

**track**

# Beecher, cast of one win

By MICK MCGARE and DAVE BATTAGELLO  
*Free Press Staff Writers*

STURGIS — First Beecher may have won both the boys and girls Class B state track championships for the second straight time Saturday afternoon but Linda's Amy Warner stole the show.

With a cast from just under her right shoulder extending down to her wrist, Warner made the most of her "cast." "Gee, it's too bad she won't be able to compete today," said a track from Tecumseh as he saw her walk by.

Eighteen Warner, a junior, competed and won the high jump with a personal best of five feet, eight inches. Warner, a junior who finished third in the high jump a year ago, dislocated her right elbow in practice Thursday when she landed incorrectly.

"At first, besides the pain, all I thought of was 'Oh, well, I've been able to jump Saturday,'" she said. "Then the pain really got to me. At first, I thought it was broken for sure. My arm just sort of hung there like it was dead. Then my hand started to fall asleep. It hurt."

Then they told me I started to go into shock, I passed out, they put me in the hospital. I don't know what I got on my elbow and I started to come awake.

The elbow did improve, but it was anything but healed when she went to see Dr. Rick Hamilton in Flint.

"He told me not to jump on it unless my elbow was stabilized so I told him to go ahead and stabilize me," Warner said. "He put on this lightweight fiberglass cast. It's not plaster. It weighs one pound at the most. It stabilizes my elbow, but everything is so awkward."

Everything except jump.

"We took her over to the school yesterday (Friday) to see if she could jump with the cast on," said Sue Warner, Amy's mother. "We had her jump but without a bar. She was very apprehensive — she was scared to death to take that first jump. After she jumped there was no bar so we gave her the bar and she ran and took it. She cleared those and then we told her we'd put it at 4-11, today's jumping height. She cleared it by a mile."

**THE BOYS AND GIRLS** at Beecher shared that winning feeling again. The Beecher boys, who won for the third straight time and eighth in the last 12 years, got a first-place finish from John Theriot (also just) and then won the 800-meter and 5,200-meter relays.

"We ran about the way we thought we would," said Marty Crain, Beecher boys coach. "Before this season, we told the guys that we didn't need them to do any Superman performance. We just wanted them to run the way they've been running all year."

The rest of the Class B girls' team had a chance of winning the meet this year. They were in the 100-meter race when a second girl from Flint, who was supposed to be picked up by the Flint coach, who had original but broke down just east of Sahler.

"We sat there for about an hour listening to music but then we got out. I'd been stretching, stretching and practicing handoffs," said Tyrone Armstrong, Beecher girls' coach.

The turning point for the Beecher girls came when they were shot out of the 100-meter race and finished second in the 110-meter hurdles.

"After that we reassessed things," Armstrong said. "We told the girls we needed to win just about everything else we were in. I told my daughter it was time to go and it was off to the races."

Beecher got first-place finishes in the 400 meters (Christina Wilson), the 800 meters (Tyrone), the 1,600-meter relay, the 400-meter relay and the 1,600-meter relay. The boys' records in all of the relays they won.

Clipped By:



**jeffhollobaugh**  
Thu, May 6, 2021