

CLASS A

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"Winning the state title was a great feeling," she said. "We broke the school record. We worked hard for this."

Strassburg didn't slow down either as she led the Huskies to a second place finish in the 1600-meter relay (4:08.63) to end the day.

"We broke the school record in the 1600 also," said Strassburg of the relay's performance. "We knew it was the last race, and we tried to go out on top. We will definitely take second."

Even though she was still a bit disappointed about the 400, Strassburg said she was still pleased with how the state track meet went.

"I'm pretty happy, and overall, it was a great day," she said.

The Outstanding Performer award helped capped off Strassburg's time in Elk Point-Jefferson blue.

Next year, she will be donning purple as she will run track and field for the University of Sioux Falls.

She will also play basketball for the Cougars.

"It will be different not running for Elk Point-Jefferson, and not putting on the blue," Strassburg said.

On the boys' side, Dakota Valley finished in the top four for the second year in a row.

This year, the Panthers took the stand as the fourth place team.

Even though Dakota valley head coach Vince Tucker thought the team might have been able to get a few more points, he said he was very proud of his team.

"We are in pretty darn good company," Tucker said. "We are going to try for it again next year, and I have already talked with the guys about how we can improve for next year."

The Panthers will be without Army recruit Matt Green next year, who ended his career with a state title in the 400-meter dash (49.55).

The win in the 400 comes a little over a week after a tough loss at the region meet to Harrisburg's

Taylor Olson. Green said he prepared all week in order to not lose the race for a second week in a row.

"I wanted the 400 bad; I spent the whole week training hard for it," he said. "I passed Olson around the 200 mark, and kicked in it with 150 meters to go. I did the last 20 meters, but winning it felt amazing."

The 400 wasn't Green's only title of the day as he anchored the 1600 relay with teammates Taylor White, Matt Lupkes and Evan Hendriks running in front of him.

The Panthers took the 1600 relay with a time of 3:25.76, which is a school record.

"I was looking to finish off my career strong," Green said. "Every ran very well on every leg of the relay."

Green was also a part of the 800-meter relay for Dakota Valley, which finished second, and had a sixth place finish in the 200-meter run.

Dakota Valley also got a seventh place finish from Zach Sexton in the 110-meter hurdles and Taylor Olson was eighth in the 100-meter dash.

Beresford junior Kyle McKelvey accepted his medal as the All-Class winner in the shot put on Saturday after winning the event Friday with a throw of 61 feet, nine and a half inches.

But McKelvey put the rest of Class A on notice in another event for next year.

A year after not even qualifying for the state meet in the discus last year, McKelvey finished second with a throw of 168 feet, three inches.

"If you would've asked me at the beginning of the year if I would've got close to 170 feet, I would've laughed at you," McKelvey said. "Early on, I was hoping to match my throws from last year, but things clicked at the beginning of the year, and I had a steady improvement since then."

Now that McKelvey has figured things out in the discus, he has his eyes set on a much bigger goal. "I'm excited to go that far in a year, so I hope to get in the mid-180's next year," McKelvey said. "I think that's a good goal."

In the girls' 100-meter hurdles, Wagner junior Jessica Koupal was hoping to stay with Madison's



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Dakota Valley's Matt Green celebrates after anchoring the Panthers to victory in the Class A boys' 1600-meter relay Saturday.

Laura Blom in the event. But Koupal didn't stay with Blom, she finished ahead of her to win the 100 hurdles title with a time of 15.37, three hundredths of a second better than Blom.

"I was nervous; I hit the second last hurdle with my knee," Koupal said. "It took a lot of endurance to keep going. My time wasn't the fastest, but it worked."

