

Bookends lead Shamrocks to league championship

Senior Don Slankster and junior Nick Brzezinski couldn't have scored more points Tuesday for Detroit Catholic Central if they had end zones to dive into.

The pair, who were bookend tight ends on CC's state championship football team, led the Shamrocks to their second straight Catholic League A-B Division boys track championship at Livonia Ladywood.

Brzezinski won the discus and took second in the shot put, scoring 18 points. Slankster earned

10 points by winning the 300-meter hurdles and helped the 1,600 relay team finish fifth and the 800 relay team sixth.

Senior David Popiel took third in the high jump to give the Shamrocks six more points and a total of 61 in the field events.

Slankster's friends went south over spring break, but what he did was a lot more constructive.

"They went to South Padre Island in Texas and came back and told me stories," said Slankster, who is headed to

Wayne State on a football scholarship. "This is worth it. I wanted to keep doing track to help myself and do what I could for the team."

The Shamrocks lost two of their five Catholic League dual meets, and coach Tony Magni might have been the only person who gave them a chance.

"The seniors had a great time in Florida. We got our sunshine today," said Magni, who requires his seniors to stay during spring break. "Slankster was tremen-

dous. Winning the 300 put us in an excellent position to go for it.

"After our first (dual meet) loss to DC, I told the kids 'We're going to win the league.' Our distance kids, throwers and hurdlers are going to do the job. They've carried us all year."

The Shamrocks swept the top six places in the shot put, which was unprecedented in the Catholic League.

Sophomore Mike Morris had the best lead, a personal best of 48-6. Led by Brzezinski's toss of

154-0, which bettered his effort at the Class A regional by about 12 feet, the Shamrocks took three of the top four places in the discus.

"It's a hard-working bunch of guys, real competitive, but at the same time supportive of each other," said Gene Grewe, CC's throwing coach.

"Gene Grewe does an excellent job with the throwers," Magni said. "When everyone is done at practice, they're still going."

TRACK RESULTS

CATHOLIC LEAGUE GIRLS TRACK

A-B DIVISION MEET RESULTS

May 19 at Livonia Ladywood

1. Farmington Hills Mercy, 130; 2. Livonia Ladywood, 29; 3. Detroit Divine Child, 92; 4. Harper Woods Regina, 87; 5. Birmingham Marina, 35; Madison Heights Bishop Foley, 24.

FINAL RESULTS

Shot put: 1. Rachel Scheffer (DC), 35-9; 2. Kaithe Green (BF), 34-11; 3. Erin Johnson (FM), 33; 4. Judith Tefford (FM), 30-11; 5. Marissa Orlinger (FM), 29-11; 6. Michelle Stronczak (LS), 29.

Discus: 1. Kaithe Green (BF), 105-0; 2. Cece Johnson (FM), 88-2; 3. Rachel Strzelecki (DC), 87-2; 4. Elizabeth Morali (LI), 87-1; 5. Jennifer McKinley (DM), 84-0; 6. Judith Tefford (FM), 85-11.

High Jump: 1. Sarah Scheffer (HWR), 4-11; 2. Erin Hayden (LI), 4-0; 3. Jami Snow (FM), 4-7; 4. (tie) Jackie Milose (HWR), Lauren McDonnell (BM) and Leslie Dingle (DC), 4-7.

Long Jump: 1. Shannon Wilcox (HWR), 15-7; 2. Erin Hayden (LI), 15-6; 3. Christina Dingle (DC), 14-4; 4. Kelly O'Brien (LI), 13-11; 5. Sarah Small (FM), 13-10; 6. Kristian Lorenz (HWR), 13-10.

3200-meter relay: 1. Mercy (Erin Thomas, Christina Andriole, Alyssa Burnaby, Arjun Ahmed), 10:23.50; 2. Ladywood, 10:25.76; 3. Divine Child, 10:28.28; 4. Marina, 11:09.14; 5. Regina, 11:10.67; 6. Bishop Foley, 12:11.23.

100 hurdles: 1. Christina Dingle (DC), 16:23; 2. Sarah Scheffer (HWR), 16:52; 3. Jami Snow (FM), 17:53; 4. Suzanne Pezina (LI), 18:5; 5. Katherine Gardner (LI), 18:51; 6. Rebecca Jones (BM), 18:03.

100 dash: 1. Brianna Watson (LI), 12:81; 2. Melissa Aboud (HWR), 12:89; 3. Markeisha Thompson (BM), 13:04; 4. Kendall Carey (LI), 13:53; 5. Kelly Kaye (LI), 13:55; 6. Katie McGraw (LI), 13:56.

800 relay: 1. Regina (Shannon Wilcox, Kaithe Green, Kristian Lorenz, Melissa Aboud), 1:52.10; 2. Mercy, 1:53.24; 3. Ladywood, 1:54.14; 4. Divine Child, 2:00.27; 5. Bishop Foley, 2:08.99; (Marina disqualified).

