

Maple Leafs eye first NCIC boys track title since

since 1945

By Keith Brake
Staff sports writer

GENESEO — You might be the slowest kid on two feet, or something less than a hairy behemoth, but if you improve your time or distance, even just a little bit, you can bet Geneseo coach Don Fredericks will notice — and make you feel good about it.

The thing is, most of the "hurryin' hundred" Fredericks has out for boys' track at Geneseo aren't slow — not this year.

The last — and only — NCIC boys track championship for Geneseo came back in 1945. Some of those guys have wondered — with good reason — if they'll live to see the Leafs do it again. They may.

The Leafs may not be talent-deep in all areas, but there appear to be few holes in their lineup as they go after talented Sterling and oncoming Ottawa in this spring's NCIC chase.

High jumper Todd Akers already has made news (with a pair of 6-6

jumps will place in most meets, but the NCIC long has been the state's best in this event; Ottawa vaulter Greg Fenza has been over 16 feet already.

Fredericks has been pleasantly surprised by what the Leafs are doing in the weight events. Senior Steve Nitz has sailed the discus 146 feet; junior transfer Derick Allen has sailed the plate 142 feet. Senior Curt Seel has put the shot 48 feet; Allen threw 46 feet as a sophomore.

Geneseo has six potential sub-two-minute half-milers, thinks Fredericks. They include Mike Haars, Phil Walsh, Mike Morris, Brad Baker, Adam Boardman and Christian Michaelson. Baker sizzled to a 4:34.17 indoor mile this spring.

Steve Fleming, a terror in the sprints as a sophomore, missed his junior season after pulling a hamstring in an indoor meet. He's back and will be pushed by baseball crossover Ben Mayes, a sophomore.

Senior Steve Zobrist is Geneseo's top hurdler. He has a solid 15.7 to his credit in the highs. Sophomore Chad Blunt has been erasing Jim Varga's school records up to this point in his career, and figures to team with Zobrist to give the Leafs their traditional one-two punch in the hurdles with help in the lows from senior Mark Reade.

Bud Bennington and Todd Smith figure to boost Geneseo in the sprint relays.

Fredericks thinks Ted Leamen will flirt with the school record over 400 meters, and will be pushed by Tyrone Jackson.

Walsh has been Geneseo's top man in the distances for three years, and Baker and sophomore Jason VanVooren will be right in there, too.

"The short sprints are a question mark for us," said Fredericks. "Otherwise, top to bottom, we look solid. And this team wants the NCIC meet badly."



Mike Haars

Mike Morris

leaps) and will make more. "He's awesome," said Fredericks.

Akers has company in Geneseo's stable. Dean Lewis has been over 6-2 this spring; Mike Campbell went that high last spring. Jay Reed and Don Turner both have cleared 6 feet.

Reed's specialty is the triple jump; he popped a 43-5 effort indoors. He's also the team's best in the long jump. Glenn Klopp has cleared 12 feet in the pole vault; Steve Durick and Todd Erbst have been over 11-6. Those

Sterling defends NCIC boys'

NCIC boys' track title — again

By MIKE RENKES

Gazette Sports Writer

ROCK FALLS — Coach DuWayne Dietz finds his Golden Warriors thrust into their customary role of favorite for Friday's North Central Illinois Conference boys' track meet at Hinders Field following Wednesday's seeding meeting.

Winning the NCIC title is old hat to the Warriors, who have copped the crown 26 times in the 32 years. Dietz has maintained the helm at SHS. The Warriors have won 16 of the last 18 conference meets, Dixon being the last school other than Sterling to win the title. The Dukes won the 1986 edition, but Sterling snatched back the crown last year by a convincing 44-point margin.

In Wednesday's seeding meeting, the Warriors were projected to be finish with 150 points, far ahead of second-place Geneseo. The seeds are based upon the best performance by each entrant in the event with (10-8-6-4-2-1) being the point value for places one through six. The Warriors received seven top seeds to lead the field, while Geneseo and Dixon both grabbed four. The Maple Leafs are projected to score 105 points, while Dixon had an 87 score.

But one thing about seeds, they are based on individual and relay teams' best performances of the season. And the squad Sterling will put on the track Friday is one which is not in peak condition according to its coach.

"With all the illness and injuries we have, consequently we are not as deep as we used to be," Dietz said. "A lot of our kids are going to have to overcome injuries for us to win the meet. And we have to hope the breaks go our way and against

teams like Geneseo, which will be up near the top."

Sterling looks to earn a bundle of points in the sprint events, as last year's 100-, 200- and 400-meter champion, junior Donnie Dittmar, returns top-seeded in all three races. Dittmar's times are :10.9 for the 100 and :51.2 for the 400. His 200-meter time was not available.

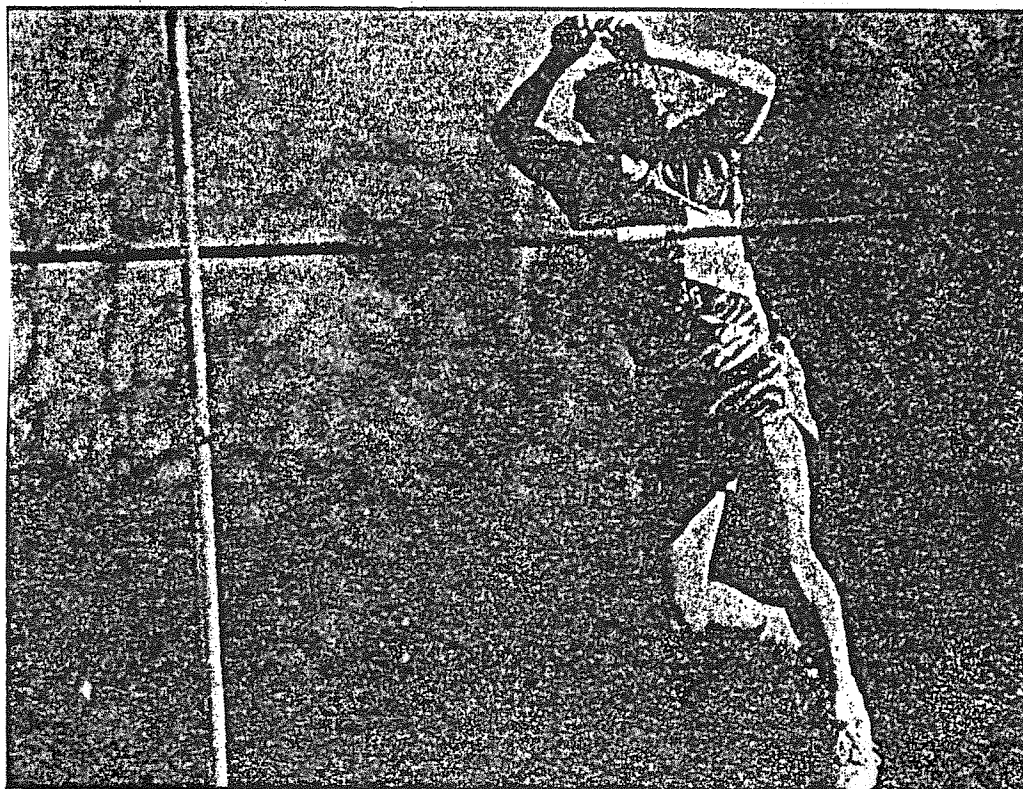
Teammate Tom Van Osdol placed second in the 100 and 200 last year, and is right right behind Dittmar in the seedings. He has a time of :11.1 in the 100-meter dash.