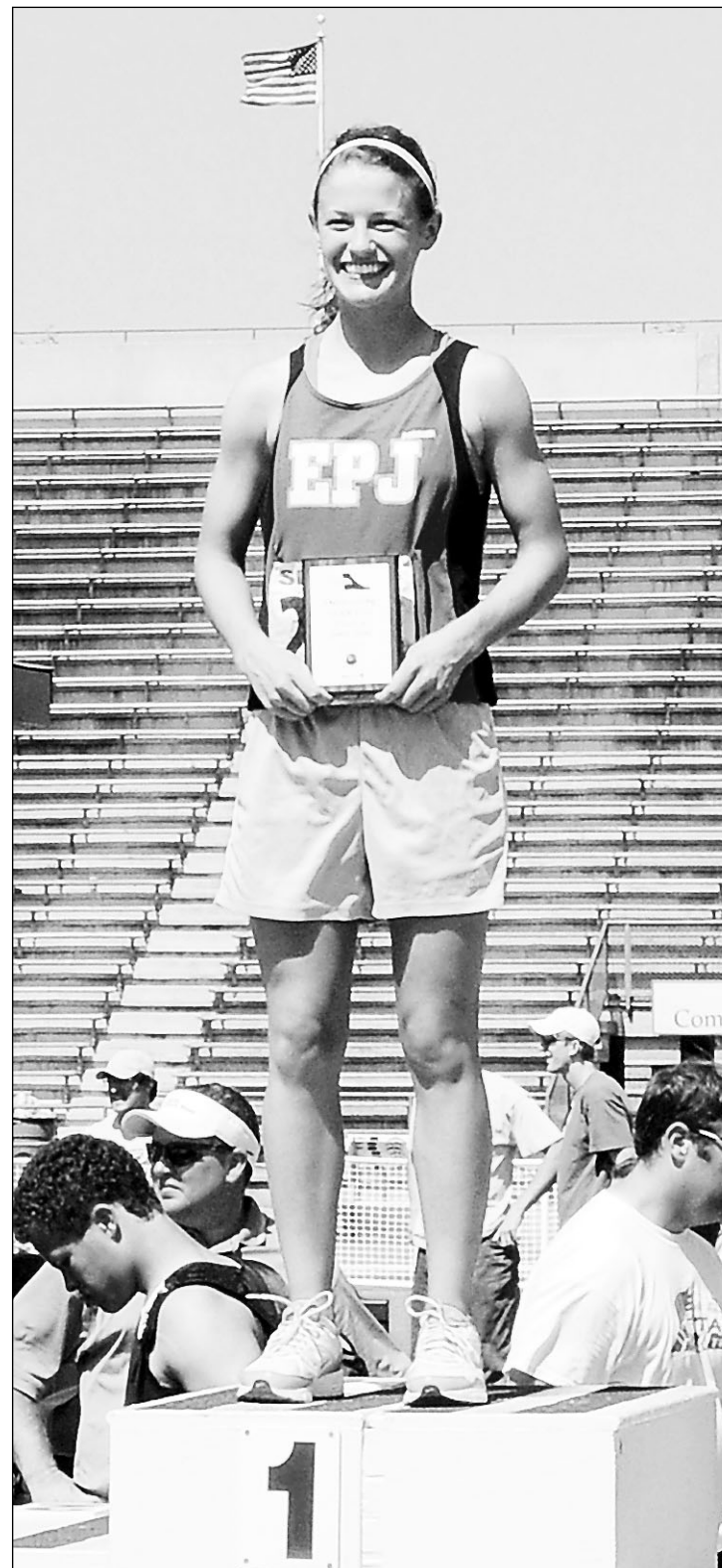
Koupal wasn't the only Red Raider who came away with a top three finish.

Senior Brandon McAdaragh finished third in the boys' 1600-meter with a time of 4:37.42.

McAdaragh never qualified the mile before, and he said the place he finished in felt pretty good.

"I was wishing for second place, but it was a shocker to get third," he said. "Just the way I was running in regular meet, I was confident I could do it. When I made it to state, I figured it was my senior year, so I bucked up and finished strong."

Wagner senior Jillanne Dooim finished off her career with a fourth place finish in the 1600-meter run.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Elk Point-Jefferson's Chrissy Strassburg stands atop the podium after being awarded the Class A Girls' Most Outstanding Performer award at the state track meet.

Irene Holds Off Scotland

SCOTLAND — The Irene Cardinals jumped out to leads of 6-0 and 12-4 and held on for a 15-12 victory over Scotland in South Central League amateur baseball action Sunday night.

Scotland scored five runs in the seventh and two in the eighth to close within one, 12-11. The Cardinals iced the game with a three-run ninth.

Jeremy Rempp had three hits, including a double, to lead Irene. Garrett Gross had two hits, including a three-run homer. Simon Healy added a pair of doubles in the win.

Dante Fuller had a double and two singles, and Jason Vaith had three hits for Scotland, which out-hit the Cardinals 15-11. Bryan Fuks doubled for the Highlanders.

Matt Sees picked up the win. Trevor Whitt took the loss.

Irene travels to Yankton Thursday. Scotland travels to Freeman Friday.

IRENE	.....	420	231	003	—	15	11	2
SCOTLAND	.....	004	000	321	—	12	15	4

Yankton 12, Menno 2

MENNO — The Yankton Tappers moved to 3-0 in South Central League amateur action with a 12-2 seven-inning win over Menno on Sunday night in Menno.

