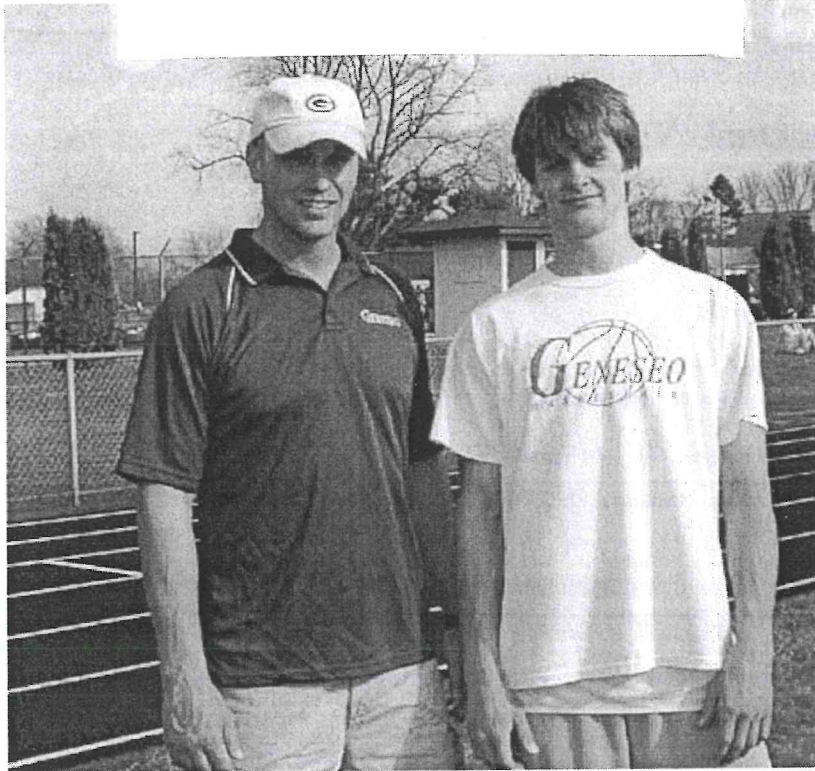


Russell takes down 35 year old school record.



Geneseo Jump Coach Dan Rakestraw stands proudly with Geneseo's

new school record holder in the Long Jump Shaun Russell.

### **Geneseo defeats Galesburg in Thursday's Dual**

**Varsity Team Scores:** 1.) Geneseo 74; 2.) Galesburg 72

**Fresh-Soph Scores:** 1.) Geneseo 86; 2.) Galesburg 40

On Thursday afternoon senior thinclad Shaun Russell made history as he broke Rick Penny's 35 year-old school record in the long jump with a monster jump of 22' 08 1/2". The Russell family has been in pursuit of this record since 1978 when Shaun's father Randy jumped close to 21 feet his junior year. A serious injury prevented him from competing his senior year. Next enter older brother Curt who missed Penny's record by a mere 1/2 inch in 2003. The chase is over as Shaun busted loose on his final jump of the competition to break the record by two and one-half inches. He followed that up with a school record tying of Trent Foltz's 22-year old 100 meter school record.

The Leafs pulled off a rare feat as they defeated the Galesburg Silver Streaks despite failing to win a single relay event. The Leafs were a bit short-handed (Galesburg was also due to spring break.) The Leafs welcomed back Tom Blean, Chris Brooks, and Andrew Timmerman who all made their season debuts after being sidelined with lengthy injuries. Listed below are the event winners for the Leafs.

