

Dixon holds off Geneseo, takes Geneseo boys' invite

By Ryan Dieckman
Staff sports writer

GENESEO — If Friday night's action is any indication, then next week's NCIC boy's track meet should be a dandy.

With three of the top four teams participating at Geneseo's John McCormick Invitational in the annual tuneup for the league showdown in seven days, it came down to the last race on the evening to decide matters.

With Dixon leading by a small margin over conference rivals Kewanee and Geneseo in team points heading into the final 1600 relay event, the Dukes were able to stave off the Maple Leafs and Boilermakers to win their second consecutive title.

"It came down to the end in a really close meet and fortunately we were able to hold them off," smiled Dixon coach Rich Lawton. "This has been a good meet for us since it's a nice setup for conference. We really had some kids step up when they had to."

And if the NCIC meet, hosted by Dixon next Friday, could get any tighter, it will when Sterling, loaded with talented seniors, joins the fray.

Dixon won the trophy with 94 points, followed by Geneseo (86) and Kewanee (84). The next closest competitor was Canton with 57. Other local entries in the 12-team field had Galesburg place sixth (44) and Alleman 11th (15).

The Maple Leafs had many stellar performances with none bigger than senior Jeff Bowling's toss of 55-feet, 1 1/2-inches in the shot. The second-place finish was

his career best and was the second-longest in school history.

"The last couple of weeks, Jeff has had some problems and scratched in five of six throws last week at Pekin," said Leafs weight coach Larry Johnsen on Bowling's troubles in the shot. "But this week, he really went to work and has dealt with some adversity and the reward he got was deserving."



Dave Bopp

Adding to the solid Geneseo efforts was the winning 3200 relay of Dave Bopp, Matt Travis, Wil McCombs and Andy Beuster. Bopp also won the 400 and then was the anchor on the 1600 relay that claimed

gold with members Corey Parrish, Grant Venema and Mike Sundstrom.

"I was a little disappointed in my time (50.74) in the 400, but we trained through it this week," said Bopp.

Rounding out the Leafs' contributions were Parrish's second-place showings in the 110 high hurdles and 300 individual medley; Kyle Reade finished second in the triple jump; Sundstrom third in the 400; and Tim Nelson third in the 3200.

"The kids came out and had an outstanding meet," said Leafs coach Mel Snook. "I'm really proud of them and I think people might do some second-guessing (at the seeding meeting) after looking at the results."

"Bopp" in to 2nd

Dukes edge past Leafs in McCormick

Senior Dave Bopp was a driving force in Genesee's second-place finish at the annual John McCormick Boys Track and Field Invitational on Friday, May 5.

Dixon won the event with 94 points while the Leafs amassed 86 points for second. Kewanee rounded out the top three with 84 points, 20+ more than the rest of the field.

Canton took fourth with 57 points followed by Richwoods, 45, for fifth.

Rounding out the field were Galesburg, 44; Rochelle, 43; Metamora, 33; Ottawa, 30; Princeton, 20; Alleman, 15 and LaSalle-Peru, 10 points.

Bopp earned an individual title with a time of 50.74 in the 400-meter dash to outdistance the field. Adam Faupl of Ottawa took second in 51.10 while Leaf Mike Sunstrom scored third place with a time of 51.94.

Bopp added two more first-place ribbons as a member of the 3200-meter and 1600-meter relay teams.

In the 1200, Bopp teamed with Wil McCombs, Andy Beuster and Matt Travis for a title time of 8:10.84. Dixon's foursome captured second in 8:22.36.

Bopp, Beuster and McCombs were able to defend their title from last year. The trio paired with Chris

Schwigen to win in '99 with a time of 8:20.35.

Cory Parrish, Grant Venema, Sunstrom and Bopp combined for a time of 3:26.52 to breeze into victory in the 1600-meter relay. Dixon registered the second-place time of 3:28.49.

The Leafs were also boosted by four second-place ribbons in the Genesee invite.