The Warriors' Eric Nicklaus fills the spot behind Dittmar in the 400 meters with a time of :51.2.

"Donnie is probably the top sprinter in the field, and has beaten everyone from the conference he has run against so far," Dietz said.

"Tom (Van Osdol) got a late start because of vacation and basketball but is finally getting into running form. He beat Donnie once this year, in the rain against Dixon, and should do well for us Friday." The Warriors also received top billing in all four relay events. But the time differential between the top teams in each of the relays is small, and how Dietz selects his lineups could tell how many points Sterling scores out of its projected 40.

Outside of the sprints is where Sterling could feel the effects of its injury woes. Four seeded field event people Cory Chatte, Neil Wolfe, Mike Totten and Ken Ronzone are all nursing various leg ailments and will be hard-pressed to reach the distances needed for a high-level finish. Middle distance runner Chris Wilkinson will also be limited to one race, the 800 meters, because of an asthma related ailment.



Kory Kunde, of Sterling, clear 14-feet in the Sterling Relays on April 29. Kunde is seeded second in Friday's NCIC track meet at Rock Falls, as state record holder Greg Fenza, of Ottawa, leading the field with a vault of 17 feet. (Gazette Photo by Brian Hurley).

Chattic and Totten received second and fourth seeds respectively for Sterling in the long jump. Chattic's jump of 21-2½ places 1½ inches behind top-seeded Randy Allen of Princeton. Totten's fourth-seeded jump is 20-10. Totten is also third-seeded in the triple jump with a leap of 43-6, while Wolfe is fourth at 43-3. Jay Reed of Geneseo is top-seeded at 44-7½.

Ronzone is seeded third in the high jump at 6-8½, but because of an ankle injury the senior hasn't gone over 6-4 in recent weeks. Todd Akers, who tied the conference record in 1987 with a 6-8 effort, is top-seeded at 6-11, while Allen has cleared 6-9.

Pole vaulters Marc Gebhardt and Kory Kunde look to fight it out for second behind state record holder Greg Fenza of Ottawa. The Pirate vaulter recently eclipsed his previous Illinois mark of 16-6 by clearing 17-0. The two Warriors have each gone 14-6.

"In events like the pole vault and high jump, we'll be fighting it out for second, because those two kids (Fenza and Akers) should easily win the event," Dietz said. "But it's those second and third places which are important in a meet like this because a couple of those can offset a first place by the other team."

ROCK FALLS

Coach Pat Fortney and his Rock Falls Rockets don't have designs at a run at the top, just an improvement upon last year and a good performance for the home town fans.

In the 1987 meet, Rock Falls took 11th of 12 teams with only five points. Fortney said he'd like to see his team climb into eighth or ninth place and be as competitive as possible on Friday.

Only two Rock Falls runners received point-earning seeds, Jay Ahling going fourth behind Dittmar in the 100-meter dash with a time of :11.3 and Coby Leuschke was

seeded fifth in the long jump with a leap of 20-5½.

"We've been putting the kids into events where we'd be in the position to earn points, be it an individual

event or a relay," Fortney said. "I think it's realistic we can improve from last year. And the kids have been working hard all week towards that."

Leafs seek first title since '45

ROCK FALLS — If Geneseo's boys are to win their first NCIC track and field championship since 1945, they'll have to find a way to break up Sterling's sprint speed.

The Golden Warriors are seeded to go one-two in the dash events as well as win four relays in today's league meet, which got under way this afternoon.

Overall, Sterling seeds out with 140 points to Geneseo's 103 in the 12-team field.

Top-seeded Leafs are Derek Allen in the discus, Todd Akers in the high jump, Jay Reed in the triple jump, and Mike Haars in the 800-meter dash.

Sterling sprint star Donnie Dittmar is favored in all three dashes, with teammate Tom VanOsdol seeded to come in right behind him in two of those events.

Leafs make history

with NCIC victory

By Keith Brake
Staff sports writer

ROCK FALLS — World War II was still going on the last time a Geneseo boys track team won its conference championship.

"Guys," said joyous Maple Leaf coach Don Fredericks Friday night, "this is history!"

The Leafs, with quarter-miler Ted Leamen and hurdlers Steve Zobrist and Mark Reade working some late-meet emotional magic, stunned favored Sterling and captured Geneseo's first NCIC boys track crown since 1945 on a crisp Friday evening.

Geneseo's 126-92 margin over the second-place Golden Warriors represented a whopping 75-point turnaround from the pre-meet seedings. Sterling had been favored to win this meet by a 41-point spread.

What happened? As a team, Geneseo performed better than had been predicted. Sterling did just the opposite.

Geneseo built an expected early lead in the field events, then the Leafs' stronger distance runners struggled to hold off Sterling's supe-



Ted Leamen

Steve Zobrist

rior sprint speed as the meet reached its latter stages. But the Warriors still figured to win, based on seeds, until the 400-meter dash, where they were looking for a 1-2 finish from Donnie Dittmar and Eric Nicklaus, while Geneseo's Leamen was expected to do no better than sixth. That would have meant an 18-1 point edge for Sterling in that event. But Leamen, a senior, had other ideas.

"Dittmar had beaten me badly last year," said Leamen. "I wanted to get him." Leamen didn't win that battle. But he helped Geneseo to win the war.

Dittmar, who took all three short dashes, won this one in 50.96, holding

off a fast-closing, second-place Leamen (51.54), while Nicklaus didn't get a place finish. "That one was for my family," said Leamen, whose effort allowed Sterling to emerge with just a 10-8 scoring edge in the event. With the knife now stuck in Sterling's tradition, Zobrist and Reade gave it a twist with a 1-3 finish in the 300-meter lows, Zobrist clocking his season's best of 39.61. They had been seeded to finish third and fourth.

