



Jordan Ray makes return trip to state meet

By DON HOHLER
Reflector Sportswriter

FOSTORIA — South Central's Jordan Ray will return to the state meet June 4 and 5 with the hope that he can better his 14th place finish of last year.

Ray, the son of coach Jeff Ray, finished third Wednesday in the pole vault on the first day of Division III Fostoria regional.

The senior was the only area athlete to advance on the first day, cleared 13-6. That was just a bit under his school record of 13-7 1/2.

"Jordan was just about average this afternoon," Jeff Ray said. "He knew it would take at or near his personal best to advance."

"Seven of the 10, 13-foot-plus vaulters in the state are from this region. That puts him in tough company. As an example of how tough this region is this year, Jordan vaulted 12-3 last year for fourth."

"Three other area athletes working in field events Wednesday didn't advance. Monroeville senior Josh Perry just missed in the discus, finishing fifth with a throw of 153-11. Teammate Aaron Robinson didn't place in the top eight of the long jump, going 19-4 1/4."

"As far as Josh and Aaron are concerned, they had off days and that happens," Eagles coach Bernie Yoder said. "Josh's best event, the shot, is coming up Friday afternoon. Considering he bumped his personal best in the discus up 25 feet from last year, today's effort was not bad. Aaron just had an off day. The same was true with sprinter Brad Pierce. When you get this far, rest assured your are in fast company."

Western Reserve shot putter Amanda Patrick, although making the final eight in the shot put, couldn't move up, putting just 36-6.

Also for the Lady Roughriders, the 3200 relay team of Danielle Sidell, Jessica Patrick, Caitlin Bement and Brittany Pickett, failed to advance, finishing 12th in 10:32.24.

It took better than a 9:58 to advance. On the track, Monroeville senior sprinter Nick Wise and St. Paul junior hurdler Veronica Geretz moved into the finals in two events each.

Wise ran second in his heat in both the 100 (11.18) and 200 (22.91) meter dashes. Geretz moved into Friday's finals in both the 100 and 300 hurdles. She was third in the 300 at 47.02 and fourth in the 100 at 16.23.

Geretz caught a break in making the finals in the 100. Top qualifier Denise Matheny of Liberty-Center, caught the fourth hurdle, tumbled, and fell out of her lane which means disqualification. "I didn't see her fall, but I sure heard it," Geretz said. "At the time, I knew it might be the break I needed. I just tried to stay smooth and it worked out."

Plymouth's Kristin Keaton captured sixth in her heat at 49.67 in the 300 hurdles. Yoder liked the way Wise ran Wednesday. "Nick was nice and loose," Yoder said. "His goal was to stay smooth and not worry about breaking any records. Moving into the finals is first and foremost. Now we will see what happens. Nick had a long day, running in four events takes a lot out of you."

Pierce was trying to make it out in the 100. He ran seventh in his heat. "We'll come back on Friday and try to get some people into the big show next week," Yoder added.

Wise was on the 400 relay team that qualified by running second at 44.23. The other three runners were Zak Hancock, Pierce and Robinson.

The 1600 relay team of Wise, Evan Heyman, Robinson and Nick Ryan didn't advance, placing seventh in their heat at 3:44.36. Both New London and Plymouth have single entries in Friday's finals.

Brian Sheller, Duane Berry, Brent Dearth and Chris Foor ran third in the 800 relay at 1:34.26 for the Wildcats, while Plymouth's Lucas Keaton was third in his heat of the 300 hurdles at 41.33.

The Big Red's 1600 relay team of Richard Reed, Mike LaCroix, Skylar Branstool and Keaton ran seventh in their heat and didn't advance at 3:37.52.

Western's Jake Dellisanti came on with a burst of speed over the final 20 meters of the 400, but finished out of the running at fifth in 53.44.

The 800 relay team of Brad Pickens, Matt Martineau, Anthony Elliott and Dellisanti placed sixth in their heat at 1:35.84 and didn't qualify to the finals. Pierce finished fifth in his heat in the 100 at 11.57.

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On the girls' side in the running events, the Western 800 relay, continued the string of bad luck. The baton was dropped on the exchange between the third and fourth runners.

When it rolled out of the lane, the team of Jenny Hall, Steph Tinney, Tiffany Patrick and Colleen Nitchman was disqualified.

The key was that the baton rolled out of the lane because it was picked up and the team finished fourth in their heat. Coach Todd Pooch received the official word of the judge's ruling 10 minutes after the race.

But, the night got better for the Lady Roughriders later in the meet as both the 400 (51.04) and 1600 (4:03.97) relay teams advanced to the finals. The 1600 relay was the fastest overall.

Both the 400 and 1600 teams consisted of Nitchman, Tiffany Patrick, Hall and Tinney.

Tinney also advanced in the open 400 with a second in her heat at 59.53.