Josh Dameswood and Zach Lambrechts each doubled and singled in the win, while Kyle Smith and Rand Thygeson each singled twice. Jake Broscha pitched five innings for the win.

For Menno (0-2 SCL), Kent Sattler hit a solo home run and Tyler Miller picked up the loss.

YANKTON	.....	025	320	0	—	12	14	1
MENNO	.....	010	010	0	—	2	6	3

Tabor 13, Lesterville 1

TABOR — Jon Vavruska struck out 12 in six scoreless innings as the Tabor Bluebirds routed Lesterville 13-1 in seven innings in SCL action Sunday in Tabor.

Cory Ucker led the way at the plate for Tabor (3-0 SCL) with a home run, double and single, while Rob Keppen and Jason Humpal also homered.

Ian Powell accounted for the lone Lesterville run with a solo homer in the seventh inning. Adam Goeken took the loss for the Broncos (0-2 SCL).

LESTERVILLE	.....	000	000	1	—	1	5	4
TABOR	.....	111	604	X	—	13	9	1

Adam Goeken, Darren Svacina (3), Tim Kotalik (6) and Matt Bennett, Jon Vavruska, Gary Kortan (7) and Steve Fajfar

CLASS B

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knew she had a good shot to place well, but she came within five one hundredths of a second from standing in first place (5:26.47).

"This was my first year ever running the mile, so it was a little unexpected," Koerner said.

"Something that I'm good at is strong finishes, I knew that she got me right at the end, but I'm happy with a second place finish."

Scotland's April Winne hadn't made a final in an open race in her first three years of high school, this didn't discourage in the 400

finals. Winne came in with the slowest time, but she turned some heads as she took third place (1:01.76).

"It was only race today, so I had to give it all I had," Winne said. "I didn't have pressure coming in, because I didn't have the fastest time. I think I came out with more than I expected."

Taylor Waltner of Freeman had a good showing at regions and was hoping to continue that trend going to the finals of the 100 and 200. She ended the day with a fourth place finish in the 200 (27.63) and a seventh place finish in the 100 (12.96).

Brooke Reinhart of Freeman took home a fifth place finish in the shot put (35-7).

YHS

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four straight ESD titles, and 13 from the Bucks, it'll be up to the next generation of Yankton runners to continue the trend, according to Youmans.

"We say this quite a bit, but we'll graduate another really special group," he said. "We can't say enough about these seniors and what they accomplished."

"But we have a lot of young kids coming up," he added. "And we always use the phrase, 'Success builds on success.' And that's what we're hoping for."

Spitfire, Lightning Win Titles At Vermillion

The Yankton Spitfire and Yankton Lightning each won their respective divisions of the Vermillion Summer Slam girls' fast-pitch softball tournament, held this past weekend.

The Spitfire won the 16-under division, bouncing back from a 1-2 record in pool play to win the title. The Spitfire rolled past the Sioux Falls Action 10-3 in the final.

The Lightning were a perfect 6-0 in winning the 14-under division. Yankton edged the Rapid City Poison 3-2 in the final.

Also competing in Vermillion were the Yankton Yellowjackets, who went 3-1 on the weekend, los-

ing in pool play Sunday. The 'Jackets return to Vermillion to face the Vermillion Heat Wednesday.

16-Under

SPITFIRE 10, S.F. ACTION 3: Yankton rallied from an early 3-0 deficit, as pitcher Katie Koletzky retired the final 16 batters of the game. She recorded five strikeouts in the win.

Offensively, Jessica Wirth was 3-3 with two RBI and Brooke Loecker was 2-3 with a double to lead the way. Haley Hinseth ripped a two-run inside-the-park home run. Janessa Ekeren had a RBI double. Tiff Townsend had a run-scoring single. Hannah Horn, Koletzky and Stept Campbell also had hits. Vanessa Milk drove in a run in the victory.

SPITFIRE 9, S.D. DYNAMITE 3: The

Spitfire made quick work of the Dynamite, using a five-run third inning to pull away to open pool play Sunday.

Haley Hinseth drove in three runs with a triple and a single. Hannah Horn and Jessica Wirth each had two hits, with Wirth recording a double. Vanessa Milk had a run-scoring single and Katie Koletzky had a hit in the win.

Koletzky struck out three in picking up the victory on the mound.

S.F. VELOCITY 6, SPITFIRE 3: Janessa Ekeren with 2-2 with a walk and two runs scored, and Kourtney Ericksen singled for Yankton.

Tara Blaha struck out four in five innings of work. Katie Koletzky struck out the side in her inning of work.

SPITFIRE 3, S.D. DYNAMITE 1: Katie

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