to hit her."

Crestline manufactured single runs in the second, third and fourth innings.

In the second, a throwing error sent Amanda Ronk home.

The third saw Kristi Schwechheimer hit a fielder's choice to shortstop, but Stacie Kelly was safe at third and Kick scored the fifth run.

And in the fifth, Hoffer reached third on an error and scored on a fielder's choice out.

The Lady Bulldogs touched Coon for 10 hits.

Amanda Ronk led the way with three, while Kick and Kelly contributed two apiece. Dawn Collins, Meghan Ronk and Jackie Flinders chipped in with one hit each.

SOFTBALL

"They hit the ball in gaps and we hit the ball at somebody," Reeder said.

Coon didn't walk or strike out a batter.

Meanwhile, despite scoring a run in the second inning, the Lady Red didn't muster a hit for the first five innings off Meghan Ronk.

In the second, Andee Reeder drew a one-out walk, moved to second on a wild pitch, third on an error and home on another wild pitch.

Ronk fanned five and walked one over the first five innings.

Cathy Kanney broke up the no hitter with a two-out single in the sixth.

The next inning, Plymouth finally put together a string of hits as Reeder, Brandi Chaffins and Abby Whittington all posted singles to plate the second run.

Danika Hammett's ground out ended the game.

"I'm very proud of this team," said Reeder, whose team dropped a 2-0 decision to Colonel Crawford three years ago. "We beat a good Monroeville team to get here."

And the foundation is there for success next season with only Reeder and Whittington departing.

"This team has a good nucleus coming back," Reeder said.

Norwalk, Willard shut out in district tennis competition

PORT CLINTON — Norwalk and Willard athletes reached second round of action on the first day of district tennis tournament Thursday at the Von Thron-Habitzel Tennis Center.

But that was as far as they advanced. Both Trucker Kyle Bowers and Willard's doubles team of Cody Grundish and Raziell Ramos went 1-1 on the first day. Meanwhile, Flashes Eric Bauerle and Drew Violette lost in the first round.

In singles competition, Bowers junior handled Kenton's Jarrett Hottman 6-0, 6-1 in the first round. But the junior was cut off at the pass by Ottawa Hills' Brian Buckley 6-0, 6-4 in his next opportunity.

Meanwhile, the doubles team of Grundish and Ramos opened with a 6-4, 6-1 win over Huron's Ryan Hodges and Andy Hohler.

In their next match, though, the Willard duo lost to Napoleon's Adam Fausey and Ben Bischoff 6-0, 6-3.

Archold's Andy Redd topped Bauerle 6-2, 6-1, while Lake's Marcus Pereira held off Violette 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (1). Huron's Phil Conley and Chris Pell, St Marys Memorial's Jeremy Dominik and Buckley advanced to Saturday's semis

■ NL 10, Col. Crawford 0

CRESTLINE — New London reached the Division IV district baseball final, handling Colonel Crawford in Thursday's semifinal at Crestline.

The Wildcats, who improved to 20-4 overall, are scheduled to play Sandusky St. Mary Central Catholic at 5 p.m. today at Colonel Crawford.

The winner punches a ticket into the regional tournament.

Against Colonel Crawford, the game was scoreless after two innings. In the bottom of the third inning,

New London busted through for four runs. The Wildcats added two runs in the fifth and four more in the sixth. New London pounded out 12 hits.

Jon Hamilton, Karl Ferber, Chad Blake and Corey Chaffins led the way with two hits each. Kyle Pelham, Justin Lukes, Kory Hall and Tommy McCoppin



Ferber

PREP ROUNDUP

contributed one hit apiece.

Ferber blasted a home run.

Pelham, Lukes and Hall all scored two runs. Jon Hamilton, Ferber, Chad Blake and Chris Hamilton all touched home once each.

Ferber knocked in three runs. McCoppin posted two RBI, while Jon Hamilton, Lukes, Hall and Chaffins had one apiece.

Chaffins went all six innings for the win. He allowed two hits and three walks with 12 strikeouts.

■ Edison 3, Sandusky 2

MILAN — Edison picked up its second straight baseball win Thursday in non-league action. The winners improved to 6-18 overall.

The Chargers scored two runs in the third and one in the sixth. Jimmy Harrington gained two hits for Edison. Matt Triana recorded the pitching win, allowing two runs, four hits and five walks with seven strikeouts.

Edison is scheduled to play at 2 p.m. Saturday in the first round of the SMCC Invitational.

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