

A Team Athlete All the Way

Peaphon is One of a Kind

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Prep athletes with Gary Peaphon's ability don't come along very often. Bridgeport track coach Len Callard knows this all too well.

"Gary is a tremendous runner and person. He has that something special that makes outstanding performers. He's one of a kind. It seems we won't have anyone of his ability around here again for a long while," Callard said.

Peaphon has had many outstanding individual performances this season, but he rarely speaks of himself. He thinks in terms of what is good for the team and what the team has accomplished.

Last week Peaphon qualified for the state meet in the 100 and 220 dashes. He had to beat some impressive competition to accomplish this. But, the senior sprinter wanted to talk about the White Pine Conference meet instead of his win over Reggie Barnett in the 100.

Michigan State University will host the state Class A finals Saturday. It is an all-day affair. The running event finals are scheduled to get underway at 1 p.m. The preliminaries and field events get off the ground in the morning.

Peaphon won the 100 with his best time ever of 9.8 seconds. Barnett, who had the lead twice in the race, finished second at 9.9. It was a meet record for Peaphon, but he elected to speak of his team's chances in the White Pine Conference meet.

"It was a tough race and Barnett was ahead of me going into the last part of the race, but I passed him near the last quarter and kept the lead. We both led twice during the race," said Peaphon.

His thoughts quickly turned to the upcoming White Pine Conference meet and Bridgeport's chances against Mount Pleasant.

"I think we have enough talent on the team to beat Mount Pleasant. We have never won the track championship. It is something we are all pointing to and striving for. More so than the state meet," he said.

Despite Peaphon's two victories in Tuesday's White Pine meet, Mount Pleasant edged Bridgeport by two-thirds of a



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point, 71-70 $\frac{1}{2}$ to win its third straight track title.

Peaphon joins Saginaw High's Reggie Jones and Mount Pleasant's Kelly Beltnick in the State meet 100-yard dash competition. They will be up against the state's top sprinter Marshall Dill of Detroit Northern. Dill has gone 9.4 in the 100 and 20.1 in the 220.

Peaphon's 9.8 clocking is the second best time turned in by a Class A performer. Jones and Beltnick, just sophomores, have 10.2 marks in the 100. Both will have to improve on that mark Saturday.

Peaphon's time in the 220 was 22.2 in the regional for a second behind Barnett's 21.9. Jones was third at 22.4. Beltnick has gone 22.8.

Bridgeport's Craig Voise turned in a 9:37.8 two mile time in the Northwestern Regional to qualify. He was fourth, Dave Baker, Flint Kearsley's premier distance runner, had a 9:18.4 to win the regional, but has the best time in the state at 9:08.6. He is shooting to get under nine minutes in the state meet.

Midland sends Randy Hoyle in the high jump and Mike Stuparek in the low hurdles to East Lansing. Midland Dow will be represented by Dave Johnson in the long jump, Kurt Greenhalgh in the 880 and Greenhalgh, Mike Budek, Paul Miller and Kim Poli in the mile relay.

Carrollton leads Saginaw's contingent in the Class B meet Saturday at Michigan Center near Jackson. The Cavaliers won their second straight regional title at Cass City.

Carrollton qualified for eight events in the state meet. Dean Somerfield will compete in the long jump, low hurdles and 220 dash. Carrollton also qualified Randy Schrader in the pole vault, Dave Koscielski in the high jump, the 880 relay, Mark Fisher in the mile and Steve Garchow in the two mile.

SS. Peter & Paul's, competing in Class B a year ago, is in Class C this season. The Crusaders nosed out Akron-Fairgrove for the Caro Regional title.

The Crusaders qualified in five events and will compete at Central Michigan University. Dave Garcia won the 880 and 440 regional events and also anchored the mile relay qualifiers. Also qualifying were Dan Chernich in the pole vault and Pat Chernich in the mile.