

Freeman Girls, Irene-Wakonda Boys Win Region 5B



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Freeman's Cailey Roth leads the pack during the girls' 1600-meter run at Thursday's Region 5B track meet in Gayville.

BY JEREMY HOECK
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GAYVILLE – A quick start to the day proved to be enough for the Irene-Wakonda boys' track team. The Eagles, keyed again by their strength in the field events, went on to capture the Region 5B track title at Thursday's meet in Gayville. The girls' title would go to Freeman.

Hoisting the championship wasn't exactly the goal for Irene-Wakonda at the start of the day, however. No, the Eagles were instead more worried about another number: How many kids could qualify for the state meet.

"Some meets you go in trying to win, but today we just tried to qualify as many kids as we could," head coach Brent Mutchelknaus said. "The kids just really stepped up."

Senior Levi Zavala (shot put) and junior Gabe King (high jump) had already qualified for state, but the Eagles added three more events to that list Thursday: Matt Nelson in the 110 hurdles and 300

hurdles, as well as the 400 and 1600 relays.

In total, Irene-Wakonda scored 132 total points for first place, with 49 of those points coming in field events – led by King, who won the high jump (5-8) and triple jump (41-3), and was third in the long jump (18-5).

"We're peaking right now," he said. "You never know what could happen with the way we're improving."

Freeman took a much different route to second place in the boys' division. The Flyers scored 110 of their 115 points on the track, highlighted by another sparkling day from senior standout Brennan Schmidt.

Schmidt, a University of South Dakota recruit, won the 100-meter dash in a meet-record time of 10.8 and won the 200-meter dash in a meet-record clocking of 22.0. He also anchored the first-place 800 relay (1:36.2), and was also third in the 400-meter dash – he coasted to help Freeman go 1-2-3 in the event.

Cole Paulson won the 110-meter hurdles (15.7) and 300 hurdles (42.6), helping a Freeman squad that figures to contend

for a Class B state championship next week – the Flyers were third last year.

In other boys' finishes on the track, Viborg-Hurley's Logan Hansen won the 800-meter run (2:05.79), Freeman Academy's Thaniel Schroeder won the 1600-meter run (4:57.6) and Centerville's Nick Wixon was first in the 3200-meter run (10:56.68).

In field events, Centerville's Christian Gruschin won the discus (162-2), Scotland's Blake Konstanz was first in the pole vault (11-9), Parker's Zack Anderson won the long jump (20-2.5) and Menno's Austin Handel won the shot put (51-3.5).

On the girls' side, depth – and plenty of it – was the key to Freeman's championship.

Not only did senior Cailey Roth win the 800-meter run (2:23.57), 1600-meter run (5:35.5), and anchor the first-place 1600 and 3200 relays, the Flyers gave her plenty of help.

In the 400-meter dash, Freeman went 3-5-7. In the 3200-meter run, Freeman went

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Tennis | S.D. State Boys

Bucks 7th After Day 1

YHS Advances To Quarters In Three Singles, Two Doubles Flights

SIOUX FALLS – The Yankton Bucks advanced three singles players and two doubles teams to the quarterfinals on the opening day of the South Dakota State Boys' Tennis Tournament, being played at McKennan Park and Washington High School in Sioux Falls, as well as at Brandon Valley Middle School in Brandon.

The Bucks sit in seventh after the opening day after scoring 211 points. Mitchell, Sioux Falls Lincoln and Sioux Falls O'Gorman each scored 300 points on the opening day, a perfect score through two rounds of singles and doubles.

"Other than flight two, it was about as good as it could get today," said Yankton head coach Matt Termansen. "We have five of nine flights



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton's Luke Rockne returns a shot during his flight one singles matchup with Jesse Margolies of Aberdeen Central on the opening day of the South Dakota State Boys' Tennis Tournament on Thursday at Brandon.

Yankton Wins Seven Events At Last Chance Meet

SIOUX FALLS – There were seven event wins and a number of other top-10 finishes for the Yankton Bucks and Gazelles track teams at Thursday's Last Chance Meet at Sioux Falls O'Gorman.

