

Nebraska Girls' Track

DISTRICT MEETS

DISTRICT C-4, May 12 at Oakland: Ponca
DISTRICT C-5, May 12 at Wisner: Hartington, Hartington Cedar Catholic, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge, Randolph
DISTRICT C-6, May 12 at Atkinson: Creighton, Crofton

DISTRICT D-3, May 11 at Pierce: Allen, Bloomfield, Newcastle, Santee, Wausa, Wynot
DISTRICT D-6, May 11 at Bassett: Niobrara-Verdigre

STATE MEET

May 20-21 at Omaha Burke High School Stadium, Omaha Nebraska

Bloomfield

HEAD COACH: Duane Wilken (37th year)
ASSISTANTS: Kris Schmeckpeper, Jim Dooley
VITALS: Class D, Lewis & Clark Conference

LAST YEAR: Shante Conway had a quality season last year that ended with her taking home an eighth place medal in the 100 meter dash at the state meet. She also qualified in the 200 meter dash and the high jump. Kylie Abbenhaus also qualified for the state meet in the shot put.

RETURNING LETTERWINNERS: Kylie Abbenhaus (Jr.), Becca Broders (Jr.), Shante Conway (Sr.), Ashley Fiedler (So.), Autumn Luger (So.), Dominique Swanson (So.)

ASSESSMENT: The Queen Bees' squad is a little small, but they have some strong athletes that are on the team. Conway and Abbenhaus look to get back to the state meet, along with a couple more Bloomfield runners.

"The girls were runner-up at districts last year and have most of point scorers returning," Wilken said. "The girls need to stay healthy and continue to work."

Creighton

HEAD COACH: Ryan Nilson (2nd year)
ASSISTANTS: Layne Pahl, Jeff Jensen, Ian Ruppolt
VITALS: Class C, Northeast Nebraska Activities Conference

LAST YEAR: The Lady Bulldogs finished the season placing runner-up in the district and third in the conference meet.

TOP PROSPECTS: Karlene Sukup (Sr.), Kashmir Stanley (Jr.), Hannah Zimmerer (Jr.), Chelsey Kracht (Jr.), Caitlin Wiebelhaus (Jr.), Abbey Schwindt (Jr.), Whitney Fritz (Jr.), Shelby McManigal (So.), Anne Fanta (Fr.), Emily Boyle (Fr.), Tiffany Patrick (Fr.), Maddi Oltjenbruns (Fr.)

ASSESSMENT: Creighton lost much of the state qualifiers from last season, so they will be looking to fresh eyes for those leadership roles.

Crofton

HEAD COACH: Rod Hegge



HARTINGTON: Senior Becca Heikes is a returning state placemaker for the Wildcats, finishing seventh in the pole vault. The Wildcats return several key members from a team that won its district a year ago, but the program moves back to Class C this year.

VITALS: Class C, District C-6
LAST YEAR: The Lady Warriors had a lot of be happy about with last season as nine athletes got tickets to the state meet. Five of nine were seniors and Hegge said, "they were the best group of seniors that graduated in quite some time."

RETURNING QUALIFIERS: Holly Hegge (Sr.), Jordan Sanger (Sr.), Heather Lancaster (Jr.), Dani Riesberg (So.)

ALSO RETURNING: Jenny Suing (Sr.), Kayla Boelter (Jr.), Jordan Braunsroth (Jr.), Kelsey Foxhoven (Jr.), Melissa Kleinschmit (Jr.), Elizabeth Kube (Jr.), Rachel Leader (Jr.), Bridget Arens (So.),

Abby Braun (So.), Whitney Miller (So.), Olivia Monaghan (So.), Lea Schuetz (So.), Tiffany Tramp (So.), Jessica Wubben (So.), Alex Allen (Fr.), Sam Hoffman (Fr.), Amy Mueller (Fr.), Hali Strom (Fr.), Jazmin Wubben (Fr.), Julie Zavadil (Fr.)

ASSESSMENT: Crofton has a quite a group coming back this season and it should make for another quality Lady Warriors track and field season.

Hartington

HEAD COACH: Laura Noecker (21st year)

ASSISTANTS: Mandy Hochstein, Jerry Bult

VITALS: Class C, Lewis and Clark Conference

LAST YEAR: The district champions, the Wildcats also finished ninth at the state meet in 2010. Hartington graduated three letterwinners.