Parrish took the silver in both the 110-meter high hurdles and the 300-meter intermediate hurdles for the day.

His time of 14.70 in the high hurdles put him behind Calvin Oppenorth of Galesburg who took first in 14.20. Luke Maurer of Meta-

mora came in third at 15.19. Sunstrom also scored for Genesee, taking fourth in 15:31.

In the intermediate event, Parrish took the course in 39.85 to again take second to Oppenorth who broke the tape in 39.61. The pair finished a comfortable amount of time ahead of the rest of the field as Brad Monk of Dixon took third in 41.32.

Jeff Bowling took second in the shot put with his distance of 55'1.5". Placing on either side of him were Dukes, Nick Byrnes took the title at 57'2" while Dixon's Ryan Matha took third at 52'11".

At the 1999 meet, Bowling won the shot put event with a mark of 53'5.5". However, his distance from this year is his career best and the

second-longest in school history.

Bowling earned a top six finish in the discus event, taking fifth at 142'5". The winner, Kent Williams of Dixon, registered a distance of 156'10" for the title.

Another silver-medal finish was earned for the Leafs by Kyle Reade in the triple jump. The junior-leaper reached 40'11" to fall one inch short of the winning mark of 41' recorded by Albert Greene of Galesburg. Their closest competition came from Matt Edgecomb of L.P. who marked at 39'6".

The Leafs received a fourth place finish from Beuster in the 1600-meter run with his time of 4:37.17. Nie Rogers of Rock Island won in 4:31.83.

The thincads came up with a sixth-place finish in the 800-meter relay event as Andy Thurman, Erik Norin, Aaron Kuban and Alex DePauw crossed the line in 1:36.72. Alleman's contingent finished just ahead of Genesee in 1:35.96. Kewanee's foursome won at 1:32.14.

Tim Nelson registered a bronze-medal finish in the 3200-meter run for the Leafs. His time of 10:00.18 was over eight seconds faster than Nick Hird of Alleman in fourth. The winner, Bergeson of Rochelle, broke the tape in 9:51.

Genesee's 400-meter relay squad of Mike Dietrich, Thurman, Norin and Parrish finished in 45.45 for sixth place. Rock Island's foursome edged out the Leafs with a time of

45.42. The Boilermakers took the tape in 43.84.

Dixon won the '99 McCormick as well. The Leafs, however, improved their mark over last year's event as the '99 team took fourth in the team standings.

The McCormick often serves as a litmus test for the NCC meet since many of the teams competing are members of the league.

The Leafs head to Dixon for the 3 p.m. conference battle this Friday, May 12.

Last year, the team finished third. Parrish won the lone individual title by taking the intermediate hurdles event. Bopp, Beuster, McCombs and Venema teamed for the 3200-meter relay crown.

Sectional competition begins Friday, May 19 in Sterling. The Genesee thincads will be joined by athletes from Dixon, United Township of East Moline, Freeport High School, LaSalle-Peru, Ottawa Township, Princeton, Rochelle, Rock Island High School, Sterling High School and Streator Township in the meet.

In '99, the Leafs finished sixth in the team standings and qualified in three events for the state meet. Justin Fluck represented Genesee in the 3200-meter run after taking first at Sectionals. Bowling was second in the Sectional shot put event for a berth at the Class AA championships.

