

# Oakland County meet was full of surprises

Here it is.

Here's what?

Friday's Oakland County Track and Field meet dossier.

What about it?

Take a look.

At Hazel Park High, they're jumping, throwing, and flat out flying.

■ "We've found out that Chris Denard can run a quarter-mile," smiles Pontiac Central coach Dave Edwards, referring to Denard's unofficial 49-plus leg on the 1600-meter relay. He'd already taken fourth in the 800 (1:58) and ran 1:56 on a 3200-meter relay leg which gave Central sixth in the event. Nice.

■ Chris isn't the only one. Keith Wheeler of Troy runs a 48.4 in the 400. He wins the 100, the 110-hurdles and the 300-meter



**Marvin Goodwin**

hurdles, an odd quadruple in that it leaves him little rest between events. He's first in all four. Amazing.

"I've never had a runner like this before," says Troy coach John Bancroft. "It's new to me." Us, too.

■ I want Laura Matson of Andover on my team. She's shouting encouragement to the boys 3200-meter relay team, just before she runs the girls 3200-

meter race. After she sizzles with a 2:09 on the anchor lap, she passes on kudos to her relay mates — Heather Young, Kristine Dobrat and Ruth Fellingham. Hey, there's enough for everybody.

■ Laura's dad? Chuck. Man with a camera. He's got some great footage tonight.

■ Pontiac Northern coach John Osler is walking around smiling. The Huskies just won another relay.

■ Al Stebbins of Farmington. Has his left ear pierced. Blond, wears a stylish, punk hairdo. Takes the 800 and runs it with authority. Attacks it and never trails. Wins in 1:54.8.

■ In the long jump, Nate Childers of Rochester beats Tom

Allen of Brother Rice for the first time in his life. And he does it on the sixth and final jump. It's 22-3½. Allen's is 22-0. Season bests for both.

■ Look at Clarkston's girls. Coach Gordie Richardson's clutches his stopwatch. The times aren't the best, but he's still counting up the points. The fearless Wolves rule county track — on their prom night. They've got seven firsts — Jennifer Farough (2), Jane Selent (2), Shivonne DeBoer (1), Lisa Ladd (1), Tara Carncross (1); two seconds — 400- and 800-meter relays, where Selent puts on a challenging rush on Southfield's Deidra Cheeks in both races; and three thirds — Wendy Cohoon (800), Lisa Ladd (100) and Kate Conlen. (1600).

'Nuff said. Let's go to the prom.

■ Osler is walking around smiling. Northern just won another relay.

■ Cliff Dwelle of Lake Orion comes out of a strong field in the 1600 to win in 4:17.3. He sees an opening on the backstretch of the third lap, moves in front with less than 400 to go, and holds off Farmington's Chris Inch (4:18.2), Hazel Park's Sam Blumke (4:19.4), Lakeland's Phil Van Hull (4:19.5) and Rochester Adams' Doug McKibbon (4:20.3). What a race.

■ Pontiac Central's Kelli Simmons redeems a lackluster Saginaw Valley league meet effort with a fourth in the long jump and fourth in the 200.

■ Jackie Lumpkin of Pontiac

Northern kicks off a fine 200 on the 800-meter relay and takes second in the 400.

■ Osler's still smiling. Individually, Northern's Jessie Hodge (5th in 800), Craig McFerrin (2nd in 400), Rico Walker (2nd in 300-meter hurdles), Melvin Mays (2nd in 100 and 200) are a bit vulnerable. But don't let 'em gang up on you. Scottie Anderson, Shavaliere Hay, Antoine Manley and Reggie Wynns joins the group, and you've got the 400-, 800-, 1600-, and 3200-meter relays in the bag. We're bad!

Well, what do you think of this dossier?

Great. File it.

(Marvin Goodwin is an Oakland Press sports writer.)

# Troy's Wheeler wins four events

By **MARVIN GOODWIN**  
Of The Oakland Press

**HAZEL PARK** — Troy track coach John Bancroft was on pins and needles as he watched Keith Wheeler run the 300-meter hurdles at Friday's 27th annual Oakland County Track and Field meet.

Wheeler had already won three events with little rest in between, and the threat of fatigue was real.

"I was thinking if Keith gets hurt in this, as his coach, I was going to be the biggest goat in the world," said Bancroft.

Wheeler didn't get hurt. In fact, he was impressive: He won the 110-meter hurdles in 14.5, the 100-meter dash in 10.7, the 400-meter dash in 48.4 and the 300-meter low hurdles in a meet-record 37.0.

Wheeler was exhausted after his final victory in the low hurdles.

"I was really tired, I could hear Rico (Walker) coming," said Wheeler, who may try the high and low hurdles and the 400 at the Class A state meet next Saturday. "I don't know, I might decide just to go with the



**Keith Wheeler**

hurdles."

Wheeler's quadruple highlighted a number of fine performances.

Bloomfield Hills Andover's Laura Matson, who set the national prep record in the 1600-meter run in last year's meet, won the 1600 (4:53.1); 800 (2:17.3) and overcame a 50-yard deficit with an unofficial 2:09 anchor leg on the 3200-meter relay as Andover set a meet record with 9:37.9 clocking.

"I thought Kristine (Dobat), our third runner got us in a good position, so I felt confident," said Matson.