The wound was fatal. Leaf senior miller Phil Walsh drained the remaining life from Sterling with a revenge win over favored Rob Dowell of Dixon in the 1,600. Walsh's time: 4:28.43.

Relays were a major swing point in the meet. Sterling had been favored to outscore Geneseo 40-16 in those four events. In reality, Geneseo outscored Sterling, 24-10.

Geneseo high jumper Todd Akers got the night off to a rousing start for the new champs with the only meet record of the evening, a championship 6-8 1/4 effort.

Junior triple jumper Jay Reed turned in a season's best of 45-4 1/4 to

win that event, and Geneseo's 3,200-meter relay team of Adam Boardman, Shawn Alexander, Jason VanVooren and Mike Haars ran 8:12.70 and beat the second place team by five seconds.

Bill Neuleib of Geneseo was a member of the 1945 Leaf/NCIC champs. He won the 100-yard dash, took second in the 220, and was on the winning 880-yard relay team. "But the key, like tonight, was we had guys who placed in every event," said a delighted Neuleib, who sat in the stands and timed races during Friday's meet.

Long after the meet, Sterling coach DuWayne Dietz, who had directed his alma mater to 26 NCIC crowns in the last 32 seasons, reflected on history. "Yeah, I remember that '45 team," said Dietz. "I was a freshman then, and I ran against Geneseo that night."

"This Geneseo team," said Dietz, "is good, and they competed well." "What a thrill, what a thrill!" said Fredericks, before riding off into the night. "This group of seniors looked Sterling's tradition right in the eye and said, No, not this year."

Big effort ends 43-year Geneseo track drought

GENESEO — After last Wednesday night's seeding meeting, Sterling was projected as a 41-point winner over Geneseo in Friday's NCIC boys track meet.

But late Thursday afternoon, the seeds for Friday night's Maple Leaf shocker were sown.

"We had a team meeting, and it was very emotional," said Maple Leaf coach Don Fredericks. "We went through

the meet event by event. We figured out that we could get the job done, but we'd only win it by an event or two."

On the track, the Leafs generated an extraordinary 75-point swing, outpointing the favored Golden Warriors 126-92 to win their first NCIC boys track title since 1945.

"I have pre-meet meetings like this for my cross country teams, and maybe we should do this more often in track, even though it is more difficult to get everyone together," said Fredericks.

"Our group of seniors," said Geneseo's coach, "wanted this (win) very badly."

Akers almost didn't come

Todd Akers, Geneseo's ace senior high jumper, said he came close to staying home. "I haven't felt a bit good for three days, and I don't know what's wrong," said Akers, — shortly after setting a new league record with his 6-8½ jump. Akers wasn't getting good lifting action on most of his jumps, but he had enough in him for two really strong efforts, including the winner.

Junior triple jumper Jay Reed said a comment made by the triple jump judge aided his winning, personal-best effort of 45-4¾. He said the judge commented about staying low on the opening "hop" portion of the event. Lift the leg too high on that hop, says Reed, and you'll end up sacrificing distance.

Something certainly rubbed off on Leaf triple jumper Don Turner. Seeded 15th in the event, Turner grabbed sixth-place points by soaring 41-7½ — his personal best by three feet.



**Keith
Brake**

Area notebook



Todd Akers

Senior hurdler Steve Zobrist, seeded third in the lows and sixth in the highs, won the 300-meter event in 39.61 and was third in the highs at 15.72. Both times were personal bests.

Senior half-miler Mike Haars was seeded first and finished third, but no one was complaining. All he did was turn in a sizzling personal best of 1:58.67, after anchoring the 3,200 relay team to a five-second win in season's best time.

Senior distance ace Phil Walsh ran his personal best of 9:45.86 in the 3,200, only to lose on a lunge to Dixon's Rob Dowell. But in the 1,600, Walsh took over on the back stretch and beat Dowell in 4:28.43.



Steve Zobrist

Sophomore Ben Mayes, seeded seventh in the 200, took third in a quick 23.78.

Dietz' shake seals it

"I can't remember feeling so satisfied," said Fredericks. "But what really made it was the handshake from DuWayne Dietz."

The NCIC title in boys track is a treasured prize for Geneseo because of Dietz and his Sterling squads. In 32 years, his Golden Warriors' record in dual, triangular and quadrangular meets is 300 wins, 17 losses. His teams have won 26 NCIC titles. "One of the top 10 programs in the state," said Fredericks.

"I respect him so much. He's dedicated, plays by the rules, and works hard. He's a winner," said Fredericks.

Nostalgia nook

Events were scored 10-8-6-4-2-1 at Friday's NCIC meet. When Geneseo won in 1945, it went 5-4-3-2-1. Doubling Geneseo's 1945 margin of 62½-46½ over another favored Sterling team, you'd have a 125-93 margin — hauntingly close to Friday's 126-92 Leaf edge.

This title has had a major impact in Geneseo, and members of coach John McCormick's 1945 team have expressed delight that another Leaf team finally pulled it off. With thanks to Bill Neuleib of the 1945 team for providing the stats, here's how it went that fateful afternoon more than 40 years ago:

Team Points — 1, Geneseo 62½. 2, Sterling 46½. 3, Otawa 37. 4, Mendota 18. 5, Princeton 13. 6, Dixon 11. 7, Rock Falls 8. Hall 1.

Geneseo finishers:

120-yard high hurdles — 3, Don Feldman. ("I had it won, then I tripped on the last hurdle and wiped out," said Feldman. "A guy from Sterling I played football against went by and boy, did he razz me!")

220-yard low hurdles — 2, Feldman. 4, James Wachtel.

100 — 1, Neuleib. 2, Jim Bean.

220 — 1, Bean. 2, Neuleib. (Neuleib's converted time in the 100, 11.0, and Bean's in the 200, 22.8, would have

beaten those posted by this year's champ, Sterling's Donnie Dittmar. Those were the only two '45 events that were better, though).

440 — 2, Arnie Fowler. 5, Lars Hemmingson.

880 — 1, Glenn Farrell. 4, Art VanHoutta.

1 Mile — 4, Bill Countryman.

880 relay — 1, Neuleib, Fowler, Wachtel, Bean.

Shot put — 4, Don Minnaert.

Discus — 1, Ed Paxton. 5, Dick Pobanz.

High jump — 2, tie, Paxton.

Pole vault — 2, Bob Brewer and Spencer Fassett.

