

Southfield's Redmond tries to hurdle shadow

By DREW SHARP
Free Press sports writer

It seems everywhere Southfield hurdler Rudy Redmond goes, the name Keith Wheeler always pops up. He picks up a newspaper and reads how Wheeler expects to shatter some records at the Oakland County track meet. Observers watching Redmond perform will ask "Sure, this guy is good. But how would he do against Wheeler?"

Everyone will see Friday when Oakland County's best converge at Hazel Park High. The field events will begin at 4 p.m., with running events expected to start around 7 p.m.

Two years ago, individual performances such as Laura Mason's record-breaking 1,600-meter run and Torin Don's three sprint victories highlighted the meet.

The primary focus this year will be the hurdles duel between Redmond and Wheeler. Both have raced some of the state's faster times in the 110-meter high and 300-meter low hurdles this year.

Wheeler is the two-time defending Class A champ at 300 meters. He beat Redmond at last year's county meet in the 300 and 110. Wheeler also won the county 100- and 400-meter dashes.

"At times, it bothers me that there is a lot of attention on what he does," Redmond said. "Troy came in second at the Oxford Relays and got more publicity than the winner did. I have a tremendous amount of respect for Keith. He's a great athlete. But I've done a lot of things that I can be proud of, too."

Redmond beat Wheeler in the 110 at last year's state final. Redmond finished second to Lansing Section's Rogey Ware. Wheeler finished a close third. Wheeler said in April his goal was to win both high and low hurdles at the state finals. Wheeler said he knew Redmond was going to be a tough obstacle to pass.

"I've got the same goals, so I guess one of us—or both of us—is going to be disappointed," he said.

REDMOND was disappointed in the duo's last clash during a dual meet in April. Wheeler defeated Redmond in both the high and low hurdles. But it was the mile relay that stuck in everyone's memory.

Troy had to win the mile relay to win the dual meet. The Colts trailed by two meters following the first two legs, but dropped the baton before the third leg and when anchor Wheeler got the baton, he was 20 meters behind Southfield anchor Redmond. Wheeler turned on the turbochargers and passed Redmond, beating him by two seconds. Redmond was stung once again.

Competing in the shadows was nothing new for Redmond. He played second fiddle to Don for two years. Though scolded as being hard to get, Redmond doesn't get angered by his experiences.

Take a peek at county's top track and field athletes

Here's a list of expected top performers in Friday's Oakland County Track Championships at Hazel Park High.

Boys	100-METER DASH	100-METER HIGH HURDLES
1. Scott Fraser, Troy	1. Adam Wheeler, Troy	1. Peggy Eaton, Country Day
2. Chris Casati, Rochester	2. Jeff Bell, Southfield	2. Patrick Brown, Pontiac Central
3. Eric Peterson, Wayne	3. Tom New, Farmington	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Rob Korman, Motor	4. Scottie Anderson, Pontiac	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
200-METER DASH	200-METER RUN	200-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Jason Morrison, Troy	1. Scott Peterson, Farmington	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Chris Casati, Rochester	2. Scott Peterson, Farmington	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Eric Peterson, Wayne	3. Scott Peterson, Farmington	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Rob Korman, Motor	4. Scott Peterson, Farmington	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
400-METER DASH	400-METER RUN	400-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Jason Morrison, Troy	1. Scott Peterson, Farmington	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Chris Casati, Rochester	2. Scott Peterson, Farmington	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Eric Peterson, Wayne	3. Scott Peterson, Farmington	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Rob Korman, Motor	4. Scott Peterson, Farmington	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
800-METER DASH	800-METER RUN	800-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Jason Morrison, Troy	1. Scott Peterson, Farmington	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Chris Casati, Rochester	2. Scott Peterson, Farmington	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Eric Peterson, Wayne	3. Scott Peterson, Farmington	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Rob Korman, Motor	4. Scott Peterson, Farmington	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
1,600-METER DASH	1,600-METER RUN	1,600-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Laura Mason, Farmington	1. Laura Mason, Farmington	1. Laura Mason, Farmington
2. Laura Mason, Farmington	2. Laura Mason, Farmington	2. Laura Mason, Farmington
3. Laura Mason, Farmington	3. Laura Mason, Farmington	3. Laura Mason, Farmington
4. Laura Mason, Farmington	4. Laura Mason, Farmington	4. Laura Mason, Farmington
500-METER DASH	500-METER RUN	500-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
1,000-METER DASH	1,000-METER RUN	1,000-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
1,500-METER DASH	1,500-METER RUN	1,500-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2,000-METER DASH	2,000-METER RUN	2,000-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2,500-METER DASH	2,500-METER RUN	2,500-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3,000-METER DASH	3,000-METER RUN	3,000-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3,500-METER DASH	3,500-METER RUN	3,500-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4,000-METER DASH	4,000-METER RUN	4,000-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4,500-METER DASH	4,500-METER RUN	4,500-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
5,000-METER DASH	5,000-METER RUN	5,000-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
5,500-METER DASH	5,500-METER RUN	5,500-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
6,000-METER DASH	6,000-METER RUN	6,000-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
6,500-METER DASH	6,500-METER RUN	6,500-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
7,000-METER DASH	7,000-METER RUN	7,000-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
7,500-METER DASH	7,500-METER RUN	7,500-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
8,000-METER DASH	8,000-METER RUN	8,000-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
8,500-METER DASH	8,500-METER RUN	8,500-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
9,000-METER DASH	9,000-METER RUN	9,000-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
9,500-METER DASH	9,500-METER RUN	9,500-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy
10,000-METER DASH	10,000-METER RUN	10,000-METER LOW HURDLES
1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy	1. Keith Wheeler, Troy
2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy	2. Keith Wheeler, Troy
3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy	3. Keith Wheeler, Troy
4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy	4. Keith Wheeler, Troy

"I don't mind not getting my name put in the paper a lot because all that does is put more pressure on the other guy to do well," he said. "I can't worry about everyone else. I just have to concentrate on doing my best."

Redmond lost the regional high hurdles championship to Borgess' Brian Kelly due to what he called a "lack of concentration."

Redmond ran a personal-best 1:13.9 in the 110 preliminaries. He said he wasn't mentally ready for the finals and Kelly beat him by a fraction of a second. Redmond is determined not to let that happen at the county or state meets.

"Ready one of the best athletes I've ever had the pleasure of coaching," said Southfield boys track coach Tom Eschmann. "He doesn't get appreciated by some. But I'll tell you there isn't a coach in this state who wouldn't want Rudy with them."

Drew Sharp's rankings

Baseball	5. Birmingham Groves	4. Clarkston
1. Brother Rice	6. Clarkston	5. Birmingham Groves
2. Rochester Adams	7. Waterford Our Lady	
3. Royal Oak Kimball	8. Bishop Foley	Boys tennis
4. Troy	9. Farmington Mercy	1. Brother Rice
5. Clarkston	10. Pontiac Catholic	2. Cranbrook
6. Cranbrook		3. Lahar
7. Birmingham Seahom	Boys track	4. Andover
8. Lahar	1. Troy	5. Seahom
9. Waterford Our Lady	2. Southfield	
10. Pontiac Catholic	3. Rochester	Girls Soccer
	4. Lakeland	1. Troy
	5. Pontiac Central	2. Troy Athens
Softball	6. Farmington	3. Birmingham Marian
1. South Lyon	7. Detroit Country Day	4. Madison Hgvy. Wash.
2. Waterford Kettering	8. Rochester	5. Foley
3. Waterloo Mott	9. Southfield	
4. Walker Lake Central		

Clipped By:



jeffhollobaugh
Wed, May 5, 2021