A pair of sophomores highlighted the performances for the Yankton Gazelles, as Emma Stewart and Lindsey Hale climbed the rankings in two jumping events.

Stewart won the long jump at 18 feet, 1 ½ inches, a mark that moves her up to second in Class AA. Lindsay Hale was second in the long jump (17-2), moving up to eighth in Class AA.

Stewart also won the triple jump (37-1), improving on her state-best in that event. Hale was third in the triple jump (35-2) and now ranks fourth in the state.

On the track, Yankton won the 800 relay. Savannah Woods took second place in the 1600-meter run (5:18.6), while Emerson McClure was third in the 3200-meter run (12:14.2).

Madason Tessier took second in the 100 hurdles (15.4), while Kate Budig was fourth in the 300 hurdles (49.7). In other finishes, Erica Westerman was fifth in the 800-meter run (2:25.8) and Danielle Beckmann was eighth in the 400-meter dash (1:03.2).

In field events for the Gazelles, Adrienne Kusek took fifth in the shot put (36-4) and fifth in the discus (107-0), while Budig was sixth in the high jump (4-6). Kaitlin Guthmiller was fifth in the pole vault (9-0) and Lindsay Larson tied for sixth in the pole vault (8-6).

On the boys' side, the Yankton Bucks again showcased their depth in the sprints, while the field events also produced success on the day.

Osmar Pacheco tied for first in the 100-meter dash (11.0), while Ryan Sternhagen tied for third (11.0). Sternhagen was also second in the 200-meter dash (23.1), and Lee Rose took second in the 400-meter dash (50.7).

Charlie Stephenson was

first in the 110 hurdles (15.6) and second in the 300 hurdles (40.8). Yankton's 800-meter relay squad was first in a time of 1:30.8.

In field events for the Bucks, Rose was first in the long jump (22-9), Joseph Kelly was second in the pole vault (12-3), Matt Fitzgerald was fourth in the triple jump (41-8.5) and Chris Kinsley was sixth in the triple jump (40-10.5).

In the throws, Jordan Payer was fourth in the discus (139-10) and fifth in the shot put (45-6.5), while Nick Raab was eighth in the shot put (44-5) and eighth in the discus (132-2). Evan Greenaway chipped in with a seventh-place finish in the discus (132-3).

Yankton will travel west for the South Dakota State Track Meet on May 29-30. The first day of the Class AA portion will be held in Sturgis, while all three classes converge on Rapid City for the final day.

Platte-Geddes Girls, C-S Boys Win Region 6B

CORSICA – The Platte-Geddes girls and Corsica-Stickney boys captured team titles at Thursday's Region 6B track meet in Corsica.

The girls' division saw Platte-Geddes score 146 points, followed closely by Andes Central-Dakota Christian (136).

For the champion Black Panthers, Hallie Hallock swept the throws, winning the shot put (35-4.5) and discus (100-7), Katy Engebretson won the 200-meter dash (26.95) and Mae Duba won the pole vault (8-3). Platte-Geddes also won the 400 relay, 800 relay, 1600 relay and medley relay.

For Andes Central-Dakota Christian, Erica Kitchenmaster won the 100-meter dash (12.58), Beulah Blackcloud won the high jump (5-1) and Lydia

Hansum was first in the long jump (16-5).

In other area finishes, Avon's Kacie Mudder won the 300 hurdles (51.97) and triple jump (32-7.25).

On the boys' side, Corsica-Stickney scored 150 points for first place, while Platte-Geddes was second with 132 points.

For Platte-Geddes, Tate Wagner won the 400-meter dash (51.83), Alex Daum won the 1600-meter run (4:48.4), Parker Boyden won the pole vault (10-0) and Carter Dykstra was first in the long jump (20-2.5). The Black Panthers also took first in the 1600 relay, 3200 relay and medley relay.

Leo Hopkins of Andes Central-Dakota Christian had the best mark in the triple jump (40-8.25)

SCL: Benjamin K's 16 As Tappers Blank Scotland

Yankton's Zach Benjamin struck out 16 batters in a seven-inning contest as the Tappers downed Scotland 12-0 in South Central League amateur baseball action on Thursday.

