

# Athens eyes 3rd state track title

By JOHN MYERS  
Staff Writer

After Litchfield edged out Athens for the Class D Regional girls' track title two weeks ago, some thought that was a signal the Indians may be ready to give up their state title.

But Athens Coach Walt Schalau says don't count out his two-time defending state champions just yet.

"I think (our) chances are pretty decent," said Schalau of Athens winning a third straight title. "It just depends on how well we run."

Athens will find out Saturday at the Class D state meet at Traverse City High. Field events begin at 10 a.m., with running event finals at 1:30 p.m.

Numerous other area athletes will be competing Saturday at the Class B and Class C state meets at Sturgis High and Bangor High, respectively. Field events for both meets begin at 10 a.m., with running event finals at 1:30 p.m.

Athens will be taking a team of 12 runners to the Class D state meet, five of whom have been on the last two title teams. They are seniors Angie Brown, Tina Kinney, Doreen Kinney, Sarah Knowles and sophomore Jeri Reed. Others who have been to the state meet but not competed are senior Missy Fast and juniors Joani Riddle and Shannon Flemming.

"Eight have the experience of being there before, and that's a big plus," Schalau said.

Freshmen Cindy Troxel, Amy Miller, Danie Barton and Amy Bottomly also will compete for the Indians.

Athens has people competing in eight of 12 individual events and have all four relays competing.

Brown and Tina Kinney will compete in the long jump, with Brown also in the 200. Doreen Kinney and Bottomly will compete in the discus, with Flemming in the shot put. Knowles will be in the 3200, Fast in the 100 hurdles, Troxel in the 300 hurdles and Miller the 100.

Knowles will team with Riddle, Reed and Barton in the 3200 relay, while Miller Troxel, Tina Kinney and Reed will team in the 1600 relay. Brown, Troxel, Miller and Tina Kinney will team in both the 400 and 800 relays.

"I think everyone we've got going has a good chance to place, but I just don't know how high," Schalau said.

"I'm really encouraged, though. I

## State Track Qualifiers

### CLASS A BOYS

Battle Creek Central: Tico Evans, 110 high and 300 low hurdles; Darrell Drain, 100, 200; Marc Dudley, long jump; Corey Stimoff, long jump; Derrick Bailey, high jump. Relays: 800, 1600

### GIRLS

Battle Creek Central: Monique Smith, 100, 200; Jammi McGee, 100, 200; Melanie Parker, 800; Grace Miller, long jump; Zandra Perry, discus. Relays: 400, 800, 1600, 3200

### CLASS B BOYS

Ablon: Michael Short, 200; Shon Truss, 100; Dan Coleman, 1600. Relays: 400, 800, 1600

Coldwater: Tim Kellogg, 110 high and 300 low hurdles; Rick Snyder, pole vault; Dan Lockwood, pole vault; Gull Lake: Jeff Fry, shot put; Keith Barrus, long jump; Harper Creek: Kevin Stansbery, 400

Hastings: Wayne Oom, 3200; Chad Murphy, discus. Relay: 3200

Lakeview: John Thawngmung, discus; John Summerhill, discus

Pennfield: Jayme Regualos, 300 low hurdles. Relays: 400, 800, 3200

Sturgis: Mark Cosby, pole vault; Dan Bright, shot put, discus; Scott Spahr, 110 high hurdles; Mike Pepito, 800

### GIRLS

Ablon: Tiffany Dees, 100. Relays: 400, 800

Coldwater: Heidi Olsen, high jump, long jump; Dawn Whitaker, high jump; Jill Strawser, 1600, 3200. Relays: 3200

Delton: Anna Liceaga, discus; Gull Lake: Rhonda Wendzel, 1600, 3200

Harper Creek: Donna Craig, discus

Hastings: Kristin Lyons, 100 hurdles

Lakeview: Amy Blasing, 3200

Marshall: Sara Reichert, 800; Lori Edinger, 400. Relays: 1600, 3200

Pennfield: Kristin McGuire, 100

Sturgis: Paula Jones, high jump; Julie Edinger, high jump, 100 and 300 hurdles; Nicole Hotovy, 400. Relays: 800, 1600, 3200

### CLASS C BOYS

Bellevue: Joe Farkas, 100

Galesburg-Augusta: Rory Stace, high jump, long jump, 100; Nathan Kitchen, long jump, 300 low hurdles. Relay: 400

Homer: Brian Warner, high jump, long jump; Kevin Wildt, pole vault; Scott Griffiths, 400; Kevin Craven, 800; Rich Shepherd, 300 low hurdles. Relays: 400, 800, 1600