Geneseo too much for Warriors,

wins NCIC championship

By MIKE RENKES

Gazette Sports Writer

ROCK FALLS — "That handshake probably meant more than anything else tonight," an ecstatic Geneseo Coach Don Frederichs said after receiving one from Sterling mentor DuWayne Dietz following the Maple Leafs' North Central Illinois Conference championship Friday at Hlnders Field.

Forty-five point underdogs to Sterling following Wednesday's seeding meeting, Geneseo proved its on-the-track performance, not paper, wins titles as they racked up 126 points to easily outdistance the Golden Warriors' 92-point total. Dixon ended up right on Sterling's tail for third with 90. The win by Geneseo was only the third time in 19 years someone other than Sterling has won the NCIC.

"We've been pointing to reach our peak these last two weeks of the season," Frederichs said. "And our seed times may have been a little deceiving because we've only run in good weather a couple of times. They came out tonight and did a great job; it's quite a thrill for me and the whole team."

The Maple Leafs earned five firsts and 14 top-three places in the meet. Sterling's only three wins came via the legs of junior Donnie Dittmar, who swept the 100, 200 and 400-meter sprints for the second consecutive year. The Golden Warriors earned top three points in eight events overall.

"Maybe it was just Friday the 13th, but tonight was not our night," Dietz said. "It seems whatever could go wrong tonight did. We had a few people not run as well as they could and we dropped a couple of batons. We could not expect Donnie and Tom (Van Osdol) to carry us."

Following the completion of all but one of the field events, Geneseo as expected, held a 35-20 lead over Sterling, which stood third. The Maple Leafs earned first places from Todd Akers in the high jump and Jay Reed in the triple jump to accumulate most of the points.

Akers, who has cleared 6-11, set a conference standard at 6-8¾. The Warriors' Ben Wolf finished fifth at 6-2, while SHS record holder Ken Ronzone continued to struggle with an ankle injury, taking sixth with a 6-2 finish. Reed won the triple jump with a school record 45-4¾ effort, while SHS's Neal Wolfe was third at 43-2¼.

Kory Kunde took second in the pole vault as he tied his personal best at 14-6. Greg Fenza of Ottawa took top honors at 15-0, far below his state record height of 17-0 set at Ottawa two weeks ago. The Golden Warriors' Marc Gebhardt took fifth with a 13-0 jump, as the vault finished long after the other field events.

The Golden Warriors may have missed on some long jump points, as sophomore Cory Chattie did not participate in the meet. A victim of illness and injury throughout the second half of the season, Chattie, who was seeded second in the long jump and could have been a key relay member for the Warriors.

Entering the NCIC meet, Sterling expected to achieve its win with success in the sprints and relay events. Its sprinters came through, living up to five of their six top two seeds. The relay teams did not as they earned only one third and one fourth place finish after receiving top billing in all four relay events.

Dittmar and junior Van Osdol earned 36 points with one-two finishes in the 100 and 200-meters. Dittmar took the 100 meters in :11.17 and posted a winning time of :22.84 for 200meters. Van Osdol had times of :11.48 and :23.57 for the two races in following Dittmar across the tape.

Dittmar later added a :50.96 in winning the 400 meters, but a second place finish by Ted Lehman of Geneseo sewed up the title for the Maple Leafs. Sterling's second-seeded Eric Nicklaus failed to place in the event.

"What can you say about Donnie Dittmar, he's in a position to do something no one has never done



Donnie Dittmar (above right) and Tom Van Osdol share in their 1-2 finish in the 100-meter dash finals while Neal Wolfe shows the form that earned him a third-place finish at Friday night's triple jump competitions. (Gazette photos by Brian Hurley)

before in sweeping the conference sprints three years in a row," Dietz said. "Tom Van Osdol also ran well for us, as did Eric Nicklaus and Chris Wilkinson, who was bothered by athletic induced asthma. But sometimes things don't go your way in high school athletics, and that's what happened tonight."

The relays were a nightmare for Sterling, earning only 10 of a projected 40 points. In the 400 meters, a botched handoff cost Sterling at least eight points. This also stemmed Sterling's momentum in making a run at Geneseo.

A similar baton drop in the 1600-

meter relay also cost Sterling points, but occurred after Geneseo had clinched the title.

"We don't have the depth like we used to have 10 years ago and it affects us on our relay teams," Dietz said. "The kids we had out here tonight gave it all they had. But Geneseo has a good team and was able to go deeper than we were. They deserved to win tonight."

For the host Rockets, Coach Pat Fortney was pleased with his team's performance, jumping from 11th in 1987 to ninth Friday. Coby Leuschke accounted for most of the improvement with a 21-24 winning



effort in the long jump. Seeded fifth in the event, Leuschke exceeded his personal best by over a foot in earning 10 points for the Rockets.

Rock Falls finished the meet with 13 points as Jay Ahling adding a sixth-place finish in the 100 meters and a fifth-place effort in the 400-

meter relay.

"I was very pleased with Coby today, and it feels great to have a conference champion in Rock Falls," Fortney said. "The 400-meter relay team turned in its best effort of the year, and I'm pleased with the improvement we made as a team."

NCIC title nabbed

ic • Page 6

after 43 years

It is said history repeats itself; sometimes sooner, sometimes later. In the Leaf harrier's case it was later -- 43 years later -- before the team reclaimed the title of NCIC champion.

"Guys, this is history!" the Leaf coach stated to his harriers following the win. The last team to take the conference was in 1945.

The Leafs raked in 126 points to overpower the field during NCIC competition Friday, May 13 in Rock Falls. Sterling held second with 92 points followed by Dixon, 90 points.

After the seeding meeting, Sterling was projected as a 41-point winner over Geneseo. Last year the Leafs took second to Sterling, 139-95, a 54 point difference. This year the Leafs turned the tables, outscoring Sterling by 34 points.

Coach Don Fredericks met with his team Thursday night prior to the conference meet. "We had a team meeting and it was very emotional," the coach stated.

"We went through the meet event by event. We figured out that we could get the job done, but we'd only win it by an event or two."

Geneseo's high jumper Todd Akers got the team rolling with a new conference record at 6'8-1/4". It was the only meet record for the night. Junior triple jumper Jay Reed marked a season best of 45'4-3/4" to win his event. It was not only his season best but was also a new school record for the Leafs.

Akers almost didn't set the new conference record. "I haven't felt a bit good for three days and I don't know what's wrong," the senior jumper stated after reaching the record-setting height.

Akers cleared 6'11" during the Geneseo Quadrangular May 3.

Reed attributed his jump to a judge's comment. He said the judge commented about staying low on the opening "hop" portion of the event. Lift the leg too high on that hop, Reed quoted the judge as saying, and you'll end up sacrificing distance.