RETURNING LETTERWINNERS: Jennifer Krause (Sr.), Jenna Potts (Sr.), Kassidy Jueden (Sr.), Becca Heikes (Sr.), Brandi Hinkel (Sr.), Sofi Olsen (Sr.), Taylor Dybdal (Jr.), Erica Newton (Jr.), Greer Olsen (Jr.), Kristina Huss (Jr.), Michaela Dendinger (So.), Lyndsay Dunn (So.), Ashley Morten (So.)

ALSO RETURNING: Anna Creekmore (So.), Monta Meirose (So.), Beth Turbville (So.), Sara Pinkelman (Fr.), Justin Fischer (Fr.), Courtney Hochstein (Fr.)

ASSESSMENT: A good portion of the points scored at the state meet last year were from athletes who graduated, and so 2011 will be a year for new kids to step up.

"This realistically will be a rebuilding year," Noecker said. "I'm really looking for these kids to meet this challenge. They are working harder than ever in practice sessions with many of our younger athletes leading the pack."

Heikes finished seventh in the

pole vault at state a year ago, while Dendinger was eighth in the discus and Jueden qualified in the high jump.

Hartington Cedar Catholic

HEAD COACH: Chad Cattau (9th year)

VITALS: Class C, Mid-State Conference

RETURNING LETTERWINNERS: Siera Becker, Katelyn Dickes, Ericka Fischer, Erin Hochstein, Megan Kaiser, Savannah McGhee, Tracy Peitz, McKae Pinkelman, Emily Schrempp, Morgan Steffen, Lexi Steffen, Liz Steffen, Angela Steffen, Charice Stevens, Tessa Uhing, Joslyn Wiebelhaus

ALSO RETURNING: Amber Emanuel, Rachel Loecker, Bailey Steffen, Manjana Tausendfreund

ASSESSMENT: The Trojans return four state qualifiers, including Dickes (hurdles), Fischer (hurdles), Peitz (jumps) and Lexi Steffen (jumps). They will lead a team that also features a number of other athletes with significant experience.

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge

HEAD COACH: Terry Bear
ASSISTANTS: Carol Manganaro, Adam Patrick, Shannon Benson, Nate Sims, Joe York

VITALS: Class C, Northeast Neb. Activities Conference

LAST YEAR: Laurel-Concord ran away with its third straight Class C title, powered by Bethany DeLong (state champion in 100, 200, long jump and 400 relay), who is now running track at NCAA Division I Colorado State.

TOP PROSPECTS: Leanna Gubbels (Sr.), Katee Haisch (Sr.), Katie Jacobsen (Sr.), Ashley Lunz (Sr.), Kayla Wiese (Sr.), Jade Cunningham (Jr.), Erika Hochstein (Jr.), Mandy Nelson (Jr.), Amy Pritchard (Jr.), Cassie Camenzind (So.), Sami Camenzind (So.), Jinell Carlsin (So.), Katie Gubbels (So.), Kiley Thompson (So.), Kelsey Dietrich (Fr.), Cameron Eddie (Fr.), Erin Gubbels (Fr.), Brittany Wolfgang (Fr.)

■ **NEB. GIRLS, Page 13**

NEB. BOYS

From Page 11

Hartington Cedar Catholic

HEAD COACH: Chad Cattau (9th year)

VITALS: Class C, Mid-State Conference

RETURNING LETTERWINNERS: Jordan Anderson, Frank Herbolzheimer, Tyler Loberg, Danny Loecker, Keenan Sudbeck, Logan Weinandt

ALSO RETURNING: Shane Guy, Taylor Kathol, Brett Leise, Noah Miller, Dustin Weinandt, Conner Wieseler

ASSESSMENT: The Trojans return experience in many different events, so that balance may key a progression of the boys' team in 2011.