Maple Valley: Brian Ainsworth, pole vault, 100, 200, 400

Olivet: Mike Horn, high jump; Darren Moore, 300 low hurdles

Quincy: Joe Stavens, 100, 200; Don Kahanian, 100; Springfield: Jerry Richards, 100; Dave Vascaro, shot put; Jim Woodin, discus; Brian Seawater, discus; Union City: Jim Sutton, shot put

### GIRLS

Bellevue: Jodi Shay, 1600, 3200; Mara Houk, 400; Bronson: Dodie Wiler, 1600; Jean Miller, 800; Jenny Grove, long jump; Courtney Wilson, long jump. Relay: 3200

Homer: Michelle Daniels, 100; Missy Cavender, discus; Maple Valley: Kim Smith, discus; Dana Hagon, 800. Relay: 400

Olivet: Kristy Stevenson, 300 hurdles. Relay: 400

Quincy: Dawn Russell, 100, 400; Karen Mann, shot put; Jackie Cash, shot put; Dorcas Schilling, discus; Connie Scott, high jump; Kelli Michael, 100 and 300 hurdles; Chris Christian, 200. Relays: 400, 800, 1600

Union City: Melanie Chard, 100 and 300 hurdles; Nikki Fraley, 100. Relay: 800

### CLASS D BOYS

Colton: Scott Kaukonen, 1600, 3200; Steve Kaukonen, 3200; Bob Saxman, 400

Concord: Tim Woolworth, 110 high hurdles; 300 low hurdles; Bill Bippes, 800; Mike Szamrej, 3200. Relays: 3200 and 1600

Litchfield: Leonard Patrick, discus, shot put; Joe Mueller, discus, shot put; Dan Osborn, discus, shot put; Chauncey Truman, high jump, long jump; Tim Leese, 400. Relays: 400 and 800

St. Philip: Todd Eldridge, 100, 200; Relay: 400

Springport: Tracy Shaver, 100, 200

Tekonsha: Jeff Coffman, 300 low hurdles

### GIRLS

Athens: Angie Brown, long jump, 200; Tina Kinney, long jump; Sarah Knowles, 3200; Doreen Kinney, discus; Amy Bottomly, discus; Shannon Flemming, shot put; Missy Fast, 100 hurdles; Amy Miller, 100; Cindy Troxel, 300 hurdles. Relays: 400, 800, 1600 and 3200

Climax-Scotts: Cherie Swarthout, long jump, 200; Jenny Taylor, 100

Colton: Camille Gilbert, 300 hurdles; Teresa Green, shot put; Anne Oswald, 100 and 300 hurdles; Kelli Gilchrist, 800

Concord: Angela Salvatore, high jump, 300 hurdles; Debbie Raymond, 100, 200; Rena Brandner, 400. Relays: 400, 800, 1600

Litchfield: Amy Griffiths, shot put, discus, long jump; Susan Warren, 100 hurdles; Michelle Payne, 800, 1600; Mindi Pate, 800; Deb Vargo, 100. Relays: 400, 1600, 3200

St. Philip: Chris Passage, long jump; Mary Latinga, 400

Springport: Kim Mercer, long jump; Jane Januszewski, high jump; Lynette Reed, 100 hurdles

Tekonsha: Laura Shelby, 100 and 300 hurdles; Denna Webber, 100

just told the girls lets just get what we can and if we don't win, we don't win. If we do, we do."

Athens' main threats to the title are regional champion Litchfield, Big Eight (East) foe Concord, Fowler and Akron-Fairgrove.

"It's going to be interesting," Schalau said.

Concord Coach Chuck King feels, though, Athens and Litchfield are the teams to beat come Saturday.

"I think it's (meet) going to be well balanced," King said. "Litchfield and Athens are extremely good in the field events."

Competing for Concord are Angela Salvatore in the high jump and 300 hurdles, Debbie Raymond in

the 100 and 200 and Rena Bradner in the 400. Concord also qualified its 400, 800 and 1600 relay teams.

Like every coach, King said how well Concord runs will determine its standing in the state meet.

"It will all come down to who does it on this particular day," King said.

Litchfield is led by Amy Griffiths, who will compete in the discus, shot put and long jump.

Michelle Payne will compete in the 1600 and 3200 runs, while Deb Vargo is in the 100, Susan Warren in the 100 hurdles and Mindi Pate in the 800.

The Terriers also have their 400, 1600 and 3200 relays qualified.