

# Track stars win berths at state meet

## Oberlin teams take second, third place at regional competition

The Decatur Community High track and field teams shredded records on the way to sending 13 athletes to the state meet in 11 events during the Class 2A Regional Track meet Friday in Oberlin.

The girls and boys 4x100-meter relay teams and the girls 4x800 team set school records. Hurdler Teryn Grafel broke the school record in the 300 meters and tied the 110 meter record.

Grafel came in first in the 110-meter high hurdles, running the course in 14.6 seconds to break Jim Burkheimer's 1985 record of 14.7.

In the 300-meter intermediate hurdles, Grafel took first place in 40 seconds to tie Chris Post's 1997 record.

Grafel, a junior, won the 110-meter hurdles at state last year in 15.19, almost one-third of a second ahead of the second-place finisher.

He placed third at state in the 300-meter hurdles in 41.9. The state champion last year, Matt Raybarn of St. Johns-Hudson, came in at 41.27.

Grafel was the only Oberlin athlete to be in three state events last year. He helped the 4x400-meter relay team take ninth place in preliminaries. This year, he will be running with the 4x100-meter relay

team. The boys 4x100-meter team of Joe Mondero, Bruce King, Grafel and Lance Fortin came in third at the regional meet at 44.1 but set a school record, besting the 44.6 record set by Jim Kerry, Matt Ostmeyer, Matt Unger and Chris Claussen in 1995.

The girls 4x100-meter relay team of Lauren Fortin, Heather Glodt, Kaitlyn Stapp and Lydia Karnopp won the regional meet in 50.4 and broke a 1987 school record of 50.9 set by Catherine Braden, Jeni Peter, Kristy Unger and Laurie O'Toole.

The girls 4x800-meter relay team of Whitney Beinke, Lora Marietta, Sarah Murray and Lacey Ream came in third in 10:20.2 at regionals but broke a 2004 record of 10:27.6 set by Kelsey Dorshorst, Keely Witt, Beinke and Marietta.

Oberlin will have four athletes in three events at state.

Senior Lance Fortin will compete in the high jump, javelin and 4x100-meter relay. His sister, sophomore Lauren Fortin, won the 100-meter dash at regionals and will be competing with the 4x100 and 4x400 relay teams. Freshman Lacey Ream, whose sister Abby took second in the pole vault last year at state, will be in the 800-meter run and the



**PUTTING ON A BURST OF SPEED** at the last minute, Whitney Beinke, anchor of the Oberlin 4x800-meter relay team, snared third place — and a trip to state — at the regional track meet on Friday.

4x400 and 4x800 relays.

Also going to state are junior Kaitlyn Stapp, who took first in the high jump, and Denton Bailey, who took first in the javelin.

The Oberlin boys came in second at the regional meet with 52 points. Smith Center was first with 87, followed by Oberlin, 52; Oakley, 52; Quinter, 47; St. Francis, 44; Hill City, 42; Wichita County, 36; WaKeeney, 35; Osborne, 34; Stockton, 33; Ellis, 30; Rawlins County, 21; Downs-Lakeside, 19; and Hoxie, 17.

The Oberlin girls came in third with 52 points. St. Francis took first with 72, followed by Rawlins County, 62;

Oberlin; Hoxie, 51; Plainville, 48; Osborne, 48; Wichita County, 48; Smith Center, 39; Hill City, 33; Lincoln, 30; WaKeeney, 17; Downs-Lakeside, 17; Oakley, 17; Ellis, 9; Stockton, 8; and Quinter, 2.

The top four placers in each event won berths to the state meet, which will be held Friday and Saturday at Cessna Stadium at Wichita State University.

Placing for Oberlin were: Grafel, first, 110-meter and 300-meter hurdles, and fifth, triple jump, 40-10.

- Bailey, first, javelin, 164-2.
- Lance Fortin, second, javelin, 156-1, and third, high jump, 5-10.
- The boys 4x100-meter relay team, third.
- Stapp, first, high jump, 5-2.
- Lauren Fortin, first, 100-meter dash, 12.5.
- Ream, fourth, 800-meter run, 2:34.6.
- Sarah Murray, fifth, discus, 106-11.
- Karnopp, fifth, triple jump, 32-5.
- Christa Hardy, fifth, pole vault, 8.
- Rebecca Helm, sixth, 3,200-meter run, 13:27.6, and 1,600-meter

run, 6:24.7.

• The girls 4x100-meter relay team, first, 50.40.

• The girls 4x800-meter relay team, third, 10:20.20.

• The girls 4x400-meter relay team of Fortin, Karnopp, Beinke and Ream, fourth, 4:12.5.

Last year, Oberlin sent 15 athletes to the state meet and the team brought home seven medals.

# Golfers place at state

## Oberlin boy wins medal in Emporia

Decatur Community High golfer Jonathon Richards placed 14th and received a medal at the state golf tournament Monday in Emporia.

Richards, a junior, and sophomore Breck Simonsson both qualified for the state meet last week at the Class 2A-1A Regional tournament in Atwood.

Richards shot a 40 on the front nine and 40 on the back nine for an 80 at Atwood to take sixth and earn a third trip to state. In Emporia, he shot 41-38=79 for his medal.

Simonsson shot 38-39=77 at regionals for third place and 45-40 at state for 40th place. This was his first trip to a state tournament.

Complete results were not available at press time, but Coach Dick Ahlberg called in the Oberlin results from Emporia.

He said there were 106 players from 12 schools at the event, which was played at the Emporia Municipal Golf Course.

Hoxie, which tied with WaKeeney for the regional title, took fourth place at state, he said.



**RUNNING AT THE LEAGUE MEET** for the Cheyenne Conference, Jennings' Marcus McKenna took first in the 800-meter run. He repeated the feat in Oakley on Friday at regionals to win a trip to the state track meet this weekend. — Staff photo

# Jennings runner wins spot

Even though the Jennings High School track team has been running with Hoxie this year, the members represented Jennings at the Class 1A Regional Track meet Friday in Oakley.


One Coyote will be going to the state meet. As a team in the men's division, Jennings took 16th with 10 points, all scored by Marcus McKenna.

McKenna qualified for state in both the 800-meter and the 1,600-meter runs.

He placed third in the 800 in 2 minutes, 6.8 seconds and fourth in the 1,600-meter run in 4:49.30.

The state meet will be this Friday and Saturday at Cessna Stadium at Wichita State University.

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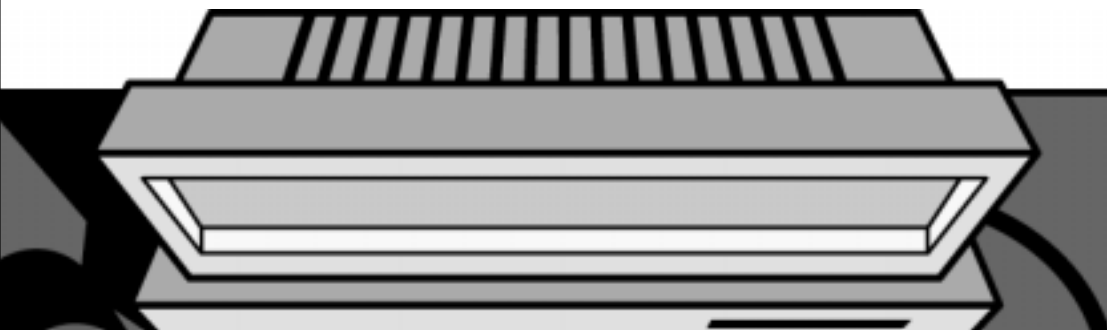
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