

Colts capture county championship

By Steve Kowalski
Staff writer

Earlier this spring, Troy boys track coach John Bancroft played a hunch.

With Keith Thomas and Brian Manuel both sidelined because of illness or injury, Bancroft inserted a pair of long-distance runners into his 1600-meter relay. The move has paid off in a big way.

Ramsey Wilson and Jeff Cox have been welcomed additions to the 1600 relay, and Friday they helped the Colts to the Oakland County championship at Waterford Mott. In the meet's last event, Reuben Bynum, Cox, Wilson and anchorman Larry Knox raced to a 3:22.4 finish to edge second-place Pontiac Northern, 3:26.1, in the overall standings.

Southfield was fifth with 26 points, followed by Farmington Hills, 22 points, and West Bloomfield, which tied Walled Lake Central for seventh place (16).

IT WAS Troy's first ever Oakland County title and afterward Bancroft

heaped a bunch of praise on Wilson and Cox, who he thought couldn't run sprints. The pair proved Bancroft wrong and now Thomas and Manuel can't get their jobs back.

"These two guys wanted in and I (originally) said, 'You're too slow,'" Bancroft said. "But I gave in and gave them a shot. They're very competitive. Sometimes you have good sprinters but overlook the distance runners. They're underrated, but give consistent times every time."

Cox, who ran his 400 meter portion of the relay in 50.8, loves the shorter distance.

"There's not too big a difference, you just have to go out the whole way," he said. "You don't have to pace yourself and that's why I like it. It's so fast and exciting."

"We also have to prove to the sprinters we can run with them," said Wilson.

Then there was Knox, providing his typical steady performance with a win in the 400 meter dash earlier in the day in 48.3 seconds. The speedy senior also placed second in the 200 dash (22.2), while Wilson was

track

a second-place performer in the 800 run (1:56.9).

TROY'S VERSATILITY proved to be the difference as the Colts were able to win three of the four relays and two individual events.

Troy also proved tough in the 1600 relay, finishing second with a throw of 150-feet, 7-inches and 142.7, respectively. In the shot put, Troy's Dan Mongelli was victorious with a throw of 52-3/4.

Thomas, although he's lost his spot in the 1600 relay, responded with a third-place showing in the 110-meter hurdles (14.7).

"I feel great and I'm real happy for the guys," Bancroft said. "The last couple years, we've had a real good team and Southfield, the state champs, have made us look bad. I thought going in, we could win. We

know West Bloomfield, Northern, Southfield and Central would be tough. Whoever got the breaks and exchanges would win."

Jason Pensak (West Bloomfield), Derek Walkoten (Seaholm) and John Cowan (Brother Rice) were the Eclectic area's only other first-place performers. Pensak won the discus with a throw of 150-8, Walkoten won the 1,600 run (4:21.8) and Cowan the 800 run (1:55.7).

Rick Duncan scored Southfield's top performance, placing second in the high jump (6-foot, 7-inches). Country Day's Mike Wilusz was second in the pole vault (12-9).

GIRLS RESULTS

Millard won the girls Oakland County Meet with 88 points, but several blue-ribbon performances highlighted the day by teams from the Eclectic area.

Troy's Angie Knox won two events, leading the Colts to a second-place finish with 51 points. Roches-

ter Adams had one individual winner and some fine relay times to take fourth place with 32 points. Southfield came in a sixth-place tie with Clarkston with 27 and West Bloomfield was in seventh with 24. Walled Lake Western placed 10th with 17 points.

Knox's wins came in the 100 dash (12.2) and 200 dash (25.3). Amira Danforth led West Bloomfield's effort with a first-place in the 1,600 run (5:11.7) and she also ran a leg of the winning 3,200 meter relay (9:33.3). Southfield's Janene Jones won the 400 meters (57.1) and Teri McDowell of Seaholm took first in the 800 (2:16.6).

Placing first in the 300 low hurdles (47.9), while Walled Lake Western's Jennifer Ray won the 3,200 run (11:23.1) and Melicia Whit of Adams won the long jump (16-6 1/4).

Adams' relay groups were instrumental in its success as the Highlanders had a pair of relay teams take second place each.

OAKLAND COUNTY TRACK MEET Friday, at Waterford Mott

BOYS RESULTS

Team standings: 1 Troy, 91; 2 Pontiac Northern, 50; 3 Pontiac Central, 47; 4 Millard, 23; 5 Southfield, 26; 6 Farmington Hills, 22; 7 West Bloomfield and Walled Lake Central, 16; 8 Farmington, 14; 10 South Lyon, 13; 11 West Bloomfield and Clarkston, 11.

Pole vault: 1 Brian Mundy (Pontiac Northern), 12-9; 2 Mike Wilusz (Detroit Country Day), 12-9; 3 Rob Bickman (Millard), 12-9.

Long jump: 1 Damon Gandy (Pontiac Northern), 21-10; 2 Tim Green (Birmingham), 21-10; 3 Tim Green (Birmingham), 21-10; 4 Tim Green (Birmingham), 21-10; 5 Tim Green (Birmingham), 21-10.

High jump: 1 Ted Smith (Kettering), 6-7; 2 Ted Smith (Kettering), 6-7; 3 Ted Smith (Kettering), 6-7; 4 Ted Smith (Kettering), 6-7; 5 Ted Smith (Kettering), 6-7.

110 hurdles: 1 Eric Thompson (Pontiac Central), 14-3; 2 Janet Humphrey (Pontiac Central), 14-3; 3 Keith Thomas (Troy), 14-7.

