

Crestview's Bader shines at Division III Fostoria meet

By Gary Ogle
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FOSTORIA — Andrea Bader has earned five state meet medals in her stellar track and field career. The Crestview senior has an excellent chance to add three more to her collection next week.

Bader set a meet record in the 200 meter dash to complement her title in the 100 dash and runner-up finish in the long jump Friday at the Division III regional at Fostoria High School.



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Bader won the 100 in 12.29 seconds and then came back with her record time of 25.24 in the 200. She nearly won a third regional title with her long jump of 17-1.5, but was edged out by Bethany McGraw of Toledo Christian (17-5.75).

"I was just hoping to make it (to state)," Bader said modestly. "I was trying to do anything I could to get in and then work on it next week.

"It's weird. Even though I went to state the last three years, you can never expect it to happen. You have to work hard to get there."

Lucas junior Angela Foss tied the meet record in the pole vault by becoming the first area girl ever to clear 11 feet, but Jenna Oard of Columbus Grove eclipsed the previous standard with her vault of 11-8 to edge Foss for the title.

Also taking runner-up honors was St. Peter's Michelle Crane in the 3,200 meters with a time of 11:31.07. Audra Brown of Ayersville won the race in 11:25.3.

Plymouth's Kristen Keaton was third in the 300 hurdles (47.48) and South Central's Tyler Wilhelm was fourth in the high jump (6-3).

Wynford's Matt Dotson and Colonel Crawford's Nick McQuillen have been battling each other for three years on cross country courses and tracks throughout northwest Ohio. They'll have one last distance duel next Saturday at the state meet.

Both ran lifetime bests in the 3,200 meters at the Division III regional track meet Friday to qualify for the state meet. Dotson was second with a time of 9:39.37, McQuillen third at 9:43.02 to break a school record he already held. Both were cross country All-Ohioans in the fall.

McQuillen became the first male from Colonel Crawford to be a state qualifier in both the 1,600 and 3,200 when he posted a second-place finish in the metric mile (4:26.81). Crawford sophomore Lindsey Pifher set the tone for McQuillen when she came in second in the girls 1,600 with a time of 5:18.13.

Crestline's Roger Chambers also qualified for state with a third-place and school-record effort of 53-1 in the shot put.

"I've had a couple of fifth-place finishes and that puts a bad taste in your mouth," McQuillen said. "This makes all the hard work worthwhile."

"The mile (1,600) was all right. I wasn't feeling the best but I pushed through and qualified. I knew I had to come back in the 3,200. I'm proud of my times, the hard work is paying off now."

Dotson got visibly stronger as the race went on. He becomes the first Wynford state distance qualifier since Brian Hensel in the late '80s. He also came within seconds of the Wynford school record held by his uncle, Joe Dotson.

Chambers bettered his district effort in the shot put by almost four and one-half feet.