In addition to the high jump and triple jump, three other events also claimed firsts for the day.

Adam Boardman, Shawn Alexander, Jason VanVooren and Mike Haars combined efforts in the 3200 relay for a first place time of 8:12.8. Steve Zobrist took the 300 low hurdles in 39.61 for the first-place ribbon while Phil Walsh covered the 1600 meter track in 4:28.5 for first.

Geneseo placed in the top six finishers for all but two of the 18 events.

Geneseo built an expected early lead in the field events, then the Leafs' stronger distance runners struggled to hold off Sterling.

Ted Learnen was expected to do no better than sixth in the 400 meter dash but showed spectators what he was made of with a second place finish in 51.54.

"Donnie Dittmar had beaten me badly last year," Learnen stated. "I wanted to get him." Learnen didn't quite get the job done, Dittmar winning in 50.96, but he still aided in the Leafs' victory.

Relays were the major factor in the meet. Sterling had been favored to outscore Geneseo 40-16 in those four events where Geneseo went against the odds to outscore Sterling, 24-10.

Don Turner also placed within the top six finishers in the triple jump event while

Don Turner also placed within the top six finishers in the triple jump event while Derek Allen took fifth in the shot put, the only Leaf finishing in this event.

Leafs took third and fifth places in the discus with Allen hurling a third-place throw followed by Steve Nitz in fifth. Mark Reade also claimed a third in the low hurdles.

Dean Lewis joined Akers in the high jump with a fourth place finish at 6'4" Princeton and Hall split the second place finish at the same height.

Steve Durick also placed for Geneseo, earning sixth in the pole vaulting event.

The 400 relay team of Bud Bennington, Zobrist, Ben Mayes and Steve Fleming held the bronze medal position for the Leafs. The group clocked in at 44.79 behind Hall, 44.5 and Dixon, 44.73.

Walsh and Dowell of Dixon battled it out in the 3200 meter race with Dowell taking the tape, 9:45.7. Walsh clipped him in second at 9:45.9. The two reversed the finish in the 1600 with Walsh claiming the victory, 4:28.5 followed by Dowell at 4:30.4.

Zobrist covered the 110 high hurdles in 15.72 for a third place finish while Haars and Morris went three and four in the 800 run.

Bennington teamed with Chad Blunt, Ben Mayes and Steve Fleming for the 800 relay and a fifth place finish.

Geneseo placed third in two more events. Mayes took the honor in the 200 meter dash while the 1600 meter relay also finished in third. Members of the 1600 relay team were Mark Reade, Morris, Haars and Leamen.

Jason VanVooren earned sixth place in the 1600 meter run to finish out the Leaf scoring.

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Team Points

1 Geneseo 126, 2 Sterling 92, 3 Dixon 90, 4 Princeton 64, 5 tie, Hall and Ottawa 55, 7 Mendota 29, 8 LaSalle-Peru 19, 9 Rock Falls 13, 10 Rochelle 10, 11 Kewanee 5, 12 Streator 0.

Summary

Discus — 1. Brad Chalus, Ottawa, 147'2", 3 Derek Allen, Geneseo, 146'6 1/2", 5. Steve Nitz, 138'3"

Long jump — 1. Colby Leuschke, Rock Falls, 21'2 3/4"

Shot put — 1. Brad Chalus, Ottawa, 51'7 1/4", 5 Derek Allen, Geneseo, 47'6 1/4"

Triple jump — 1. Jay Reed, Geneseo, 45'4 3/4", 6 Don Turner, Geneseo, 41'7 1/2"

3,200 relay — 1. Geneseo (Adam Boardman, Shawn Alexander, Jason VanVooren, Mike Haars), 8:12.78

High Jump — 1. Todd Akers, Geneseo, 6'8 1/4" (meet record), 4. Dean Lewis, 6'4"

400 relay — 1. Hall, 44.44, 3. Geneseo, 44.79

3,200 — 1. Rob Dowell, Dixon, 9:45.69; 2. Phil Walsh, Geneseo, 9:45.86; 6. Brad Baker, Geneseo, 10:27.21.

110 high hurdles — 1. Luke Dixon, Dixon,

15:23; 3. Steve Zobrist, Geneseo, 15.72.

100 — 1. Donnie Dittmar, Sterling, 11.17

800 — 1. Aaron Arne, Rochelle, 1:57.68; 3.

Mike Haars, Geneseo, 1:58.67; 4. Mike Morris, Geneseo, 2:02.28.

800 relay — 1. Princeton, 1:32.80, 5. Geneseo, 1:34.71

Pole vault — 1. Greg Fenza, Ottawa, 15'0", 6 Steve Dunck, Geneseo, 12'0"

400 — 1. Donnie Dittmar, Sterling, 50.96, 2. Ted Leamen, Geneseo, 51.54.

300 hurdles — 1. Steve Zobrist, 39.61, 3. Mark Reade, Geneseo, 40.18

1,600 — 1. Phil Walsh, Geneseo, 4:28.43; 6. Jason VanVooren, Geneseo, 4:38.23.

200 — 1. Donnie Dittmar, Sterling, 22.84, 3. Ben Mayes, Geneseo, 23.78

1,600 relay — 1. Princeton, 3:27.85; 3. Geneseo, 3:31.13

FROM THE MAY 1888 FILES OF THE GENESEO REPUBLIC

The calendar spring begins March 1, the astronomical spring begins several weeks later, the real spring begins when it gets ready. --Omaha World

Conference champs

For the first time since 1945, the Geneseo boy's track team has won the NCIC crown. These Leafs helped key the victory by winning their events. They are, from the left; Shawn Alexander (3200 relay), Todd Akers (high jump, set conference record), Adam Boardman (3200 relay), Steve Zobrist (300 low hurdles), Jay Reed (triple jump, set school record), Phil Walsh (one mile run), Jason VanVooren (3200 relay) and Mike Haars (3200 relay).

Sectional will be Friday, May 20 at Rock Island.

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Frosh-soph harriers finish third in NCIC

Geneseo's frosh-soph tracksters finished a solid third during the NCIC track meet in Rock Falls Friday, May 13.

La Salle-Peru tallied 98 points followed by Princeton, 86, to pass up Geneseo who tallied just 61 points.

Last year the frosh-soph placed fourth to Ottawa, Mendota and LP.

"LP and Princeton had all their top frosh-soph in this meet, not in varsity competition," Coach Don Fredericks stated in defense of the strong third place tally.