1,600 relay: 1. Shannon Wilcox (HWR), 5:40.25; 2. Jessica Hayden (LI), 5:40.82; 3. Erin Thomas (FM), 6:45.14; 4. Danielle Wroblewski (FM), 5:47.74; 5. Sarah Polletta (FM), 5:51.13; 6. Ann Figurski (LI), 6:57.14.

400 relay: 1. Ladywood (Brianna Watson, Kendall Carey, Kelly O'Brien, Katie McGraw), 5:11.18; 2. Divine Child, 5:47.73; 3. Mercy, 5:52.7; 4. Regina, 5:59.9; 5. Marina, 5:03.0; 6. Bishop Foley, 1:00.80.

400 dash: 1. Kim Walker (DM), 1:01.88; 2. Nicole Carter (FM), 1:02.38; 3. Page Ahrens (LI), 1:02.89; 4. Paula Yaverica (DC), 1:05.02; 5. Natalie James (HWR), 1:05.11; 6. Emily Watkowski (DC), 1:06.18.

300 hurdles: 1. Sarah Scheffer (HWR), 4:17.4; 2. Suzanne Pezina (LI), 4:31; 3. Christina Dingle (DC), 4:78.0; 4. Jami Snow (FM), 4:20.2; 5. Lauren McDonnell (BM), 5:04.0; 6. Leslie Dingle (DC), 5:25.35.

800 mnt Alyssa Burnaby (HWR), 2:32.04; 2. Neegan Majeed (DC), 2:32.54; 3. Ann Figurski (LI), 2:37.78; 4. Linda Susaki (FM), 2:40.55; 5. Neegan Cummins (DC), 2:44.05; 6. Erin Hayden (LI), 2:43.35.

200 dash: 1. Melissa Aboud (HWR), 27.52; 2. Brianna Watson (LI), 27.78; 3. Amrita Bussey (DM), 28.08; 4. Shannon Wilcox (HWR), 28.30; 5. Katie McGraw (LI), 28.45; 6. Laura Yates (LI), 28.55.

3,200 mnt: 1. Erin Thomas (FM), 12:30.66; 2. Danielle Wroblewski (FM), 12:55.42; 3. Sarah Polletta (FM), 12:55.42; 4. Krista Sell (DC), 13:14.36; 5. Jessica Hayden (LI), 13:21.43; 6. Arjun Ahmed (FM), 13:27.92.

1,600 relay: 1. Ladywood (Suzanne Pezina, Brenda Cole, Kelly Carey, Page Ahrens), 4:16.94; 2. Mercy, 4:18.70; 3. Regina, 4:26.16; 4. Divine Child, 4:35.08; 5. Bishop Foley, 4:52.44; (Marina disqualified).

CATHOLIC LEAGUE BOYS TRACK

A-B DIVISION MEET RESULTS

May 19 at Livonia Ladywood

1. Detroit Catholic Central, 123; 2. Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 100; 3. U-D Jesuit, 84; 4. Dearborn Divine Child, 67; 5. Birmingham Brother Rice, 57; 6. Warren DeLaSalle, 50; 7. Harper Woods Notre Dame, 9; 8. Madison Heights Bishop Foley, 0.

FINAL RESULTS

Shot put: 1. Mike Morris (CC), 48-6; 2. Nick Brzezinski (CC), 45-11; 3. Steve Dominguez (CC), 45-11; 4. John Kava (CC), 45-11; 5. Lou Willoughby (CC), 44-6; 6. Kevin Nowak (CC), 43-0.

Discus: 1. Nick Brzezinski (CC), 154-0; 2. Michael Smyrka (U-D), 142-10; 3. Lou Willoughby (CC), 133-4; 4. Charlie Norum (CC), 133-1; 5. Joe Carter (DLS), 132-5; 6. Jim Porednak (DLS), 132-4.

High Jump: 1. Robyn Sylvester (BR), 6-3; 2. David McDermott (SM), 6-3; 3. Dave Popiel (CC), 6-1; 4. Mike Tomassi (DC), 5-10; 5. (tie) Ron Hunt (CC), Chris Agawa (BR) and Mike Blum (DC), 5-7.

Long Jump: 1. James Gonzales (SM), 21-1; 2. Kyle Chandler (U-D), 20-9; 3. Robert Turpin (U-D), 20-5; 4. Cory Seston (SM), 20-2; 5. Jayson Small (BR), 19-8; 6. Jeff Gilhoof (DC), 19-7.

2,200-meter relay: 1. U-D Jesuit, 8:10.31; 2. Catholic Central, 8:18.14; 3. Divine Child, 8:20.09; 4. DeLaSalle, 8:31.90; 5. Brother Rice, 8:44.39; 6. St. Mary's, 9:01.59.

150 hurdles: 1. Brad Mitchell (SM), 15-23; 2. Jason Woehke (CC), 15-29; 3. Sheku Ridge (U-D), 15-2; 4. Larry Clark (SM), 15-5; 5. Paul Sobie (DLS), 15-00; 6. David McDermott (SM), 15-73.