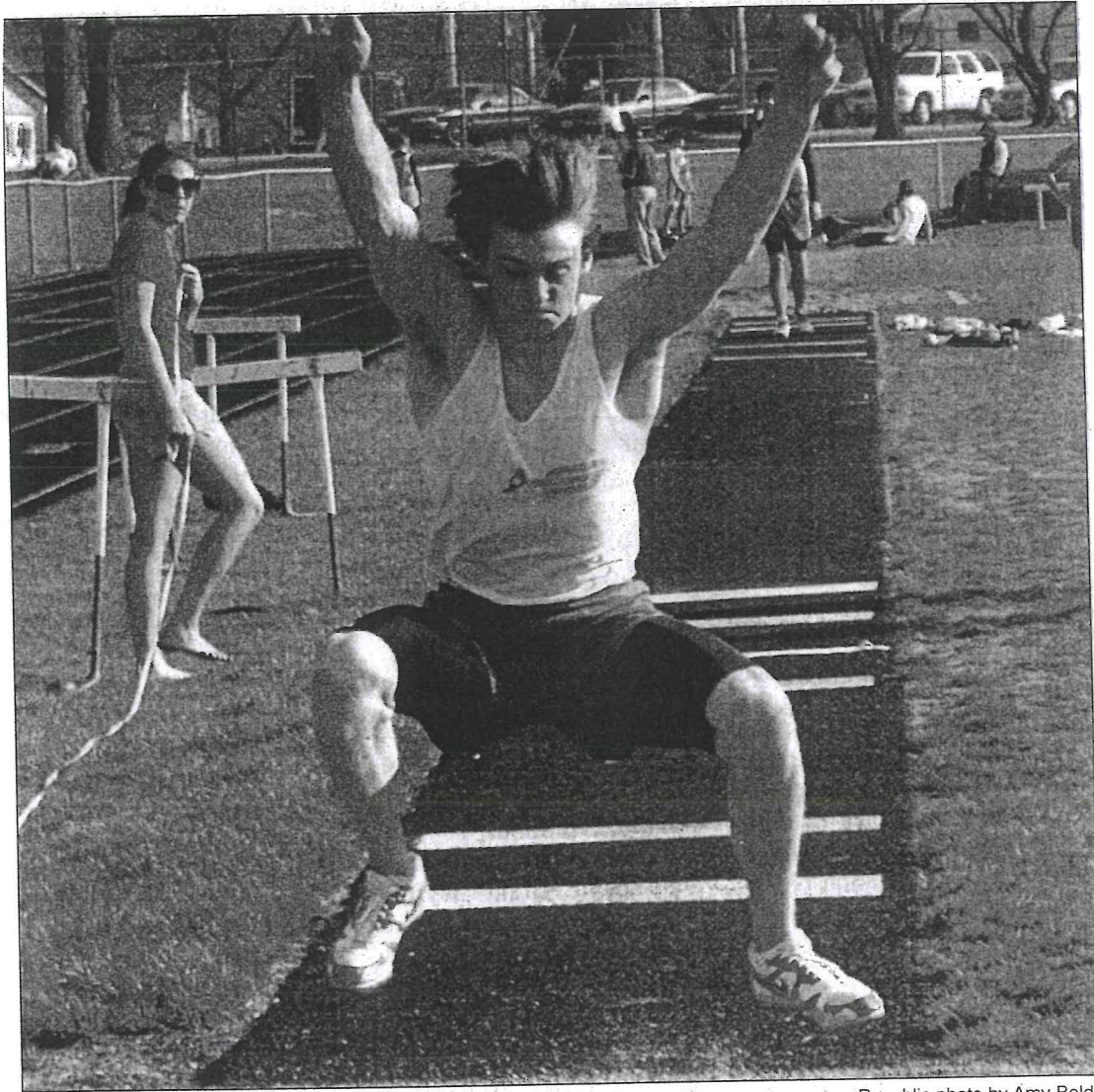
#### **Varsity Gold Medal Winnes:**

Corey Akers (Discus)  
Chris Brooks (Shot Put)  
Dan Chenoweth (800 Meter Run, 1600 Meter Run)  
Justin Heaton (400 Meter Dash)  
Shaun Russell (100 Meter Dash, 200 Meter Dash, Long Jump, Triple Jump)

#### **Fresh-Soph Gold Medal Winnes:**

Jake Ballegeer (High Jump)  
Rob Barton (Pole Vault)  
Jon Fleming (800 Meter Run)  
Curt Jensen (Discus, Shot Put)  
Ryan Kotecki (1600 Meter Run)  
Josh Lodge (3200 Meter Run)  
Logan Patton (200 Meter Dash, 400 Meter Dash)  
Aaron Schilling (Long Jump, Triple Jump)

# Russell soars way into record books



Republic photo by Amy Boldt

**SHAUN RUSSELL** makes his mark in the triple jump Thursday, April 13, against Galesburg. Earlier in the day, he made an even bigger mark, breaking the school's 35-year-old record in the long jump with a distance of 22-8 1/2.



By **AMY BOLDT**  
*Sports Editor*

A record-setting long jump leap was a highlight this past week in which the Geneseo boys' track and field team emerged with two first-place finishes.

#### **Geneseo at Streator**

Geneseo captured first place, April 18 at Streator over three conference foes: Streator, LaSalle-Peru and Ottawa; and one non-conference opponent, St. Bede.

"We were a little flat team-wise," Head Coach Don Fredericks said. "And physically and mentally, were also a little flat, but we did have strong performances and we gained some valuable knowledge."

Those bringing home first-place finishes for the Leafs were Nate Silver in the 800-meter run with a time of two minutes and 9.4 seconds; Justin Heaton in the 400-m dash in 53.8; Wolfe Repass in the 300-m hurdles, taking the tape in 41.6; and Dan Chenoweth in the 1600-m run with a time of 4:30.4. Others placing first were Jacob Kuban in the long jump with a leap of 20-5; Elliott Kenney in the triple jump at 39-2; the 400-m relay of Tyler Loucks, Shane Reschke, Kuban and Shaun Russell in 44.2; the 1600-m relay of Kuban, Justin Heaton, Jesse Gessel and Repass with a time of 3:41.0; and Chris Brooks in the shot put with a heave of 45-8 1/2.

"Kuban was the leader, being a part of three first-place finishes, which is great for him and some personal bests," Fredericks said. "And Chenoweth ran a real strong mile."

Geneseo also came away with seven second-place finishes for the night from Ryan Kotecki in the 3200-m run with a time of 10:43.9; Repass in the 100-m hurdles in 16.1; Russell in the 100-m dash, crossing the finish line in 11.4 and in the long jump with a mark of 20-4; and the 800-m relay of Loucks, Beau Neece, Mason Kernan and

Jeremy Peters in 1:39.6. Gessel also took second in the 400-m dash with a time of 55.2, followed by Bren Gillespie in the high jump with a leap of 5-10.

The Leafs added seven third-place finishes to the win from Josh Lodge in the 3200-m run in 10:44.4; Drew Croegaert in the 100-m hurdles in 16.9; and Reschke in the 100-m dash with a time of 11.4, the 200-m dash in 23.9 and the long jump at 20-1. Silver took third in the 400-m dash in 55.6, while Jaran Heaton cleared the bar at 10-6 in the pole vault.

In freshmen/sophomore action, the Leafs placed second to Ottawa.

The 400-m relay of Aaron Schilling, Cameron McNeil, Tom Peal and Logan Patton took first with a time of 47.8, followed by Jaran Heaton in the 110-m hurdles in 16.7, and Jon Fleming in the 800-m run at 2:24.1. Lodge crossed the finish-line first in the 1600-m run with a time of 5:07.8, while Schilling took first in the long jump at 13-7. Curt Jensen won the discus at 104-2 and the shot put at 39-2 1/2, while Rob Barton placed first in the pole vault with a leap of 9-0.