Dave Schmidt had three hits, including a double, and three RBI to lead Yankton. Kenny Tomek doubled and singled. Nic Davis, Colton Thomas, Lane Sawatzke and Kory Bromley each had two hits.

Josh Vaith's fourth inning single broke up the no-hit bid.

Wyatt Brown took the loss. Yankton travels to Menno on Monday. Scotland hosts Irene on Sunday.

SCOTLAND	000	000	0	0	1	2
YANKTON	042	321	X	12	17	

Wyatt Brown (other pitchers not available) and Levi Geiman; Zach Benjamin and Kory Bromley

Freeman 12, Crofton 0

CROFTON, Neb. — The Freeman Black Sox scored eight runs in the first inning and Brett Scherschligt did the rest, blanking Crofton 12-0 in SCL baseball action on Thursday.

Jake Weier had two hits for Freeman, which took advantage of six Crofton errors. Rand Thygeson doubled and singled for Crofton.

Brett Scherschligt went the distance for the win. Tyler Zimmerman took the loss.

Freeman travels to Wynot on Tuesday. Crofton hosts Scotland on May 28.

FREEMAN	001	210	0	12	6	1
CROFTON	000	000	0	0	3	6

Brett Scherschligt and Alan Scherschligt; Tyler Zimmerman, Alex Mueller (1), Rand Thygeson (6) and Kyle Mueller

Irene 11, Lesterville 6

IRENE — Mike King went 3-3 with a three-run home run and a double as Irene downed Lesterville 11-6 in SCL baseball action on Thursday.

Matt Sees also had three hits, including two doubles, for Irene. George Sees and Alex Loes added two hits each in the win.

For Lesterville, Zach Johnson and Andy Gall each had two hits.

Jack Huethler pitched seven innings for the win. Tanner Termansen took the loss.

Irene travels to Scotland on Sunday. Lesterville travels to Tabor on Sunday.

LESTERVILLE	000	000	120	6	7	6
IRENE	011	810	00X	11	13	1

Tanner Termansen, Spencer Bloch (6), Alex Wagner (8) and Alex Johnson; Jack Huethler, Matt Sees (8) and Sam Parkinson

Tanagers Shine At Region 4A Meet

BY ELYSE BRIGHTMAN
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Vermillion High School track has seen nothing but improvements over the course of this season and will head into next week's state meet on a high note after the Region 4A meet in Tea Thursday afternoon.

"Things are going really well for us," said head coach Lenni Billberg. "Our kids have stepped up even higher than we thought they could. I would say (personal records) in every event we've had today and that's what you ask your kids for."

The girls' team earned a second place finish scoring 94 points while the boys places fifth with 84 points.

"We knew we could be close to there but that's showing where we are as a team," Billberg said about the team standings.

The girls' 4x400 meter relay team placed first with 4:09.46 winning a close race with Canton who placed second with 4:10.98.

The 4x800 relay saw the opposite ending with Canton (10:15.72) taking first and beating out second place Vermillion (10:19.96).

Vermillion also took first in the 1600 meter spring medley

relay with 4:42.60. Beresford came in a close second at 4:44.45 followed by Canton with 4:48.90.

Josie Heeron of Elk Point-Jefferson ran a 5:16.72 in the 1600 meter run for first place followed by Maddie Lavin of Vermillion with 5:17.57. She (2:21.64) also placed first in the 800 meter run.

Vermillion's Kasey Herbster placed third in the 300 meter hurdles with a time of 50.94. Sara Bohan (47.22) of Dakota Valley placed first and Halie McMains (48.64) of Canton was second.

Cayley Schmitt (1:01.09) of Tea Area, Callie Davis (1:02.99) of Elk Point-Jefferson and Katie Kost (1:03.95) of Vermillion took first, second and third in the 400 meter dash.

A discus throw of 118 feet, five inches put Canton's Kristin Jennings on top of the podium by 15 feet, four inches. Holly Van Gelder of Beresford was second with 103 feet, nine inches and Caitlin Siegel of Vermillion was third with 102 feet, 5 inches.