The remaining field events will be contested starting at 5 p.m. Friday with the running finals going at 6 p.m.

The following are the results of the two 3200 finals and field events conducted Wednesday:

BOYS

Pole vault: 1. Shane Shockey (Bluff.) 14-6. 2. Matt Vogel (Riverdale) 13-9. 3. Jordan Ray (SC) 13-6. 4. Eli Nichols (Sen. East) 13-6. 5. (tie) Andy Long (Tinora) and Mark Pittman (Woodmore) 13-3. 7. Brett Fleke (Ayersville) 13-3. 8. Aaron Montgomery (Bluff.) 13-0.

3200 relay: 1. Hopewell-Louden 8:12.68. 2. Toledo Maumee Country Day 8:15.25. 3. Bluffton 8:15.55. 4. Arlington 8:15.92. 5. Sherwood-Fairview 6. Columbus Grove. 7. Stryker 8. Montpelier.

Discus: 1. Michael Ream (Bluff.) 170-5. 2. Blaine Maag (Columbus Grove) 164-2. 3. Dan Beach, Arlington, 159-11. 4. Tony Kortokras (Antwerp) 156-10. 5. Josh Perry (Mv.) 153-11. 6. Drew Hoffer (Crestline) 153-11. 7. Brandon Baxter (Wynford) 151-11. 8. Jeff Niedermeier (Buckeye Central) 147-7.

Long jump: 1. Kevin McCann (Tinora) 22-8. 2. Ryan O'Dell (Ash. Crestview) 21-5. 3. Brett Heltmeyer (Ottoville) 21-4 1/4. 4. Jeff Busching (Liberty-Benton) 20-11 1/2. 5. Paul Smith (Liberty-Center) 20-6. 6. Ron Diaz (Lakota) 20-3 1/4. 7. Cody Van Meter, (Lucas) 20-1 1/4. 8. David Shephard (Montpelier) 20-0.

GIRLS

3200 relay: 1. Mohawk 9:49.93. 2. Seneca East 9:52.73. 3. Liberty-Benton 9:54.31. 4. Lincolnview 9:58. 5. Old Fort. 6. Hopewell-Louden. 7. Col. Crawford. 8. Pandora-Gilboa.

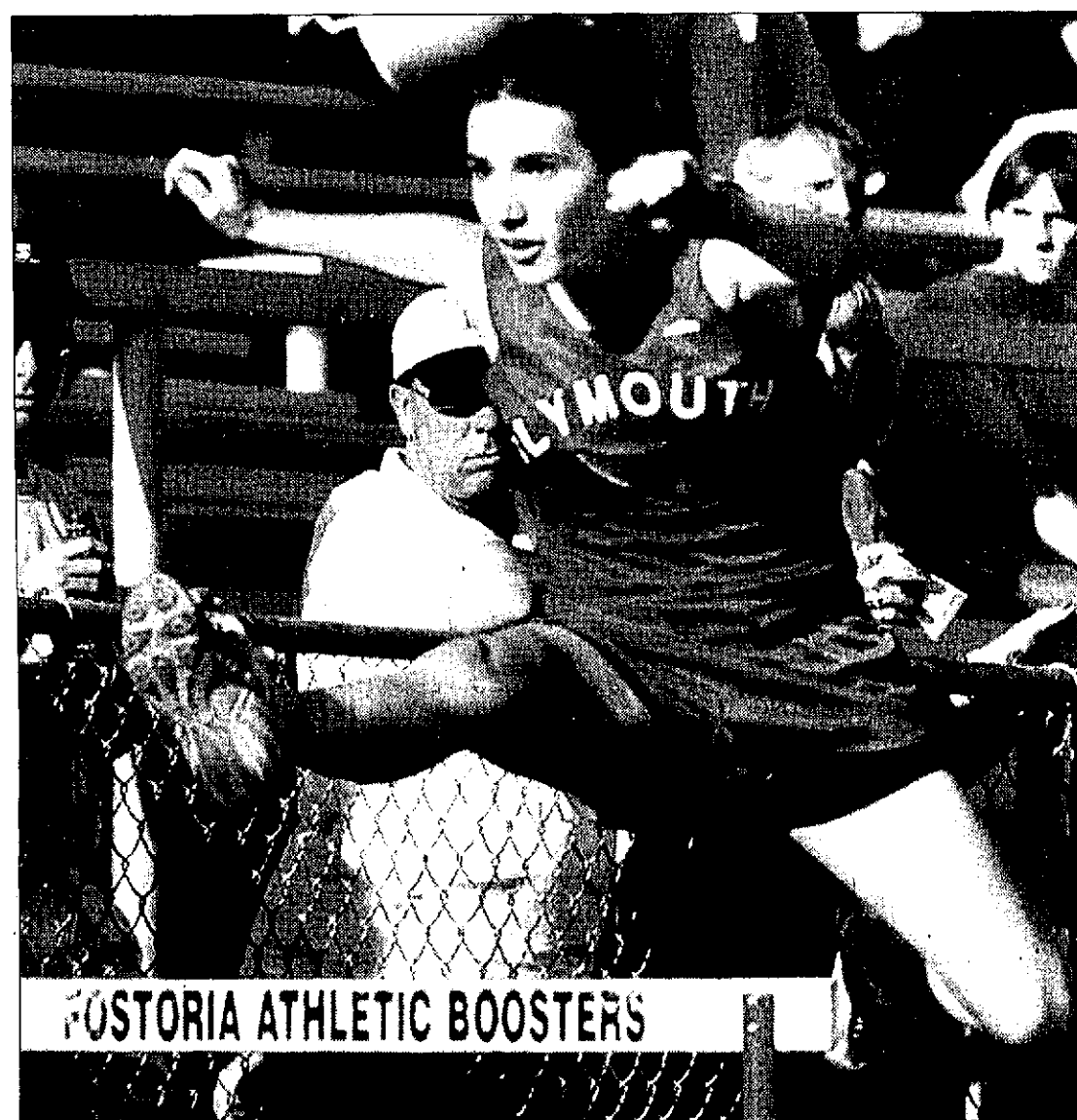
Shot put: 1. Jenny Steward (Ash. Crestview) 42-3. 2. Stacy Wannemacher (Ottoville) 41-8 3/4. 3. Melissa Reinhart (Mohawk) 39-4. 4. Jennifer Westhoven (Liberty-Center) 39-1/2. 5. Brittany Freese (Sherwood Fairview) 37-2 1/2. 6. Jessica Vorst (Spencerville) 37-3 3/4. 7. Jaclyn Hunter (Carey) 37-7. 8. Amanda Patrick (WR) 36-6.