In second place for the squad, were Patton in the 400-m dash in 57.3 and the 200-m dash in 24.9; Peal in the 300-m hurdles with a time of 47.4; Kotecki in

the 1600-m run at 5:13.8, and the 1600-m relay of Ben Koenig, Peal, Jaran Heaton and Austin Swanson with a time of 4:06.3.

#### **Geneseo vs. Galesburg**

Geneseo's Russell helped propel the Leafs to victory as he set a new school record in the long jump during the Leafs' April 13 homeopener against Galesburg. Geneseo won the

dual meet, 74-72.

Russell's record-breaking leap of 22-8 1/2 broke a 35-year-old mark set in 1971 by Rick Penny and gave him a first-place finish. He also nabbed firsts in the triple jump

with a mark of 43-1; the 100-m dash with a time of 10.75, which tied Trent Foltz's 22-year-old school record; and in the 200-m dash, taking the tape in 22.41.

"It was very exciting and the highlight of the meet," Fredericks said of Russell's jump. "I was able to watch, it was a monster jump and he blasted a great series of jumps."

Others claiming firsts were Corey Akers in the discus with a throw of 112-4, Brooks in the shot put with a heave of 46-8, who returned from injury; Chenoweth in the 800-m run with a time of 2:00.56 and in the 1600-m run in 4:33.96; and Justin Heaton in the 400-m dash at 52.75.

Placing second for the Leafs were Josh Olson in the discus at 109-1; Gillespie in the high jump with a leap of 5-10; Jaran Heaton cleared the bar at 11-0 in the pole vault; and Tyler Root in the shot put with a heave of 41-11. Also, Kenney in the triple jump with a mark of 40-10; the 400-m relay of Loucks, Reschke, Kuban and Kernan crossed the finish line in 44.66; Kotecki in the 3200-m run at 10:56.10; and the 800-m relay of Loucks, Kuban, Kernan and Peters, crossing the finish line in 1:35.81.

"The big thing about the meet was all the guys got a chance to compete," Fredericks said. "And that's the best part."

In the 300-m intermediate hurdles, Repass took second with a time of 43.53, while the 1600-m relay of Reschke, Gillespie, Justin Heaton and Repass also came in second in 3:38.47.

In third place were Root in the discus at 104-5, Peters in the high jump with a leap of 5-8, Reschke in the long jump with a mark of 21-1 1/2; and Tom Blean in the pole vault at 9-0. Placing third were Repass in the 110-m high hurdles in 16.10; Reschke, the 100-m dash in 11.03; Gillespie in the 400-m dash with a time of 56.03; and Caleb Diericx in the 300-m intermediate hurdles in 45.54.



The freshmen/sophomore Leafs were also victorious, 86-40 over Galesburg.

In the discus, Jensen took first with a throw of 110-5 and Shane Miller placed third at 101-5. Jake Ballegeer claimed first in the high jump with a leap of 5-4, while Barton cleared the bar at 4-10 for third. Schilling came away with a first-place finish in the long jump with a mark of 18-8, while Josh Rahn took second at 14-5.

In the pole vault, Barton took first at 8-6, followed by Ballegeer at 7-6 and Tyler Toom, 7-0. Jensen won the shot put with a heave of 39-7, followed by Dan Haertjens in second at 36-5, and B. J. Weber, third with a mark of 35-0. Rounding out the field events were Schilling taking first in the triple jump at 41-3 1/4, and

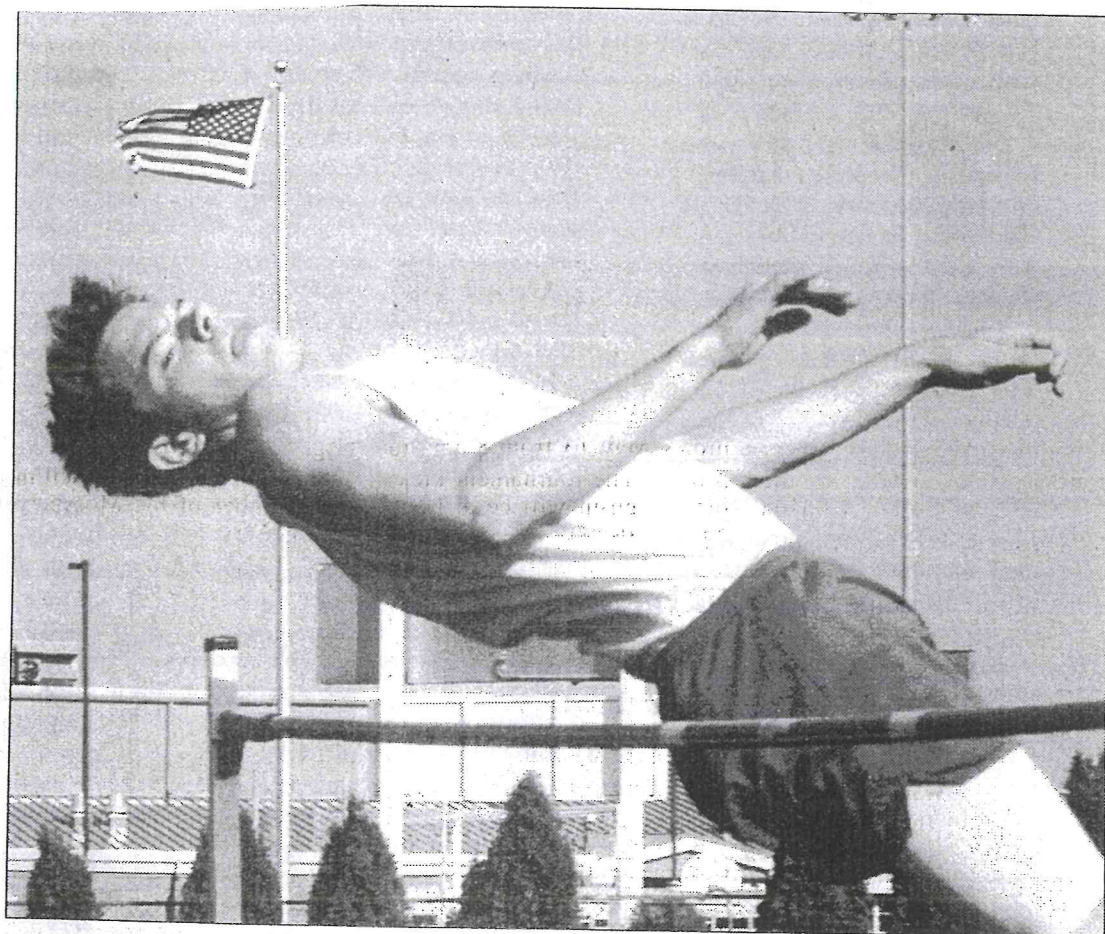
Joe Snyder in second at 31-8.