300 dash: 1. Larry Bittate (SM), 11:05; 2. Ty Washington (SM), 11:00; 3. Roger White (DLS), 11:15; 4. Kyle Chandler (U-D), 11:03; 5. Rico Epps (SM), 11:09; 6. Andy Roman (CC), 11:71.

800 relay: 1. St. Mary's, 1:30.51; 2. Divine Child, 1:33.15; 3. Brother Rice, 1:33.60; 4. DeLaSalle, 1:34.09; 5. U-D Jesuit, 1:35.20; 6. Catholic Central, 1:37.06.

1,600 mnt: 1. Ben Evans (BR), 4:24; 2. Phil Steed (DC), 4:29; 3. Matt Shannon (CC), 4:31; 4. John DiGiovanni (CC), 4:32; 5. Tim Jacobs (SM), 4:36; 6. Dan Jess (CC), 4:44.

400 relay: 1. U-D Jesuit, 44.28; 2. DeLaSalle, 44.80; 3. Divine Child, 45.00; 4. Brother Rice, 45.93; 5. Catholic Central, 46.17; 6. Notre Dame, 49.01.

400 dash: 1. Larry Clark (SM), 50.82; 2. Jason McDermott (DLS), 51.15; 3. Ethan Rouse (DC), 52.18; 4. Mychal Turpin (U-D), 53.11; 5. Jason Turner (DLS), 54.11; 6. Andy Roman (CC), 54.35.

300 hurdles: 1. Don Slankster (CC), 40.72; 2. Sheku Ridge (U-D), 40.80; 3. David McDermott (SM), 41.58; 4. Grant Mason (SM), 42.42; 5. Mike Wook (DLS), 42.61; 6. Jason Woehke (CC), 42.71.

800 mnt: 1. Phil Steed (DC), 2:00.05; 2. Vaughn Jennings-White (U-D), 2:00.18; 3. Brian Kelley (BR), 2:01.07; 4. Brian Kuzynski (CC), 2:02.83; 5. Brian Mical (DC), 2:03.22; 6. Scott Baker (DLS), 2:04.37.

200 dash: 1. Larry Bittate (SM), 22.43; 2. Robert Turpin (U-D), 22.46; 3. Dan Cylvowald (ND), 23.30; 4. Mike Tomassi (CC), 23.71; 5. Robert Perkins (U-D), 23.77; 6. Matt Carpenter (DC), 23.95.

1,200 relay: 1. Ben Evans (BR), 4:44.17; 2. Matt Shannon (CC), 4:55.51; 3. Dan Jess (CC), 4:50.40; 4. John DiGiovanni (CC), 4:50.04; 5. Tim Jacobs (SM), 4:50.72; 6. Tom Drummond (HWR), 4:57.69.

1,600 relay: 1. DeLaSalle, 3:28.41; 2. Divine Child, 3:28.33; 3. Brother Rice, 3:30.15; 4. St. Mary's, 3:40.75; 5. Catholic Central, 3:43.76; 6. Notre Dame, 4:00.22.

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was in jeopardy as the Marlins qualified seven runners.

Mercy took advantage by scoring 25 points in that event. Erin Thomas was first, Danielle Wroblewski second, Sarah Polletta third and Anjum Ahmad sixth.

The Blazers did all they could to come back, winning the 1,600 relay behind strong third and fourth legs by Kelly Carey and Page Ahrens.

Other winners for Mercy were Alyssa Burnaby, who won the 800 run with a season-best time of 2:32.04, and the 3,200 relay team of Thomas, Christin Andriole, Burnaby and Ahmad.

"Coming into the meet, we weren't sure if we could win, because we lost dual meets to Ladywood and Divine Child," Thomas said. "We knew we had to come in with confidence."

"When you qualify seven for the two-mile, you know you have a pretty good chance of scoring some points, and that put us in good shape."

"I was happy with how I ran, except for the mile (third place), but it was hot and that will be my excuse."

Other Mercy standouts included CeCe Johnson (discus and shot put), Nicole Carter (400)

and Jami Snow (high jump and hurdles).

"The girls worked hard today and some of them had to run several races," Servais said. "This was a total team effort as we had girls placing everywhere. I'm extremely proud of them."

Ladywood winners were sophomore Brianna Watson in the 100 dash and the 400 relay team of Watson, Kendall Carey, Kelly O'Brien and Katie McGraw with a season-best time of 5:11.18.

The Blazers will have to remember the meet with a lot of "what ifs" as more fractions of a second cost Ladywood runners additional points.

"We could have done some things earlier in the meet, which might have changed the outcome," Sorenson said. "But the girls gave everything they had, and that's the goal of our program. We had outstanding efforts everywhere."

Things look bright for a Mercy repeat as the Marlins lose only seniors Jackie Segue and Wroblewski.

Servais hopes Mercy can repeat the success it had in the early '90s when it won five straight league titles.

"We're hoping to get that tradition going again," he said.

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