However, the Leafrosh handed over Ben Mayes, Jason VanVooren, Chad Blunt and Adam Boardman to the varsity team, which took the conference title.

Geneseo took two of the day's events. Dave Evans took his 39'3-1/4" triple jump to the winner's circle. Kewanee's Goreth was his closest competition with a second place distance of 38'6-1/2".

Chad Loucks, Brad Diericx, Andy Hahn and Ryan Verbeck claimed first in the 800 relay, 1:37.02. Ottawa clipped their heels, taking second in 1:37.4.

The Leafrosh placed in the top six finishers in 12 of the 18 events. This includes the two gold-medal honors.

Diericx was two inches shy of a first place tie in the long jump, earning second at 20'1/4". Evan also competed and took fourth for the Leafrosh.

Glenn Klopp cleared 13' in the pole

vaulting event to set a new Geneseo sophomore record. At the NCIC meet, the height earned him a third but was the same as second place Bohler of Ottawa. Ottawa's Pries cleared 13'6" for first.

Another tie for Geneseo occurred with Steve Campbell in the high jump. Campbell marked 5'4" as did Owen of Mendota and Pries of Ottawa, all for fifth place. Streater's jumper Homer also marked 5'4" for fourth.

Justin VanVooren, Brian Walsh, Jim Henderson and Mike Bell formed the 3200 relay which placed second to Sterling.

The 800 relay foursome of Loucks, Diericx, Hahn and Verbeck took second to LP in the 400 relay.

Verbeck earned fourth in the 100 meter dash while Walsh held fifth in the 800 meter race.

Geneseo's 1600 relay team of VanVooren, Joe Rogers, Diericx and Harder took the silver behind Princeton while Harder also took a third in the 400 meter.

Verbeck and Loucks went five and six in the 200 meter dash to finish out Geneseo's scoring.

Frosh-Soph Team Points

1. LaSalle-Peru 96, 2. Princeton 86, 3. Geneseo 78, 4. Ottawa 61, 5. Rochelle 59, 6. Sterling 45, 7. Kewanee 32, 8. Mendota 30, 9. Dixon 24, 10. Rock Falls 19, 11. Streater 18, 12. Hall 8

Winners, Geneseo Place Finishers

Triple jump — 1. Evans, G. 39'3-1/2"

Shot put — 1. Carson, P. 45'5-3/4"

girls work for

Geneseo's scoring.

Frosh-Soph Team Points

1 LaSalle-Peru 96; 2 Princeton 86; 3 Geneseo 78; 4 Ottawa 61; 5 Rochelle 59; 6 Sterling 45; 7 Kewanee 32; 8 Mendota 30; 9 Duron 24; 10 Rock Falls 19; 11 Streator 18; 12 Hall 8

Winners, Geneseo Place Finishers

Triple jump — 1. Evans, G. 39'3-1/2"

Shot put — 1. Carson, P. 45'5-3/4"

Long jump — 1. Turczyn, L.P. 20'2-1/4"; 2. Derick, G.; 4. Evans, G.

High jump — 1. Griswold, P. 5'10"; 5. tie. Campbell, G.

Pole vault — 1. Pres, O. 13'6"; 3. Klopp, G.

Discus — 1. Peterson, P. 126'3"

3,200 relay — 1. Sterling, 8:52.14; 2. Geneseo

400 relay — 1. LaSalle-Peru, 1:45.23; 2. Geneseo

3,200 — 1. Almaraz, L.P. 10:21.46

110 high hurdles — 1. Rodriguez, Rochelle, 16.43.

100 — Britt, R.F. 11.46; 4. Verbeck, G.

800 — 1. Vickery, K. 2:01.13; 5. Walsh, G.

800 relay — 1. Geneseo (Loucks, Dierick, Hahn, Verbeck), 1:37.02

400 — 1. McConnell, L.P. 51.39; 3. Harder, G.

300 low hurdles — 1. Turczyn, L.P. 42.2

1,600 — 1. Vickery, K. 4:37.32

200 — 1. McConnell, L.P. 23.19; 5. Verbeck, G.; 6. Loucks, G.

1,600 relay — 1. Princeton, 3:37.62; 2. Geneseo.

NCIC (at Rock Falls) 5/13/88 Perfect Count

Team Scores: 1) Gen 126 2) Sterling 92 3) Dix 90 4) Pin 64 5) Ott 55
and Hall 55 7) Meadow 29 8) L.P. 19 9) R.F. 13 10) Rock 10 11) Kew 5 12) St

Shot (5th) Allen 47-6 1/4 Seei 45-10

Disc (3rd) Allen 146-6 1/2 (5th) Nitz 138-3

HJ (1st) Akers 6-8 1/4 (NCR) (4) Lewis 6-4

PV (6th) Durick 12-0 Erbist 10-0

TJ (1st) Reed 45-4 3/4 (NSR) (45-0) (42-4) (6) Turner 41-7 1/2

LS : Edwards 17-10 Jackson 17-10

8:12.8 3200 Rel (1st) Boardman 2:02.9 (59) Alexander 2:06.9 (60) VanVooren 2:02.5 (58) Haars 2:00.7 (56)

44.79 400 Rel (3rd) Bennington 11.58 Zobrist 11.16 Mayer 11.46 Fleming 10.1

3200 : (2nd) Walsh 9:45.9 68-2:19-3:32-4:49-6:06-7:25-8:39 →

(6th) Baker 10:27.3 68-2:19-3:34-4:50-6:10-7:34-9:02 →

110 HJ (3rd) Zobrist 15.72 (16.06 pre) Blunt 16.72 pre

100 : Mayer 11.99 - 11.85 Smith 12:08 - 11.87

800 (3rd) Haars 1:58.7 (57) (4th) Morris 2:02.3 (58)

1:34.71 800 Rel (5th) Bennington 24.81 Blunt 23.47 Mayer 23.78 Fleming 22.3

400 (2nd) Leamen 51.54 Wachtel 54.54

300 L.H. (1st) Zobrist 39.61 (3rd) Reade 40.16

1600 (1st) Walsh 4:28.5 (64-2:13-3:24) (6th) VanVooren 4:38.3 (65-2:17-3:24)

200 (3rd) Mayer 23.78 25.02 24.07 Smith 24.99

3:31.13 1600 Rel (3rd) Reade 52.3 Morris 52.86 Haars 53.2 Leamen 52

NCIC CHAMPIONS

* First time since 1945

NCIC (at Rock Falls) 5/13/88 Conditions: 76' Perfect

Team Scores: 1) Geneseo 126 2) Sterling 92 3) Dixon 90
4) Princeton 64 5) Ottawa 55 & Hall 55 7) Mendota 29
8) LaSalle-Peru 19 9) Rock Falls 13 10) Rochelle 10
11) Kewanee 5 12) Streator 0