On the track, Lodge and Eric Windsor went one-two in the 3200-m run. Lodge took first with a time of 11:12.77 and Windsor, second in 13:07.55. Patton took second in the 100-m dash, crossing the finish-line in 11.84, while Fleming and Garrett Harris placed first and second in the 800-m run; Fleming in first at 2:20.75 and Harris, second in 2:22.16.

The 800-m relay of Schilling, Austin Ryan, McNeil and Josh Birmingham took second with a time of 1:45.22, while Patton placed first in the 400-m dash, taking the tape in 56.55; and Tyler Morton came in third in 1:00.85.

In the 1600-m run, Kotecki placed first in 5:12.34, Lodge, second in 5:15.32 and Fleming came in third in 5:32.00. Patton crossed the finish-line in first in the 200-m dash with a time of 24.34, followed by Birmingham in third at 27.21. The 1600-m B relay of Fleming, Kotecki, Lodge and Harris took second with a time of 4:01.75, while the 1600-m A relay of Ballegeer, McNeil, Ryan and Jaran Heaton took third in 4:01.92.

The Leafs will next compete in the Rock Island Invite at 4 p.m. today in Rock Island.



Republic photo by Amy Boldt

**BREN GILLESPIE** clears the high jump bar at 5-10 for a second-place finish against Galesburg April 13 in Geneseo.

"This is the premier invite in the state," Fredericks said. "Hopefully, we will get personal bests and some good weather. It

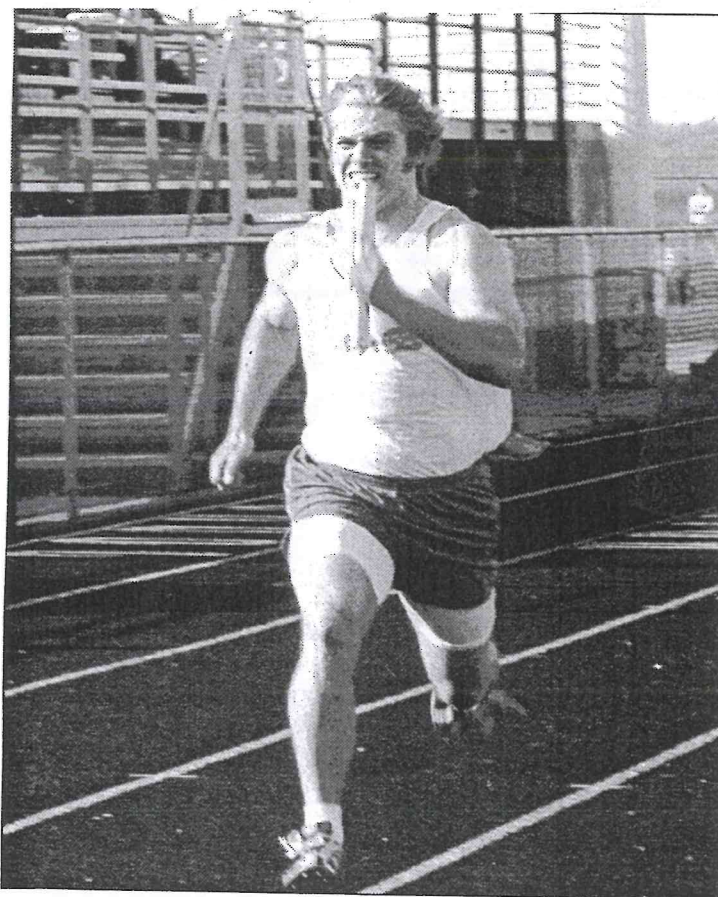
is a very competitive meet. If we get in the top half, it will be great and even higher will be tremendous. This meet is a great oppor-

tunity to compete with the state's top best. We will gain experience and really test ourselves this weekend."