High jump: 1. Kristen Meister (Maumee Country Day) 5-5. 2. Cara May (Columbus Grove) 5-5. 3. Abby Weimerskirch (Mohawk) 5-4. 4. Nicole Sisson (Wayne Trace) 5-2. 5. Samantha Martin (Liberty-Benton) 5-2. 6. Alexis Holman (Maumee Country Day) 5-2. 7. Kelsy King (Columbus Grove) 5-1. 8. Shelby Cooper (Lucas) 5-0.



JERRY HARRINGTON/REFLECTOR

Western Reserve's Brad Pickens (right) hands the baton to teammate Matt Martineau in the 800-meter relay Wednesday during Division III regional action.



JERRY HARRINGTON/REFLECTOR

Plymouth's Kristin Keaton goes over the hurdles in the 300-meter event Wednesday during Division III regional action at Fostoria.

Danhoff, Shoop reach state

LEXINGTON — Two area athletes reached the state meet Wednesday in Division II action at Lexington.

Willard's Michaela Danhoff qualified in the shot put and Edison's Greg Shoop gained a necessary top-four finish in the discus. Danhoff placed second at 41-7. She finished behind Eastwood's Whitney Hartman, who was first at 43-5 1/4.

The Flashes are eighth in the team standings with eight points. Canton Central Catholic has the early lead with 15 points.

Shoop posted third at 160-2. He finished Kenton's Terry Miller at 167-9 and Port Clinton's Evan Whiting at 164-7.

The Chargers are tied for 10th with Van Wert in the team standings with six points. Keith Blakely, Norwalk's lone entrant, was vying for a state appearance in the discus, but placed seventh at 145-4. Norwalk is tied for 22nd with two points.

In the running semifinals, Eric Barrison advanced to Friday's finals in both the 100 and 200-meter dashes.

Barrison ran the 100 in 11.1 and 200 in 22.37.



Danhoff



Shoop

Friday, the girls' pole vault, long jump and discus and boys' high jump and shot put are scheduled to start at 5 p.m. with the running finals at 6 p.m.

The results of the first day are listed below:

GIRLS

3200 relay: 1. Norwayne 9:38.51. 2. Canton Central Catholic 9:38.94. 3. Ottawa-Glandorf 9:39.63. 4. Tallmadge 9:41.01. 5. Marlon Pleasant 9:42.05. 6. Perkins 9:44.16. 7. Napoleon 9:51.91. 8. Shelby 9:58.16.

High jump: 1. Keri Kraus (US) 5-5. 2. Kelsey Rolander (Nap.) 5-4. 3. Laura Williams (Mar. Pleasant) 5-3. 4. Jackie Hill (CCC) 5-3. 5. Meghan Gill (Cyde) 5-3. 6. Kristy Clark (Akron Hoban) 5-2. 7. Heath Kirkpatrick (CCC) 5-2. 8. Rachelle Teeling (Canal Fulton) 5-1.