For the boys, Jon Rosales of Vermillion placed first in the 400 meter dash (52.01) and second in the 200 meter dash (23.65). Teammate Logan Peterson placed first in the 800 meter run clocking in at 2:04.74.

Beresford's Alec Atwood

placed second in the 1600 (4:57.68) and Elk Point-Jefferson's Hunter Paulson also took second in the 800 (2:06.33).

Vermillion took first in the boys' 4x400 (3:33.38) and 4x800 (8:50.65).

Beresford took first and second in the shot put with Oliver Doeden (48 feet, 10.5 inches) and Kole Nordquist (44 feet and one half inch) respectively. Doeden also placed third in the discus with 128 feet and five and a half inches.

Dylan Andal of Beresford jumped six feet, two inches in the high jump for first place with teammate Joseph Kirkebak also jumping six feet, two inches for second place on a tie breaker.

The teams now travel to Spearfish on May 29 and Rapid City on May 30 for the Class A State Meet.

"We have the best teams of South Dakota (in the region) and we represented well," Billberg said. "We're young and we're hungry and I think that just bode well for us in the future."

"When you get to the state meet, everybody is sore, everybody is tired and it's all about just going out and saying 'I'm just a little bit less and I'm ready to go!'"

Dvorak Powers E-P At Region 5A Meet

BY DYLAN HUGGINS
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WAGNER – Wes Dvorak of Ethan-Parkston cruised to first place in four different events at the Region 5A track meet in Wagner on Thursday.

Although Dvorak placed first in all four of his events (long jump (22-11)-, triple jump-(41-01), 110-meter hurdles (15.05), 300-meter hurdles-39.67), he stated there is always room for improvement.

"All of the technical stuff. I mean there's always room for improvement. The big issue was scratching on long jump, so I have to work on that," he said.

Dvorak contributes his success in track with being involved in it throughout high school.

"Just staying with it throughout my whole high school career. The only reason I did it my freshman year was to get better at football. As the years progressed I kept getting better and just stuck it out and now I'm here," he said.

Dvorak said just trying his best will be satisfying enough for him at state track.

"The goal is always to do as best as I can," he said. "As long as I put it out there it I mean it doesn't really matter what place I get. As long as I just do my best, hopefully the results will show."

Jake Delange and Camden Meyers of Ethan-Parkston finished first and second in the high jump. Delange finished with a mark of 6-4 and Myers finished 6-2.

The Ethan-Parkston boys came in third as a team, and scored 125.33 points.

Brendan Bares of Bon Homme finished first in the 100-meter dash (11.03) and helped his team place first in the 400-meter relay (44.15) and the 800-meter relay (1:31.96).

Bares acknowledged how well he and his teammates did on the day.

"It went really good. Cause you can't beat first obviously," he said. "Teammates are running really good. We practiced a lot all week on our handoffs and finally got them down to where there pretty precise."

Bares said he would have liked his time in the 100 to be better, but he was still happy with the result.

"In the 100 I ran an 11 flat or something like that. I think I can do a little bit better, but I can't complain I guess," he said.

Bares mentioned he has a goal in mind for a couple of his events at state track.

"I'm hoping that our 400 and 800 (relays) place up at the top somewhere. Not quite sure that we'll get first, but pretty confident we'll be up there," he said.

The Bon Homme boys came in second place and scored 147 points. The West Central boys came in first place overall and scored 189.16 points.

Chase O'Grady of Bon Homme finished first in the pole vault with a mark of 10-09

As for the girls, Samantha Kasowski of Tri-Valley not only finished first in the shot put (36-0.5), but second in the discus (105-7).

"Well in shot put it was definitely just to qualify and go to state cause I hadn't done that yet, but our school record in the discus is 130 feet and I really wanted to reach that, but I didn't and so it's still on my goal list," she said.

The hot weather is helpful for her in shot put, but not in discus, Kasowski said.

"I think it's better for shot put. It always messes me up

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