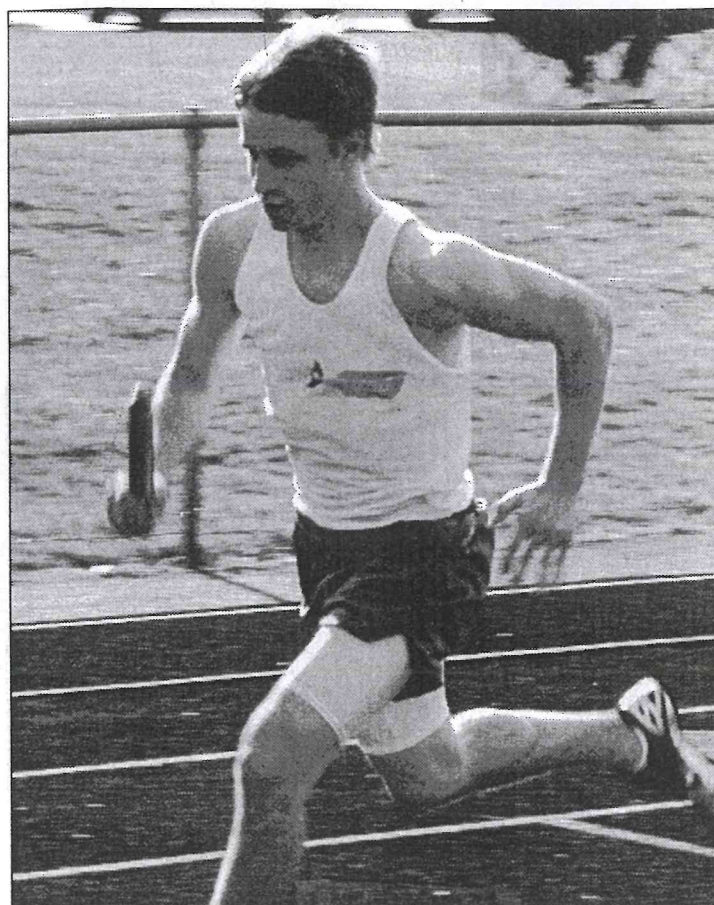




**JEREMY PETERS** clears the high jump bar at 5-8 during the Galesburg dual meet in Geneseo April 13.



**MASON KERNAN** sprints to the finish line in the 400-m relay against Galesburg April 13 in Geneseo.



**TYLER LOUCKS** starts the first leg of the 400-m relay for the Leafs April 13 during the Geneseo/Galesburg dual meet.





**CALEB DIERICK**, far left, and **Wolfe Repass**, third from left, clear the first hurdles in the 300-m hurdles against Galesburg April 13.



**DAN CHENOWETH** races to a first-place finish in the 3200-m A run during the UTHS Invitational April 8.



**SHANE RESCHKE** leaps off the track in the long jump at the UTHS Invitational April 8 in East Moline.



## Galesburg Dual (Varsity Results)

Varsity Results	
<b>Host Site:</b> Geneseo H.S. <b>Date:</b> 4/13/06 <b>Weather Conditions:</b> 83 and windy <b>Scoring:</b> Individual: 5-3-1; Relay: 5-0	
<b>Team Scores:</b> 1.) Geneseo 74; 2.) Dixon 72	
<b>Discus:</b> 1.) Corey Akers (Geneseo) 112' 04"; 2.) Josh Olson (Geneseo) 109' 01"; 3.) Tyler Root (Geneseo) 104' 05"	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 4.) Blake Verstraete 104' 04"; 7.) Sean Finley 94' 00"	
<b>High Jump:</b> 1.) Tyler Lingwall (Galesburg) 5' 10"; 2.) Bren Gillespie (Geneseo) 5' 10"; 3.) Jeremy Peters (Geneseo) 5' 08"	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> none	
<b>Long Jump:</b> 1.) Shaun Russell (Geneseo) 22' 08 1/2"; 2.) Cody Mixon (Galesburg) 21' 03"; 3.) Shane Reschke (Geneseo) 21' 01 1/2"	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 4.) Jacob Kuban 19' 11 1/2"; 6.) Elliott Kenney 17' 10"; 7.) Alex Guiscem 15' 02"; <i>Additional Jumps of Note:</i> Shaun Russell 22' 03 1/4"; 21' 11 1/4"; Shane Reschke 20' 09";	
<b>Pole Vault:</b> 1.) Ryan Probst (Galesburg) 12' 06"; 2.) Jaran Heaton (Geneseo) 11' 00"; 3.) Tom Blean (Geneseo) 9' 00"	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 4.) Andrew Timmerman 9' 00"	
<b>Shot Put:</b> 1.) Chris Brooks (Geneseo) 46' 08"; 2.) Tyler Root (Geneseo) 41' 11"; 3.) Warren Crose (Galesburg) 40' 10"	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 4.) Andrew Hull 39' 09"; 8.) Jon Hamilton 30' 01"	
<b>Triple Jump:</b> 1.) Shaun Russell (Geneseo) 43' 01"; 2.) Elliott Kenney (Geneseo) 40' 10"; 3.) Andrew Thierry (Galesburg) 39' 09 1/2"	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 4.) Wolfe Repass 37' 06"	
<b>3200 Meter Relay:</b> 1.) Galesburg (Josh Bailey, Spencer Guerrero, Wes Anderson, Danny Stafford) 11:56.82; 2.) none	
<i>Geneseo Splits:</i> none	
<b>400 Meter Relay:</b> 1.) Galesburg (Cody Mixon, Andrew Thierry, Ricky Giggins, Jermaine McLaren) 44.19; 2.) Geneseo (Tyler Loucks, Shane Reschke, Jacob Kuban, Mason Kernan) 44.66	
<i>Geneseo Splits:</i> Tyler Loucks 11.13; Shane Reschke 10.82; Jacob Kuban 11.06; Mason Kernan 11.51	
<b>3200 Meter Run:</b> 1.) Zack Yeager (Galesburg) 10:39.63; 2.) Ryan Koteci (Geneseo) 10:56.10; 3.) Jeremy Randolph (Galesburg) 11:25.60	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes &amp; Splits:</i> 2.) Ryan Kotecki: 70 - 2:25 (75) - 3:46 (81) - 5:10 (84) - 6:38 (88) - 8:06 (88) - 10:56.10 (90) 5.) Dyson Wake: 80 - 2:49 (89) - 4:19 (90) - 5:52 (93) - 7:30 (98) - ??? - 12:22.31	