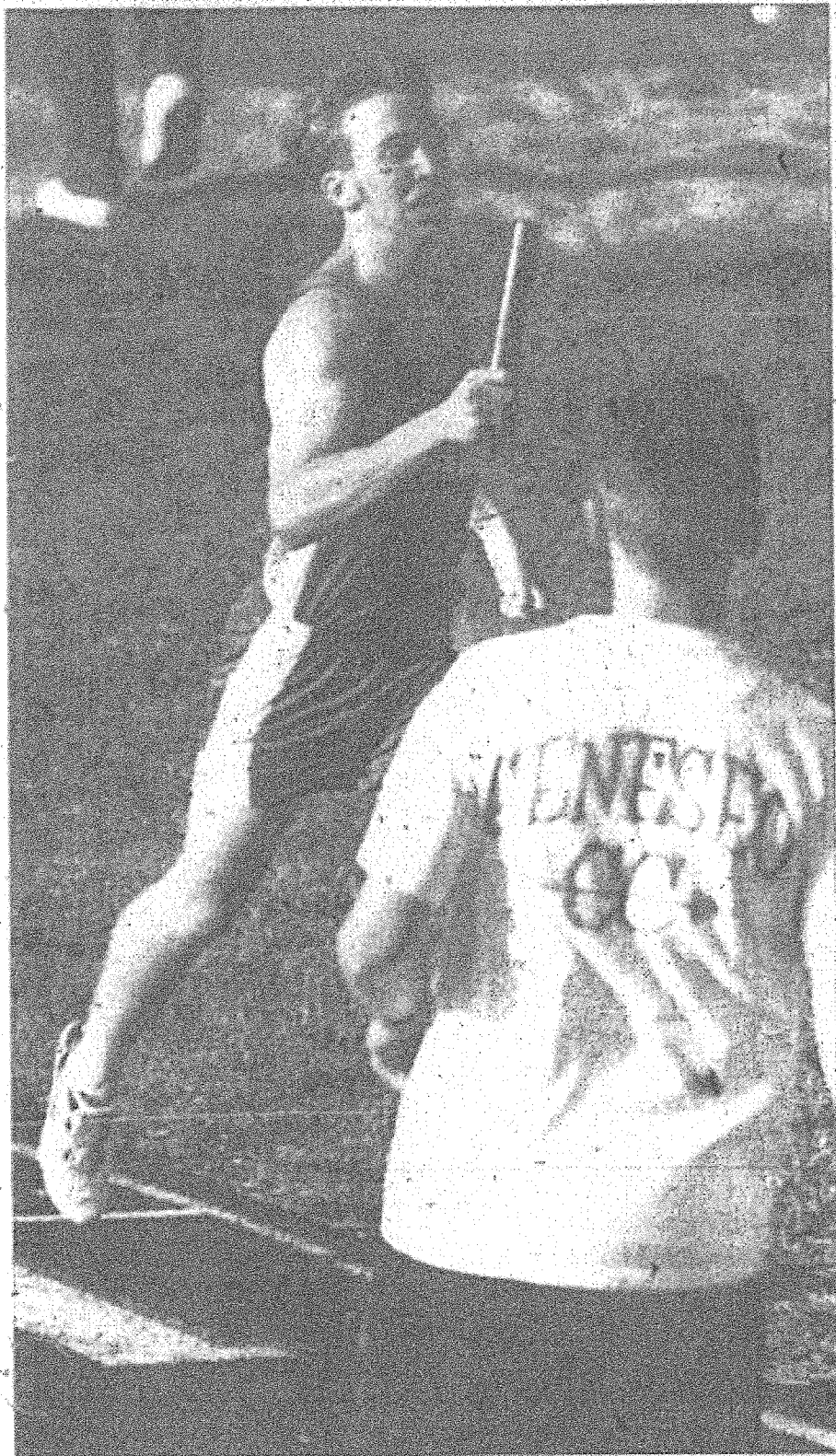
Genesee's 3200-meter relay team took third at Sectionals but bettered the qualifying time for a right at the state competition. Running for the Leafs were Bopp, Mark Keplinger, C. Schwigen and Venema.

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Public photo by Jerry Hahn

Tom Kabatra gives his all in the shot put event at a recent track meet. The Leafs are hosting the John McCormick Invitational on Friday, May 5.



Republic photo by Jerry Hahn

HEY HO, LET'S GO. Geneseo Maple Leaf track member Dave Bopp, left, circles the track at the annual John McCormick Invite on Friday, May 5 while teammate Tim Nelson shouts encouragement.