Long Jump: 1. Lueschke (RF) 21-2 3/4 2. Allen (Pr) 20-10 3/4
3. Noll (Ha) 20-9 1/2 4. Totten (Ster) 20-8 1/2
5. Harsted (Ot) 20-3 6. Andruniak (Men) 20-3

Triple Jump: 1. J. Reed (Gen) 45-4 3/4 2. McAdams (Hall) 43-8 1/4
3. Wolfe (Ster) 43-2 1/2 4. Allen (Prin) 42-2 1/2
5. Totten (Ster) 42-1 6. Turner (Gen) 41-7 1/2

Shot Put: 1. Chalus (Ott) 51-7 1/4 2. Lawton (Dix) 50-0
3. Musgrove (Men) 49-10 4. Frazier (Ster) 49-1 1/2
5. Allen (Gen) 47-6 1/4 6. Lewis (Prin) 47-1

Discus: 1. Chalus (Ott) 147-2 2. Musgrove (Mend) 146-11 1/4
3. Allen (Gen) 146-6 1/2 4. Lawton (Dix) 141-6 1/4
5. Nitz (Gen) 138-3 6. Howard (Prin) 134-7 3/4

High Jump: 1. Akers (Gen) 6-8 1/4 NCR 2. Allen (Prin) & Brittian (Ha)
6-4 4. Lewis (Gen) 6-4 5. Wolf (Ster) 6-2 6. Ronzone
(Ster) 6-2

Pole Vault: 1. Fenza (Ott) 16-0 2. Kunde (Ster) 14-6 3. Sly (Ott)
14-6 4. Wahlgren (Prin) 14-0 5. Gebhardt (Ster) 13-0
6. Durick (Gen) 12-0

3200 Relay: 1. Geneseo 8:12.8 (Boardman, Alexander, VanVooren, Haars)
2. Princeton 8:17.4 3. Sterling 8:23.1 4. LaSalle-
Peru 8:29.0 5. Hall 8:41.4 6. Mendota 8:42.2

400 Relay: 1. Hall 44.5 2. Dixon 44.73 3. Geneseo 44.79
(Bennington, Zobrist, Mayes, Fleming) 4. Princeton 45.08
5. Rock Falls 45.11 6. Ottawa 45.32

3200: 1. Dowell (Dix) 9:45.7 2. Walsh (Gen) 9:45.9 3. Piercy (Ot)
9:47.0 4. Schennum (Prin) 9:54.2 5. Kemp (Kew) 10:13.3
6. Baker (Gen) 10:27.3

110 High Hurdles: 1. Dixon (Dix) 15.23 2. Bickett (Hall) 15.46
3. Zobrist (Gen) 15.72 4. Wolf (Ster) 16.00
5. Osednick (Men) 16.02 6. Snyder (Dix) 16.62

100: 1. Dittmar (Ster) 11.17 2. VanOsdol (Ster) 11.48 3. Heaton
(Dix) 11.60 4. Harsted (Ott) 11.70 5. Gusse (Dix) 11.91
6. Ahling (RF) 11.95

800: Arne (Roch) 1:57.7 2. Baldwin (LP) 1:58.5 3. Haars (Gen)
1:58.7 4. Morris (Gen) 2:02.3 5. Detrick (Kew) 2:02.5
6. Nelson (Kew) 2:02.8

NCIC (at Rock Falls) 5/13/88 Cond: Perfect 28

Team Scores: 1) L.P. 98 2) Princeton 86 3) Geneseo 61 4) Rochelle 59
5) Sterling 45 6) Kewanee 32 7) Mendota 30 8) Dixon 24 9) Rock Falls 19
10) Streator 18 11) Hall 8 12) Ottawa 0

Shot Swanson 34-7 1/4 Walker 34-7

Disc McAvooy 105-6 Harder 98-6

HJ ⁽¹²⁻⁰⁾ ⁽¹²⁶⁾ Campbell 5-4 Evans 5-4

PV ^(3rd) Klopp 13-0 (NSoph Rec) Lawrence 10-6

TJ ^(1st) Evans 39-3 1/4 McAvooy 34-10

LJ ^(2nd) Dierick 20-0 1/4 (19-8) ^(4th) Evans 18-10 1/4

9:03.2 3200 Rel ^(2nd) VanDooren ⁽⁶¹⁾ 2:14.2 Walsh ⁽⁶³⁾ 2:09.8 Henderson ⁽⁶⁵⁾ 2:16.7 Bell ⁽⁶⁵⁾ 2:22.6

46.09 400 Rel ^(2nd) Loucks 11.85 Dierick 11.45 Hahn 11.65 Verbeck 11.09

3200 Glass Dropped Out 71-2:33-3:55-5:22 (was ill and coach pulled Bryan off)

Radicic 11:43.3 77-2:45-4:14-5:56-7:18-8:51-10:21 →

110 H.H. McAvooy 18.60 Bush 19.36

100 ^(4th) Verbeck 11.97 12.39 11.83 Loucks 12.37 12.10

800 ^(5th) Walsh 2:11.5 (63) VanDooren 2:12.3 (63)

1:37.02 800 Rel ^(1st) Loucks 24.27 Dierick 24.72 Hahn 24.08 Verbeck 23.45

400 ^(3rd) Harder 54.2 Rogers 56.55

300 L.H. Bush 44.43 McAvooy 45.45

1600 Glass 5:09 66-2:28-3:50 Henderson 5:13 73-2:33-3:53

200 ^(5th) Verbeck 24.73 24.91 24.90 ^(6th) Loucks 24.82 25.3 24.77

3:46.77 1600 Rel ^(2nd) VanDooren 56.75 Rogers 57.50 Dierick 58.07 Harder 55

Solid 3rd in NCIC

REMBER

...L.P. and Princeton had all
their top FIS. in this meet (Not var) -
w/ Mayer, Blunt, VanDooren, + Boardman you guys win eq

NCIC FROSH/SOPH RESULTS

1988

1.	L-P	98
2.	Princeton	86
3.	Geneseo	78
4.	Ottawa	61
5.	Rochelle	59
6.	Sterling	45
7.	Kewanee	32
8.	Mendota	30
9.	Dixon	24
10.	Rock Falls	19
11.	Streator	18
12.	Hall	8