<p><b>110 Meter High Hurdles:</b> 1.) Tyler Lingwall (Galesburg) 14.56; 2.) Craig Hall (Galesburg) 16.03; 3.) Wolfe Repass (Geneseo) 16.10</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 4.) Jaran Heaton 17.43; 5.) Caleb Diericx 18.47</p>
<p><b>100 Meter Dash:</b> 1.) Shaun Russell (Geneseo) 10.75; 2.) Jermaine McLaren (Galesburg) 11.00; 3.) Shane Reschke (Geneseo) 11.03</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 5.) Jacob Kuban 11.46; 6.) Tyler Loucks 11.55; 7.) Jeremy Peters 11.69; 8.) Mason Kernan 11.75; 9.) Beau Neece 11.89; 10.) Sam Woolsey 12.13; 11.) Alex Guiscem 12.87</p>
<p><b>800 Meter Run:</b> 1.) Dan Chenoweth (Geneseo) 2:00.56; 2.) Matt Billeter (Galesburg) 2:02.47; 3.) Josh Bailey (Galesburg) 2:04.53</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes &amp; Splits:</i> 1.) Dan Chenoweth 2:00.56 (59); 4.) Nate Silver 2:08.47 (62); 5.) Robert Reese 2:13.40 (62)</p>
<p><b>800 Meter Relay:</b> 1.) Galesburg (Cody Mixon, Andrew Thierry, Ricky Diggins, Jermaine McLaren) 1:33.16; 2.) (Tyler Loucks, Jacob Kuban, Mason Kernan, Jeremy Peters) 1:35.81</p> <p><i>Geneseo Splits:</i> Tyler Loucks 23.88; Jacob Kuban 23.84; Mason Kernan 23.32; Jeremy Peters 24.59</p>
<p><b>400 Meter Dash:</b> 1.) Justin Heaton (Geneseo) 52.75; 2.) Danny Stafford (Galesburg) 55.68; 3.) Bren Gillespie (Geneseo) 56.03</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 5.) Elliott Kenney 58.00</p>
<p><b>300 Meter Intermediate Hurdles:</b> 1.) Craig Hall (Galesburg) 42.78; 2.) Wolfe Repass (Geneseo) 43.53; 3.) Caleb Diericx (Geneseo) 45.54</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 4.) Jaran Heaton 46.50</p>
<p><b>1600 Meter Run:</b> 1.) Dan Chenoweth (Geneseo) 4:33.96; 2.) Spencer Guerrero (Galesburg) 4:45.86; 3.) Zack Yeager (Galesburg) 4:46.50</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes &amp; Splits:</i> 1. Dan Chenoweth 68 - 2:19 (71) - 3:29 (70) - 4:33.96 (64); 4.) Blake Wyffels 68 - 2:20 (72) - 3:37 (77) - 4:47.19 (70); 6.) Nate Silver 71 - 2:28 (77) - 3:51 (83) - 5:08.90 (77); 7.) Tom Blean 73 - 2:37 (74) - 4:02 (85) - 5:26.03 (84); 8.) Robert Reese 76 - 2:40 (84) - 4:09 (89) - 5:33.24 (84); 9.) Dyson Wake 77 - 2:46 (79) - 4:16 (90) - 5:41.16 (85)</p>
<p><b>200 Meter Dash:</b> 1.) Shaun Russell (Geneseo) 22.41; 2.) Andrew Thierry (Galesburg) 22.97; 3.) Jermaine McLaren (Galesburg) 23.11</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 4.) Beau Neece 24.42; 5.) Elliott Kenney 24.43; 6.) Jeremy Peters 24.47; 7.) Blake Verstraete 25.15; 8.) Sam Woolsey 25.28; 9.) Alex Guiscem 27.09</p>
<p><b>1600 Meter Relay:</b> 1.) Galesburg (Josh Bailey, Cody Mixon, Craig Hall, Tyler Lingwall) 3:31.28; 2.) Geneseo A (Shane Reschke, Bren Gillespie, Justin Heaton, Wolfe Repass) 3:38.47; 3.) Geneseo B (Dan Chenoweth, Nate Silver, Caleb Diericx, Blake Wyffels) 3:51.46</p> <p><i>Geneseo Splits:</i> A-Team: Shane Reschke 52.64; Bren Gillespie 55.87; Justin Heaton 54.93; Wolfe Repass 55.02; Geneseo B Dan Chenoweth 55.25; Nate Silver 55.10; Caleb Diericx 60.90; Blake Wyffels 60.13</p>

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## 2006 Galesburg Dual (Fresh-Soph Results)