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge

HEAD COACH: Terry Bear

ASSISTANTS: Carol Manganaro, Adam Patrick, Shannon Benson, Nate Sims, Joe York

VITALS: Class C, Northeast Neb. Activities Conference

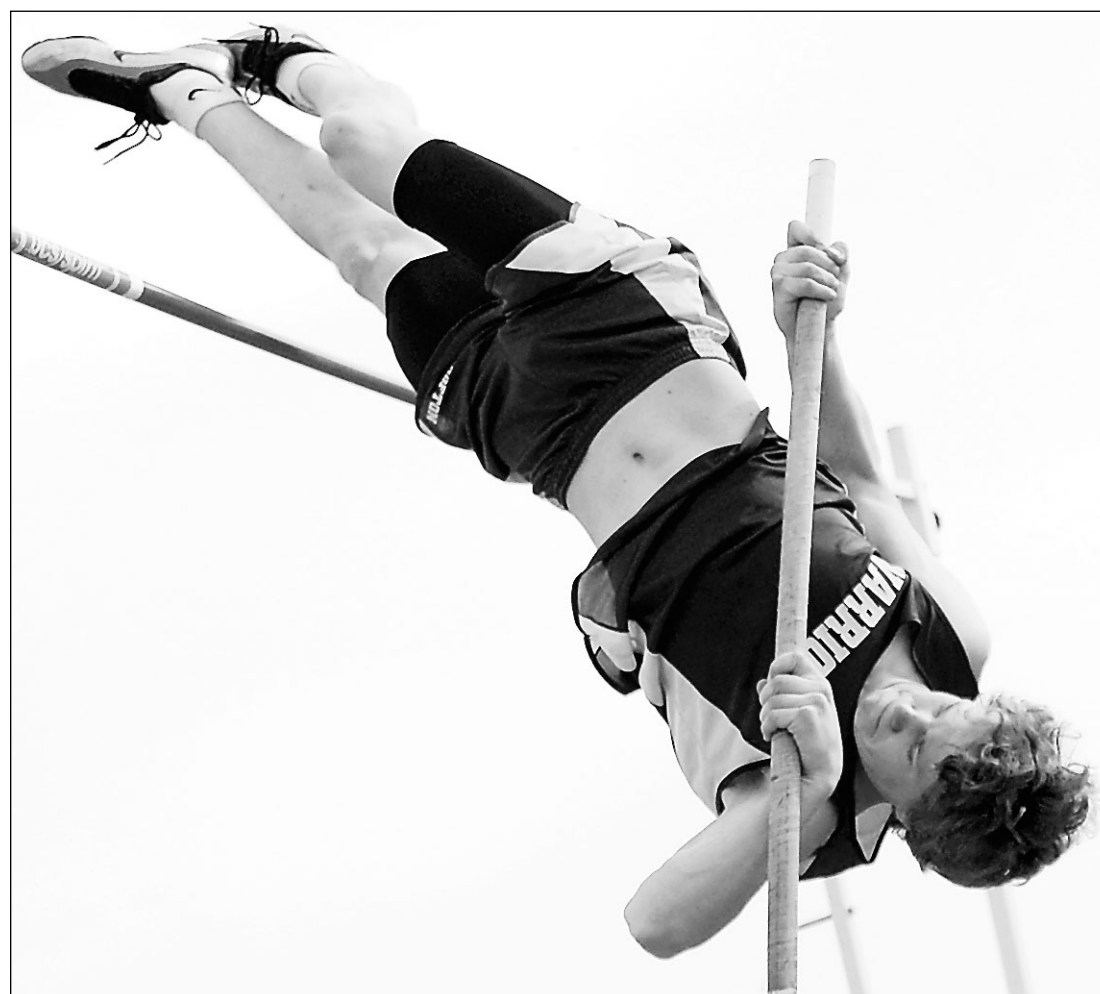
LAST YEAR: Laurel-Concord placed 10th in the state meet, and graduated a class that included a pair of Division II athletes, shot put and discus champion Ezra Schantz (Northwest Missouri State for football and track) and state qualifier Johnny Saunders (Wayne State for football). Coleridge had one state qualifier, Ross Olsen, who also graduated.

TOP PROSPECTS: Billy Leapley (Sr.), Isaac Haahr (Sr.), Jon Jacot (Sr.), Kaleb Williams (Sr.), Michael Olesen (Sr.), Riley Lund (Sr.), Ross Lage (Sr.), Trevor Hefner (Sr.), Adam Clark (Jr.), Mitch Heikes (Jr.), Tyler Schindler (Jr.), Austin Roach (So.), Justin Saunders (So.), Kyle Kardell (So.), Ben Bareiman (Fr.), Brett Haisch (Fr.), Ethan Hirschman (Fr.), Griffin York (Fr.), Mitch Hangman (Fr.), Riley Lage (Fr.)

ASSESSMENT: The Bears, in their first season of the co-op, will try to replace the near-guaranteed points provided by Schantz and Johnny Saunders in recent years. They have a team set up for that task, with a roster that includes eight seniors.