3200 Meter Relay

1.	Sterling	8:52.14
2.	Geneseo	9:03.18
3.	Rock Falls	9:16.68
4.	Ottawa	9:18.73
5.	Princeton	9:24.70
6.	Mendota	9:26.49

400 Meter Relay

1.	L-P	45.23
2.	Geneseo	46.09
3.	Ottawa	46.23
4.	Mendota	46.70
5.	Princeton	46.99
6.	Rochelle	47.00

3200 Meter Run

1.	Almaraz	L-P	10:21.43
2.	Spanglar	Dixon	10:26.87
3.	Mitchell	Rochelle	10:30.62
4.	Swim	Dixon	10:34.62
5.	Patterson	Princeton	10:35.97
6.	Harrington	Sterling	10:39.94

110 Meter High Hurdles

1.	Rodriquez	Rochelle	16:43
2.	Turczyn	L-P	16:86
3.	Foley	Princeton	17:05
4.	Cobles	Ottawa	17:63
5.	Allen	Princeton	17:87
6.	Reed	Ottawa	18:29

100 Meter Dash

1.	Britt	Rock Falls	11:46
2.	McConnell	L-P	11:78
3.	Horner	Streator	11:91
4.	Verbeck	Geneseo	11:97
5.	Tunget	Ottawa	12:02
6.	Boswell	Ottawa	12:38

800 Meter Run

1.	Vickrey	Kewanee	2:01.13
2.	Griswold	Princeton	2:03.32
3.	Almaraz	L-P	2:08.27
4.	Kingland	Sterling	2:09.47
5.	Walsh	Geneseo	2:11.50
6.	Vincent	Princeton	2:12.22

800 Meter Relay

1.	Geneseo	1:37.02
2.	Ottawa	1:37.40
3.	Mendota	1:38.36
4.	Rochelle	1:38.64
5.	Hall	1:40.43
6.	Sterling	1:42.48

400 Meter Dash

1.	McConnell	L-P	51:39
2.	Kessler	Sterling	53:85
3.	Harder	Geneseo	54:20
4.	Griswold	Princeton	54:88
5.	Sisneros	Rochelle	56:14
6.	Taylor	Kewanee	56:29

300 Meter Low Hurdles

1.	Turczyn	L-P	42.20
2.	Rodriquez	Rochelle	42.63
3.	Robinson	Hall	43.18
4.	McCutchan	Princeton	43.38
5.	Herrera	Ottawa	43.60
6.	Allen	Princeton	43.95

1600 Meter Run

1.	Vickrey	Kewanee	4:37.32
2.	Almaraz	L-P	4:41.24
3.	Fitzgerald	Mendota	4:43.60
4.	Spangler	Dixon	4:45.76
5.	Mitchell	Rochelle	4:52.08
6.	Patterson	Princeton	4:53.40

200 Meter Dash

1.	McConnell	L-P	23.19
2.	Horner	Streator	24.06
3.	Long	Rochelle	24.28
4.	Heitter	Rochelle	24.60
5.	Verbeck	Geneseo	24.73
6.	Loucks	Geneseo	24.85

1600 Meter Relay

1.	Princeton	3:37.62
2.	Geneseo	3:46.77
3.	Ottawa	3:47.52
4.	Sterling	3:48.99
5.	Kewanee	3:51.20
6.	Rochelle	3:51.93

Long Jump

1.	Turczyn	L-P	20'2½"
2.	Dierick	Geneseo	20'¼"
3.	Wenzel	Mendota	19'6"
4.	Evans	Geneseo	18'10¼"
5.	Ebenezer	Rock Falls	18'9"
6.	Osborne	Rochelle	18'7½"

Triple Jumps

1.	Evans	Geneseo	39'3½"
2.	Goreth	Kewanee	38'6½"
3.	Lunquist	Rochelle	38'3/4"
4.	Griffin	Princeton	37'11½"
5.	Hopkins	Dixon	37'8½"
6.	Martin	Rock Falls	37'5½"

High Jump

1.	Griswold	Princeton	5'10"
2.	Gerding	Ottawa	5'8"
3.	Isaacson	Princeton	5'6"
4.	Horner	Streator	5'4"
5.	Campbell	Geneseo	5'4"
5.	Owen	Mendota	5'4"
5.	Pries	Ottawa	5'4"

Pole Vault

1.	Pries	Ottawa	13'6"
2.	Bohler	Ottawa	13'0"
3.	Klopp	Geneseo	13'0"
4.	O'Malley	Sterling	12'0"
5.	Schwantes	Sterling	11'0"
6.	Tucker	Princeton	11'0"

Discus

1.	Peterson	Princeton	126'3"
2.	Pearson	Rochelle	124'0"
3.	Rogers	Mendota	123'8"
4.	Reynolds	L-P	123'4"
5.	Burtlow	Sterling	119'5"
6.	Bohm	Sterling	116'5"

Shot Put

1.	Carson	Princeton	45'5 3/4"
2.	Burtlow	Sterling	45'5½"
3.	Stacey	Dixon	44'3½"
4.	Reynolds	L-P	43'8¼"
5.	Rossler	Princeton	41'1"
6.	Smith	Kewanee	40'8¼"

NCIC FROSH/SOPH TRACK RECORDSBOYS

<u>Event</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
3200 Meter Run	Tim Arnett	Geneseo	9:37.6	1983
1600 Meter Run	Dave McTaggart	Rochelle	4:33.0	1977
800 Meter Run	Aaron Arne	Rochelle	1:59.72	1987
400 Meter Dash	John Matthews	Hall	51.3	1976
	Tim Trasper	Rochelle	51.3	1982
200 Meter Dash	Kay Draper	Dixon	22.4	1952
100 Meter Dash	Dave Wade	Streator	11.2	1981
110 Meter High Hurdles	Bob Smith	Kewanee	15.2	1972
300 Meter Low Hurdles	Rick Cheli	Ottawa	40.2	1976
400 Meter Relay	Ettinger, Keime Leopard, Swords	Rock Falls	45.1	1979
800 Meter Relay	Emerick, Tubbs Varga, Mirocha	Geneseo	1:35.0	1983
1600 Meter Relay	Anderson, Gates Neubauer, House	Sterling	3:31.2	1977
3200 Meter Relay	Smith, VanHyfte Renihan, Gomez	Geneseo	8:25.7	1981
Shot Put	Al Meinke	Dixon	54'3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	1977
Discus	Karl Koplin	L-P	146'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	1986
High Jump	Tony Celletti	Rock Falls	6'4"	1982
Pole Vault	Chris Pries	Ottawa	13'6"	1988
Long Jump	Victor Reyes	Sterling	21'8"	1972
Triple Jump	Tim Ettinger	Rock Falls	43'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	1979