Fresh-Soph Results	
<b>Host Site:</b> Geneseo H.S. <b>Date:</b> 4/13/06 <b>Weather Conditions:</b> 83 and windy <b>Scoring:</b> Individual: 5-3-1; Relay: 5-0	
<b>Team Scores:</b> 1.) Geneseo 86; 2.) Dixon 40	
<b>Discus:</b> 1.) Curt Jensen (Geneseo) 110' 05"; 2.) Zack Boehme (Galesburg) 107' 10"; 3.) Shane Miller (Geneseo) 101' 05"	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 5.) Adam Hoste 86' 09"; 6.) Nathan Panicucci 80' 03"	
<b>High Jump:</b> 1.) Jake Ballegeer (Geneseo) 5' 04"; 2.) Kevin Mitchell (Galesburg) 5' 04"; 3.) Rob Barton (Geneseo) 4' 10"	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> none	
<b>Long Jump:</b> 1.) Aaron Schilling (Geneseo) 18' 08"; 2.) Josh Rahn (Geneseo) 14' 05"; 3.) none	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> none	
<b>Pole Vault:</b> 1.) Rob Barton (Geneseo) 8' 06"; 2.) Jake Ballegeer (Geneseo) 7' 06"; 3.) Tyler Toom (Geneseo) 7' 00"	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> none	
<b>Shot Put:</b> 1.) Curt Jensen (Geneseo) 39' 07"; 2.) Dan Haertjens (Geneseo) 36' 05"; 3.) B.J. Weber (Geneseo) 35' 00"	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> none	
<b>Triple Jump:</b> 1.) Aaron Schilling (Geneseo) 41' 03 1/4"; 2.) Joe Snyder (Geneseo) 31' 08"; 3.) none	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> none	
<b>3200 Meter Relay:</b> 1.) none; 2.) none	
<i>Geneseo Splits:</i> none	
<b>400 Meter Relay:</b> 1.) none; 2.) none	
<i>Geneseo Splits:</i> (Both teams disqualified) Aaron Schilling 14.52; Cameron McNeil 9.98; Jake Ballegeer 12.20; Logan Patton 12.39	
<b>3200 Meter Run:</b> 1.) Josh Lodge (Geneseo) 11:12.77; 2.) Eric Windsor (Geneseo) 13:07.55; 3.) Quincy Guerrero (Galesburg) 13:25.00	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes &amp; Splits:</i> 1.) Josh Lodge: 71 - 2:26 (75) - 3:50 (84) - 5:17 (87) - 6:46 (89) - 8:17 (91) - ??? - 11:12.77 2.) Eric Windsor: 82 - 2:50 (88) - 4:22 (92) - 6:01 (99) - 7:43 (102) - 13:07.55 (94)	
<b>110 Meter High Hurdles:</b> 1.) Zack Kempf (Galesburg) 18.53; 2.) none; 3.) none	
<i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> none	



<p><b>100 Meter Dash:</b> 1.) Zack Boehme (Galesburg) 11.64; 2.) Logan Patton (Geneseo) 11.84; 3.) Overton Pace (Galesburg) 12.00</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 4.) Cameron McNeil 12.23; 5.) Austin Ryan 12.53; 6.) Josh Birmingham 12.75; 7.) Tyler Morton 13.00; 8.) Tyler Toom 13.34; 9.) Joe Snyder 13.44; 10.) Josh Rahn 13.63; 11.) Drew Richardson 13.93; 12.) Chris Byrne 14.00</p>
<p><b>800 Meter Run:</b> 1.) Joh Fleming (Geneseo) 2:20.75; 2.) Garrett Harris (Geneseo) 2:22.16; 3.) Mitchell Brady (Galesburg) 2:29.02</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes &amp; Splits:</i> Jon Fleming 2:20.75 (68); Garrett Harris 2:22.16 (71)</p>
<p><b>800 Meter Relay:</b> 1.) Galesburg (Zack Boehme, Zack Kempf, T.J. McClay, Daniel Granger) 1:40.55; 2.) Geneseo (Aaron Schilling, Austin Ryan, Cameron McNeil, Josh Birmingham) 1:45.22</p> <p><i>Geneseo Splits:</i> Aaron Schilling 24.30; Austin Ryan 27.53; Cameron McNeil 26.40; Josh Birmingham 26.81</p>
<p><b>400 Meter Dash:</b> 1.) Logan Patton (Geneseo) 56.55; 2.) F.J. Minor (Galesburg) 1:00.16; 3.) Tyler Morton (Geneseo) 1:00.85</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 4.) Dan Haertjens 1:01.84</p>
<p><b>300 Meter Intermediate Hurdles:</b> 1.) Zack Kempf (Galesburg) 47.56; 2.) none; 3.) none</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> none</p>
<p><b>1600 Meter Run:</b> 1.) Ryan Kotecki (Geneseo) 5:12.34; 2.) Josh Lodge (Geneseo) 5:15.32; 3.) Jon Fleming (Geneseo) 5:32.00</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes &amp; Splits:</i>  1.) Ryan Kotecki 70 - 2:29 (79) - 3:52 (83) - 5:12.34 (80); 2.) Josh Lodge 71 - 2:30 (79) - 3:55 (85) - 5:15.32 (80); 3.) Jon Fleming 74 - 2:43 (89) - 4:10 (89) - 5:32.00 (82); 5.) Eric Windsor 83 - 2:57 (94) - 4:32 (95) - 6:03.56 (91)</p>
<p><b>200 Meter Dash:</b> 1.) Logan Patton (Geneseo) 24.34; 2.) Overton Pace (Galesburg) 26.03; 3.) Josh Birmingham (Geneseo) 27.21</p> <p><i>Additional Geneseo Athletes:</i> 4.) Tyler Toom 27.38; 5.) Joe Snyder 27.78; 5.) Tyler Morton 27.78; 7.) Drew Richardson 28.28; 8.) Josh Rahn 28.31; 9.) Chris Byrne 29.93</p>
<p><b>1600 Meter Relay:</b> 1.) Galesburg (Kevin Mitchell, T.J. McClay, Jeremy Johnson, Mitchell Brady) 4:00.80; 2.) Geneseo B (Jon Fleming, Ryan Kotecki, Josh Lodge, Garrett Harris) 4:01.75; 3.) Geneseo A (Jake Ballegeer, Cameron McNeil, Austin Ryan, Jaran Heaton) 4:01.92</p> <p><i>Geneseo Splits:</i> B-Team: Jon Fleming 60.50; Ryan Kotecki 62.50; Josh Lodge 60.00; Garrett Harris 59.41; Geneseo A: Jake Ballegeer 58.17; Cameron McNeil 63.29; Austin Ryan 62.46; Jaran Heaton 58.39</p>

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# Russell on track for more Leaf records

He's already got long jump, 100-meter marks

By Shannon Heaton  
sheaton@qconline.com

For nearly three decades, the Russell family's quest for the Geneseo High School boys' long jump record had been a story of near-misses.

Last Thursday, current Maple Leaf senior Shaun Russell wrote a new script, breaking not only the Leafs' long jump mark, but tying the school's 100-meter dash record in a home dual meet against Galesburg.