Newcastle

HEAD COACH: Robin Mohr (12th year)



CROFTON: Senior Dalton Gobel was the top pole vaulter on the Press & Dakotan Leader Board in 2010, clearing 14 feet. He comes back for one more season of going after the leaderboard — and Warrior school record — in the event, Neil Wieseler's 14 feet, 2 inches, set in 1997.

ASSISTANT: Bart Kneiff

VITALS: Class D, Lewis and Clark Conference

LAST YEAR: Tyler Mohr's sixth-place finish in the 800 at state highlighted a strong season for the Raiders.

TOP PROSPECTS: Tyler Mohr (Sr.), Dylan Wheelchel (Sr.), Andy Maskill (Sr.), Jacob Luiken (Sr.), Cody Kneiff (Jr.), Kyle Mohr (So.)

ASSESSMENT: Once again, the Raiders will look to Tyler Mohr for leadership on and off the track. He will be looking for a repeat performance in the 800, to go along with a drive in the 400. Relays again figure to be a strength for Newcastle, with the other five athletes mixing in there.

"We look to be strong in the mid-distance races and relays," coach Mohr said.

Niobrara-Verdigre

HEAD COACHES: Mary Snowdon, Stacy Ludwig

ASSISTANTS: Amy Walton,

Dana Konopasek

VITALS: Class D, Niobrara Valley Conference

LAST YEAR: This is the first season that the two school will be co-oping together and it should make a solid season as they bring four state qualifiers back to the team.

TOP PROSPECTS: Tyler Stark (Sr.), Curtis Dather (Sr.), Justin Jacot (Sr.), Jordan Larsen (Sr.), Camden Liska (Sr.), Jared Hrbek (Sr.), Vincent Filip (Sr.), Clayton Hanzlik (Jr.), Owen Pavelka (So.), Jacob Pavlik (So.), Kyle Sokol (So.)

ASSESSMENT: The Cougars will have the benefit of bringing two teams together what should make for a strong track and field season.

"We have a strong group of seniors who will compete hard and provide leadership for our younger athletes," Snowdon said.

Ponca

HEAD COACH: Troy Evans (5th year)

ASSISTANTS: Marcus

Papenhausen, Keith Trusty

VITALS: Class C, Lewis and Clark Conference

LAST YEAR: The Indians graduated three letterwinners, highlighted by two-time high jump state champion Jared Curry.

RETURNING LETTERWINNERS: Anthony Finnegan (Sr.), Lance Lyman (Sr.), Jesse Walsh (Jr.), Cody Peterson (Jr.), Josh Block (Jr.), Patrick Watchorn (So.), Sam Burki (So.), Tanner Boyle (So.), Josh Masin (So.)

ASSESSMENT: With Curry having graduated, Ponca will turn to new faces in the jumps, but also figures to have strength in the mid-distance events. The senior duo of Finnegan and Lyman will provide experience throughout the season.

"The kids are hard-workers," Evans said. "We'll just have to keep everyone healthy."

Randolph

HEAD COACH: Mark Anderson (31st year)

ASSISTANT: Jim Hixson

VITALS: Class C, Northeast Nebraska Activities Conference

LAST YEAR: The Cardinals saw a second place finish from Clinton Lackas in the high jump at the state meet where he jumped 6-foot-5.

RETURNING LETTERWINNERS: Clinton Lackas (Sr.), Joe Pfanstiel (Sr.), Tanner Gubbels (Sr.), Jordan Merchant (Sr.), Jared Korth (Jr.), Justin Korth (So.), Nic Schmit (So.), Grant Anderson (So.), Levi Lackas (So.)

ALSO RETURNING: Jacob Svitak (So.), Nolan Nordhues (Fr.), Lane Bowers (Fr.)

ASSESSMENT: Randolph had a strong group of seniors coming back this season as Lackas looks to bring home a first place high jump medal. Their top-end depth should be a factor that helps the Cardinals have another successful season in Class C.

"We have good middle distance runner and should have competitive relays," Anderson said. "Our 800 and above runners should do well."

Wausa

HEAD COACH: Greg Conn (25th year)

ASSISTANT: Tylor Eincher

VITALS: Class D, District D-3, Lewis & Clark Conference

LAST YEAR: Jared Gillilan was the only runner to qualify for the state track meet.

Dakota Plains Ag Center, LLC

540 Railway St.
Scotland, SD
605-583-2231

Weber's Grocery

307 S. Main
Tripp, SD

(605) 935-6921

First State Bank

Member FDIC

Tripp, SD - 935-6561
Delmont, SD - 779-2551