Shot put: 1. Whitney Hartman (Eastwood) 43-5 1/4. 2. Michaela Danhoff (Will.) 41-7. 3. Krystal Barnhill (Ontario) 39-7 1/2. 4. Nicole Borman (Cardinal Strick) 39-2 3/4. 5. Nicole Morman (Ottawa-Glandorf) 39-1 1/2. 6. Katie

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Murphy (Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary) 38-7 1/2. 7. Leslie Strong (Evergreen) 38-7. 8. Sandusky Brazeau (Swanton) 36-10.

BOYS

3200 relay: 1. Walsh Jesuit 8:03.06. 2. Shelby 8:04.54. 3. Van Wert 8:04.57. 4. Wauseon 8:05.08. 5. CCC 8:05.73. 6. Eastwood 8:12.40. 7. Col. DeSales 8:13.36. 8. St. Vincent-St. Mary 8:16.47.

Pole vault: 1. Justin Holliday (Orville) 15-0. 2. Chris Skaggs (Huron) 14-0. 3. Eric Dravenstott (Smithville) 13-9. 4. (tie) Josh Froelich (Lima Shawnee) and John Smith (Bellevue) 13-6. 6. Patrick Dawey (Margaretta) 13-6. 7. Brent Martin (Lima Bath) 13-3. 8. Scott Palmer (Jonathon Alder) 12-6.

Long jump: 1. Tim Nass (Canton South) 22-6 1/2. 2. Darius Wallace (Triway) 21-6. 3. Adam Edens (Genoa Area) 21-2 1/2. 4. Aaron Richardson (Perkins) 21-2 1/2. 5. Deason Horton (Col. Linden) 21-2. 6. Ben Johnson (M.L. Gilead) 20-7 3/4. 7. Jim Busch (CCC) 20-4 3/4. 8. Tristan Kelly (Shawnee) 20-4.

Discus: 1. Terry Miller (Kenton) 167-9. 2. Evan Whiting (Port Clinton) 164-7. 3. Greg Shoop (Edison) 160-2. 4. Seth Moore (Kenton) 149-11. 5. Wes Mitchell (Smithville) 149-10. 6. Nick Wladyczak (Akron Manchester) 145-8. 7. Keith Blakely (Norwalk) 145-4. 8. Jarred Barr (Fairless) 144-3.

NOL baseball/softball teams announced

The Northern Ohio League teams for baseball and softball have been announced.

In baseball, Norwalk's Michael Biller and Willard's Brandon Oney and Kevin Johnson all landed on the first team.

In softball, Norwalk's Miranda Simmons and Willard's Cori Long were first-team selections.

The lists are below:

BASEBALL

First team: Norwalk — Michael Biller. Willard — Kevin Johnson and Brandon Oney. Gallon — J.B. Shuck and Zach Gorby. Tiffin Columbian — Weston Reinbolt, Jon Elchert and Aaron McQuistion. Shelby — Ben Carver and Tyler Ross. Fostoria — Anthony Munoz. Bellevue — Brad Wolfe.

Second team: Norwalk — Kyle Schaechtere, Stephen Hunter and Clay Duncan. Upper — Brian Hahn, Greg Michell and Jason Winters. Gallon — Brian Kleinknecht and Spencer Germann. Fostoria — Alex Kaminsky. Bellevue — Dave Foss. Columbian — Jon Weininger. Shelby — Zack Thurman.

Honorable mention: Norwalk — Rob Osborn. Willard — Brock Carr. Fostoria — Marcus Hyde, Greg Smith and Christian Leal. Bellevue — Robbie Smith.

Columbian — Adam Sherer. Gallon — Matt Hardeman.

SOFTBALL

First team:

Norwalk — Miranda Simmons. Willard — Cori Long.

Bellevue — Kelli Nasif and Brandy Holzhauer.

Fostoria — Jackie Lee, Dani Haase and Jordan Gravens.

Upper — Danielle Young, Shelby — Kristi Hartings and Amber Hensley. Columbian — Amber Gohse and Carah Ilg. Gallon — Karrie Kintz.

Second team: Norwalk — Bev Patusky. Willard — Robin Tipton and Lauryn Wolfe. Shelby — Leslie Banichar and Laura Morris. Bellevue — Megan Rose and Sammi Pensiero.

Fostoria — Elaine DiCasare and Lindsay Lee. Gallon — Carrie Hoffer and Abbie Whittisblager. Columbian — Merissa Conley.

Honorable mention: Norwalk — Katie Wrabel. Willard — Maranda Moore. Columbian — Kelsey Lammieln. Upper — Tricia Zamora, Kylee DeWitt and Michelle Roberts. Gallon — Jena



Biller



Johnson



Simmons



Oney



Long

Offerman and Ashley Kaple, Bellevue — Tella Hay. Fostoria — Ashley Thompson

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