Republic photo by Jerry Hahn

SANDY LANDING. Mike Dietsch lands his jump during Geneseo's annual John McCormick Invite on Friday, May 5. The Maple Leafs placed second behind Dixon and beat Kewanee and Canton.

Prep boys

Geneseo Invite

Team results

1, Dixon 94. 2, Geneseo 86. 3, Kewanee 84. 4, Canton 57. 5, Richwoods 45. 6, Galesburg 44. 7, Rochelle 43. 8, Metamora 33. 9, Ottawa 30. 10, Princeton 20. 11, Alleman 15. 12, LaSalle-Peru 10.

High jump — 1, Wilke, MT, 6-4. 2, Bral, KW, 6-0. 3, Brosowske, RI, 5-10. 4, Marincio, RI, 5-10. 5, Lotz, MT, 5-8. 6, Edgcomb, LP, 5-8.

Long jump — 1, Powe, K, 21-0. 2, Wright, P, 19-8. 3, Stichek, DX, 19-2. 4, Ayers, C, 19-1. 5, Greene, GA, 18-10. 6, Brooks, C, 18-5.

Triple jump — 1, Greene, GA, 41-0. 2, Reade, GE, 40-9 1/2. 3, Edgcomb, LP, 39-6. 4, Lotz, MT, 39-3. 5, Weigat, KW, 38-10. 6, Moellering, RO, 38-4 1/2.

Pole vault — 1, Jackson, OT, 13-6. 2, Neal, RI, 13-0. 3, Kubiak, OT, 13-0. 4, Lotz, MT, 12-6. 5, Inman, RO, 12-6. 6, Hamilton, MT, 12-6.

Discus — 1, Williams, DX, 156-10. 2, Doldzoe, KW, 155-9. 3, Sheridan, DX, 144-6. 4, Young, RI, 144-3. 5, Bowling, GE, 142-5. 6, Fletcher, LP, 140-2 1/2.

Shot put — 1, Byrnes, DX, 57-2. 2, Bowling, GE, 55-1 1/2. 3, Matha, DX, 52-1 1/2. 4, Campos, RO, 52-3 1/2. 5, Fletcher, LP, 50-9. 6, Shaw, RI, 50-0 1/2.

3200 relay — 1, Geneseo (Bopp, Travis, McCombs, Beuster) 8:10.84. 2, Dixon 8:22.35. 3, Rochelle 8:29.50. 4, Ottawa 8:31.04. 5, Princeton 8:48.94. 6, Kewanee 8:51.53.

400 relay — 1, Kewanee 43:84. 2, Canton 44:21. 3, Dixon 45:00. 4, Princeton 45:33. 5, Richwoods 45:42. 6, Geneseo 45:45.

3200 — 1, Burgeson, RO, 9:51.75. 2, Rogers, RI, 9:55.20. 3, Nelson, GE, 10:00.18. 4, Hird, ALL, 10:08.76. 5, Hardmin, DX, 10:15.88. 6, Mahaffey, KE, 10:26.82.

110 high hurdles — 1, Opgenorth, GA, 14.20. 2, Parrish, GE, 14.70. 3, Maurer, MT, 15.19. 4, Sunstrom, GE, 15.31. 5, Valiere, ALL, 15.63. 6, Ziel, OT, 15.72.

100 — 1, Roth, CA, 10.95. 2, Hooker, GA, 10.98. 3, Bond, KW, 11:02. 4, Rienstra, DX, 11:27. 5, Cowser, RI, 11:28. 6, Davidson, DX, 11:29.

800 — 1, Petty, KE, 1:59.89. 2, Brown, GA, 2:00.18. 3, Coates, DX, 2:00.38. 4, Fletcher, CA, 2:03.79. 5, Donahue, RI, 2:04.16. 6, Lima, RO, 2:04.67.

800 relay — 1, Kewanee 1:32.14. 2, Canton 1:32.28. 3, Dixon 1:34.63. 4, Princeton 1:35.10. 5, Alleman 1:35.96. 6, Geneseo 1:36.72.