800 relay: 1 Pontiac Central, 1:29.2; 2 Farmington, 1:30.3; 3 Oxford, 1:31.7.

Champs win openers

Defending regular-season champ Hines Park Lincoln-Mercury and reigning post-season champ Walter's Home Appliance opened the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League season with victories Friday.

Derek Darksowski and David Houghtby were the winning pitchers as Hines Park defeated Duffy's Plumbing and Walter's bladed Tom Holzer Ford 8-1.

The other scheduled game resulted in a forfeit victory for Little Caesars over Wendy's of Ann Arbor, which didn't have enough players at game time.

Darksowski, the Michigan State pitcher, scattered Duffy's five hits over five innings and walked only one. He struck out eight.

Todd Marion, who set a single-season save record for the University of Michigan in 1981, pitched two innings of no-hit ball as the closer for Hines Park. He fanned three and walked none.

DEREK HUMPHRIES and Mike Culver, both former teammates at Plymouth Canton, had two hits and one RBI for the winners. Kevin Learned and Mike Gray chipped in RBI sacrifice flies.

Steve Mitchell drove in a run for Duffy's with a double, and Mike Siwajek hit an RBI single.

Doug McGregor worked five innings and suffered the loss, allowing four of Hines Park's five hits and three walks. John Schefka finished up.

Houghtby checked Holzer Ford out two hits over four innings for Walter's. Holzer took a 1-0 lead in the second inning, but Walter's got two in the top of the second for Houghtby, who walked two and struck out one.

Chad Wrona pitched the last two innings in relief of Houghtby, striking out four against just one walk.

Ken Drapiewski had two hits, including a triple, scored three runs and knocked in a run for Walter's. John Gots' two-run single keyed a five-run sixth inning that sealed the victory.

Holzer Ford's run was unearned, coming on an error.

Total Travel wins two of three games last weekend in Toronto. The team lost to the Etobicoke Angels 6-3 and then defeated the Etobicoke Indians 4-2 and Georgetown 16-8.

Craig Murray was the losing pitcher in the first game, allowing four runs, two hits and nine walks in six innings.

Rob MacDonald had three of Total Travel's eight hits in the losing game, five innings and striking out three.

Total Travel Values pounded 11 hits, with Jason Lichtman getting with three.

In the third game, Total Travel belted 20 hits. Mike Julian, Dave Schmalz and Leo Devine collected three hits apiece.

Julian, who belted a home run, was the winning pitcher, tossing three innings, striking out three and walking four.

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the week ahead

STATE TOURNAMENT BASEBALL DISTRICT DRAWS (all Saturday, June 2)

CLASS A at WESTLAND JOHN GLENN

Seminals: Adrian vs. Ann Arbor Huron, 10 a.m.; Plymouth Salem vs. Ypsilanti, 12:30 p.m.

Championship final: Approximately 3 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Southfield district champion.)

at GARDEN CITY PARK

Seminals: Dearborn Fordson vs. Dearborn Edgar Ford, 10 a.m.; Lincoln Park vs. Dearborn, 12:15 p.m.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Temperance-Bedford district champion.)

at SOUTHFIELD HIGH

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Farmington, 9:30 a.m.; Redford Catholic Central vs. Livonia Churchill, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS B at ALLEN PARK

Seminals: Redford Thurston vs. Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 10 a.m.; Allen Park vs. Redford Bishop Borgess, 12 p.m.

Championship final: Approximately 3:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Chelsea regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Harper Creek district champion.)

CLASS C at HARPER WDS BISHOP GALLAGHER

Seminals: Southfield Christian vs. Harper Woods Lutheran East, 10 a.m.; Redford St. Agatha vs. Dearborn Heights Fairlane Christian, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Chelsea regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Chelsea district champion.)

CLASS D at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS E at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS F at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS G at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS H at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS I at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

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at AUBURN HILLS AVONDALE

Seminals: Farmington Harrison vs. Madison Heights Madison, 10 a.m.; Clawson vs. Madison Heights Bishop Foley, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2 p.m. (Winner advances to the Chelsea regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Oxford district champion.)

STATE TOURNAMENT DISTRICT SOFTBALL DRAWS (all Saturday, June 2)

CLASS A at WESTLAND JOHN GLENN

Seminals: Adrian vs. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 10 a.m.; Plymouth Canton vs. Bellevue, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Southfield district champion.)

at GARDEN CITY PARK

Seminals: Garden City vs. Dearborn Fordson, 10 a.m.; Lincoln Park vs. Dearborn, 12:15 p.m.

Championship final: Approximately noon (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Temperance-Bedford district champion.)

at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS B at AUBURN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Seminals: Farmington Harrison vs. Chelsea, 10 a.m.; Madison Heights Madison vs. Dearborn Heights, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2 p.m. (Winner advances to the Chelsea regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Oxford district champion.)

CLASS C at HARPER WDS BISHOP GALLAGHER

Seminals: Southfield Christian vs. Harper Woods Lutheran East, 10 a.m.; Redford St. Agatha vs. Dearborn Heights Fairlane Christian, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Chelsea regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Chelsea district champion.)

CLASS D at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

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CLASS F at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS G at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS H at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

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Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS I at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS J at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS K at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

CLASS L at SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Seminals: Livonia Franklin vs. Southfield, 9:30 a.m.; Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Northville, noon.

Championship final: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional, Saturday, June 9, vs. Westland John Glenn district champion.)

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