And this week's Metro Pacesetter for The Dispatch and The Rock Island Argus hopes he isn't through yet, certainly not with six weeks of track season still on the agenda and new marks to set.

"I have two of the three goals I set for myself at the start of the year, but I'm not too happy with the long jump yet. I think I can go farther,"

## Pacesetter

Dispatch/Argus Sports Excellence

said Russell of his 22-foot, 8 1/2-inch mark last Thursday, breaking a 35-year-old record by two inches.

"I have the two goals done, but now I want to get them again."

The quest began in the late 1970s when Randy Russell, a member of three "Green Machine" state-champion football teams, was a long jumper trying to break Rick Penney's 1971 mark of 22-6 1/2. He was close to 21 feet heading into his senior season, but broke an ankle that year and didn't jump.

Randy's oldest son, Curt, a 2004 Geneseo grad, came much closer than his dad. Curt, a multitented three-sport athlete for the Leafs, was also a sprinter and jumper. However, his best long jump came up one half-inch short of Penney's mark.

### ► Shaun Russell

► **Favorite food:** Mom's chicken enchiladas.

► **Favorite restaurant:** Famous Dave's.

► **Favorite TV show:** "Family Guy."

► **Favorite movie:** "Pink Floyd: The Wall."

► **In CD player right now:** Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon.

► **Favorite event:** Long jump.

► **Event always wanted to try:** 300 hurdles.

► **Favorite school subject:** Agri-business.

► **Favorite college:** Arizona State University.

► **Free time:** A round of disc golf at Geneseo's Richmond Hill Park.

► **Parents:** Randy & Jacquie Russell, Geneseo.

Shaun watched his older brother's disappointment at coming so close to the record and made a vow.

"I saw his face, and I saw how disappointed he was," Shaun said of his brother's

effort. "I thought to myself, I'm going to get that record."

Everyone in the Russell family has bought into standout efforts on the Geneseo track. In addition to the Russell men, mom Jacquie is a former all-stater and still holds the 100 and 400 relay records, and younger sister Kara boasts the metro region's best high jump so far this year, at 5-3.

"He's a young man that is extremely driven to the pursuit of excellence," said Maple Leafs coach Don Fredericks. "We try to peak at championship-meet time, so I'm very optimistic that we haven't seen his best performances yet."

Last Thursday, Russell also tied the 100-meter mark of 10.75 seconds. The only record he's set out to break, and not broken, this year is the 200-meter standard.

But there are other goals to work toward, too, like helping to defend the Leafs' NCIC championship and perhaps fight for a Class AA sectional title.

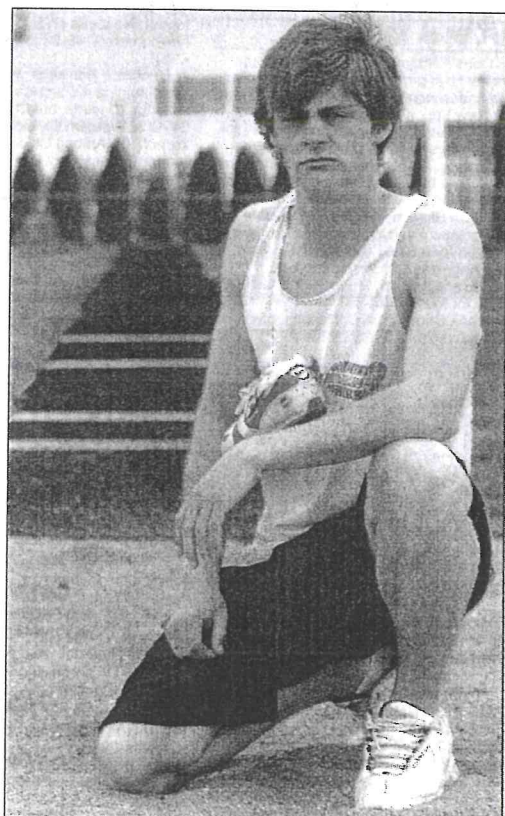
"I've been having a lot of fun this year, not just for myself but also with all my teammates. We've got a really good team back this year, possibly even better than last year's was," said Russell.

And there's the possibility of a better AA state meet experience than the one he had last year. At Charleston, he beat only two out of 41 long jump competitors. He was also part of a 400-meter relay team that would have made finals if only it had been in another heat. IHSA rules advance all heat winners, regardless of time, to the finals, leaving the Leafs to watch a slower team earn medals they could have won.

"What I took from that experience was that I needed to get better, that the team needed to get better," said Russell. "I used that as motivation."

"Last year, I didn't have a routine down. This year, I have superstitions about everything. I wear the same shirt, shorts, same Under Armour, same jersey. I warm up exactly the same every time now. At least now, it feels like I'm doing it my way."

Doing it his way could lead to more records, and more family quests to pursue.



John Greenwood / staff

Shaun Russell, Geneseo's top track and field long jumper, is this week's Metro Pacesetter. He broke a 35-year-old school record in the long jump last week against Galesburg.

### ► In running

► **Chad Harris, UT:** Was 6-for-10 at the plate, with three doubles and four RBIs, as well as a relief stint on the mound that led to a win in the Panthers' doubleheader sweep over Alleman.

► **Genesis Johnson, RI:** Won three events and was just .02 shy of a fourth win, leading Rocky to a half-point win over Fremd in the Rock Island Invitational girls' track and field meet.

► **Justin Tigerman & Nick Goodknight, Alleman:** Won all of their singles matches in leading the Pioneer tennis team to first place at the St. Bede Invitational.

► **Travis Mighell, Geneseo:** In three games, was 9-for-13 at the plate with eight runs scored, a grand slam and 11 RBIs.