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DeWitt girls, Mason boys run off with Circuit titles

By AL PALMERI
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MASON — Since DeWitt High's girls had only beaten Mason High's by one point in the dual meet, coaches were offering interesting predictions Tuesday in the Capital Circuit track meet at the Bulldogs' oval.

Mason coach Jim Glazier figured his team would win the meet by 22 points and walk away with a co-championship. DeWitt coach Barry Kloenhamer thought his girls would win by 26 points.

NEITHER COULD claim the accuracy of a prophet, but Kloenhamer came closest. DeWitt outscored Mason, 138-122, to claim the undisputed league championship.

The boys' winner was no surprise as Mason won its second outright championship in three years. The Bulldogs avenged last year's Circuit-meet loss to DeWitt by stomping the Panthers, 169-114½.

Glazier's prediction was partially foiled when team leader Becky Horton suffered a pulled tendon in her right thigh while running the 880-yard relay.

GLAZIER WAS counting on Horton for either first or second place in the 440 and first in the 880, where she holds the area's fastest time of 2:23.8. Instead, she couldn't run the quarter and hobbled to a seventh-place finish in the 880, about 10 seconds behind the 2:29.7 winning time of DeWitt's Sharon Nichlas.

Glazier knew DeWitt would win the meet after Horton's injury, but even after her painful half mile she was telling the coach not to give up. "The first thing she asked is, 'What do we have to do to win the meet?' She wanted to run the mile relay. If I'd say, 'Hey, I've got to have you (in the mile relay),' she'd go out and do it."

But DeWitt's field-event strength proved too much to overcome. In fact, Kloenhamer said his team should have beaten Mason by an even wider margin. "It was mostly the discus and long jump that hurt us," he said. "We could have scored a lot more points there."

BESIDES LOSING 10 points in those two events, Kloenhamer said DeWitt lost 12 points in running events before regaining some on Nichlas' first place and Marcy Blizzard's third in the 880. His point was obvious — even if Horton was healthy, he wasn't planning on losing the meet.

Keying DeWitt's win was the 880 relay of Tami Noyce, Sheri Schmitt, Cindy Faggion and Teresa Kirchen, which set a school and track record at 1:47.3. Kirchen nipped Mason's Kathy Hall at the tape, as the Bulldogs were timed in a school-record 1:47.33.

In the mile run, Mason freshman Jamie Grant broke her own school record by 9.8 seconds, beat Charlotte's Liesl Charron and moved atop the Honor Roll list by breaking the tape in 5:19.9.

THE PENCIL-THIN Grant had lost to Charron in the dual meet when she stayed back and tried to kick. But this time, Glazier changed the strategy, telling her to run with Charron all the way. "We felt that if with 330 yards to go she was within five yards of her (Charron), she would beat her," Glazier said.

Mason's boys had no trouble beating the field as Tony Glowacki won the 100 and 220 dashes and anchored the victorious 440 and 880 relays. An example of Mason's power came in the 220, when John Akers and Mark Pine followed Glowacki across the finish line.

The Bulldogs have gone undefeated for the last three seasons in Capital Circuit dual meets, beating every league opponent this season by over 30 points. And their league-meet showing is more impressive considering the absence of Mark Waite, who is out for the season with a stress fracture in his foot. Waite finished seventh in the two-mile at last year's Class B state meet.

CAPITAL CIRCUIT LEAGUE MEET

GIRLS

Team scores — DeWitt 138, Mason 122, Charlotte 91, Okemos 62, Lansing Catholic Central 26, Eaton Rapids 24.

Discus — C. Paparonc (C), 107-5; Bacher (D), 100-7; Busch (C), 99-7.

Shot put — Bacher (D), 36-11½ (school record); Beckwith (D), 35-5½; Philp (M), 33-5½.

High jump — Faggion (D), 5-1; Manhart (LCC), 4-11; Avershine (M), 4-11.

Long jump — Towe (C), 16-8; Miller (LCC), 15-9¼; Boser (D), 15-4¼.

110 low hurdles — Erickson (D), 15.5; Faggion (D), 15.6; Stork (M), 16.2.

100 dash — Cox (M), 11.9; M. Paparonc (C), 11.9; Kirchen (D), 11.9.

880 relay — DeWitt (Noyce, Schmitt, Faggion, Kirchen), 1:47.3 (track and school record); Mason, 1:47.3 (school record); Charlotte, 1:49.0 (school record).

Two-mile run — Jamie Grant (M), 5:19.9 (school record); L. Charron (C), 5:21.4; Nichlas (D), 5:33.6.

440 relay — Mason (Cox, Judd, Davis, Hall), 51.6; Charlotte, 53.9; DeWitt, 53.9.

440 dash — Heitmiracht (D), 1:01.5; Hopkins (M), 1:03.5; Slusser (ER), 1:03.9.

220 low hurdles — Boser (D), 30.4; Faggion (D), 30.5; Price (M), 31.2.

880 run — Nichlas (D), 2:29.7; J. Charron (C), 2:31.2; Blizzard (D), 2:33.3.

220 dash — Cox (M), 26.9; Schmitt (D), 27.3; Harwitt (C), 27.6.

Two-mile run — L. Charron (C), 11:53.8; Quimby (D), 12:21.0; Comar (O), 12:22.4.

Mile relay — Mason (Hopkins, Price, Howery, Cox), 4:14.8; DeWitt, 4:17.0; Eaton Rapids, 4:17.2.

BOYS

Team scores — Mason (M), DeWitt 114½, Charlotte 70½, Eaton Rapids 48, Okemos 47, Lansing Catholic Central 44.

Discus — Lonzaire (M), 144-8; Akers (M), 128-4; Pittman (M), 137-8½.

Shot put — Challiss (D), 52-7½; Akers (M), 49-8½; Seegraves (D), 49-9½.

High jump — Brenton (C), 6-1; Fisher (C), 5-11; Porshoii (C), 5-9.

Long jump — J. Way (M), 19-9; Wilson (M), 19-4¼; Boushn (M), 19-2.

Pole vault — Uerright (C), 13-10; Quinn (M), 11-0; Dick (D), 10-6.

120 high hurdles — Miller (ER), 15.0; Brenton (C), 15.1; Thompson (M), 16.3.

100 dash — Glowacki (M), 10.4; Seegraves (D), 10.7; Pine (M), 10.8.

880 relay — Mason (Fanson, Pine, Bedes, Glowacki), 1:33.9; DeWitt, 1:35.6; Okemos, 1:37.1.

Mile run — Fox (LCC), 4:24.3 (school record); Stuber (M), 4:34.9; Ferres (O), 4:35.1.

440 relay — Mason (Fanson, Pine, Wilson, Glowacki), 45.2; DeWitt, 45.8; Eaton Rapids, 46.5.

440 dash — Romeriz (D), 52.3; Mulder (D), 52.8; Vargas (O), 53.2.

330 low hurdles — Miller (ER), 39.9; Brenton (C), 41.1; Kelly (D), 42.8.

880 run — Kreft (LCCC), 2:02.0; Ferres (O), 2:02.6; Mulder (D), 2:03.2.

220 dash — Glowacki (M), 22.5; Akers (M), 23.7; Pine (M), 23.8.

Two-mile run — Rogers (ER), 9:42.4; Fox (LCC), 9:49.4; Weicker (O), 9:54.1.

Mile relay — DeWitt (Thomason, Lotre, Mulder, Romirez), 3:31.9; Mason, 3:36.6; Okemos, 3:36.7.

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