400 — 1, Bopp, GE, 50.74. 2, Faupl, OT, 51.09. 3, Sunstrom, GE, 51.93. 4, Rettig, ALL, 52.22. 5, Horner, RO, 52.74. 6, Wheeler, 53.65.

300 intermediate hurdles — 1, Opgenorth, GA, 39:61. 2, Parrish, GE, 39:85. 3, Monk, DX, 41:32. 4, Maurer, MT, 42.36. 5, Hamilton, MT, 42.40. 6, Alba, DX, 42.78.

1600 — 1, Rogers, RI, 4:31.83. 2, Burgeson, RO, 4:34.90. 3, Long, GA, 4:36.02. 4, Beuster, GE, 4:37.17. 5, Hird, ALL, 4:44.20. 6, Bond, DX, 4:44.67.

200 — 1, Powe, KE, 23.14. 2, Roth, CA, 23.20. 3, Bond, DX, 23.37. 4, Rienstra, DX, 23.38. 5, Sweger, RO, 23.62. 6, Walters, OT, 23.93.

1600 relay — 1, Geneseo (Parrish, Grant Venema, Sundstrom, Bopp) 3:26.52. 2, Dixon 3:28.49. 3, Rochelle 3:29.88. 4, Galesburg 3:32.32. 5, Kewanee 3:33.80. 6, Alleman 3:36.39.

John McCormick Invitational

TEAM SCORES

1st place	DIXON	Pts. 94
2nd place	GENESEO	Pts. 86
3rd place	KEWANEE	Pts. 84
4th place	CANTON	Pts. 57
5th place	RICHWOODS	Pts. 45
6th place	GALESBURG	Pts. 44
7th place	ROCHELLE	Pts. 43
8th place	METAMORA	Pts. 33
9th place	OTTAWA	Pts. 30
10th place	PRINCETON	Pts. 20
11th place	ALLEMAN	Pts. 15
12th place	LA SALLE-PERU	Pts. 10
13th place		Pts. _____
14th place		Pts. _____

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John McCormick Invitational
Geneseo, IL
May 5th, 2000

3200m Relay

1.	Bopp, McCombs, Beuster, Travis	GE	8:10.84
2.	Wheeler, Thomas, Kuhn, Cotes	DX	8:22.35
3.	Bergeson, Rainwater, Clark, Lima	RO	8:29.50
4.	Faupl, Causona, Cameron, Shalter	OT	8:31.04
5.	Stoem, Bebej, Maxiener, D. Gray	PR	8:48.94
6.	Taylor, Angelcyk, Trigg, Bitting	KW	8:51.53

400m Relay

1.	Powe, Slusser, Colomer, Bond	KW	43.84
2.	McClelland, Hooker, Roth, Rabe	CA	44.21
3.	Davidson, Smith, Monk, Rienstra	DX	45.00
4.	JONES, Cowser, Paull, Erickson	PR	45.33
5.	James, Daugherty, Okoli, Lanning	RI	45.42
6.	Dietsch, Thurman, Norin, Parrish	GE	45.45

3200m Run

1.	Bergeson	RO	9:51
2.	Nic Rogers	RI	9:55.20
3.	Tim Nelson	GE	10:00.18
4.	Nick Hird	AL	10:08.76
5.	Bob Harden	DX	10:15.88
6.	Jake Mahaffey	KW	10:26.82

110m High Hurdles

1.	Calvin Opgenorth	GA	14.20
2.	Cory Parrish	GE	14.70
3.	Luke Maurer	MT	15.19
4.	Mike Sunstrom	GE	15.31
5.	David Valliere	AL	15.63
6.	Trevin Zeil	OT	15.72

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100m Dash

1.	Craig Roth	CA	10.95
2.	Jason Hooker	CA	10.96
3.	Dan Bond	KW	11.02
4.	Josh Rienstra	DX	11.27
5.	Scott Cowser	PR	11.28
6.	Nate Davidson	DX	11.29

800m Run

1.	Petty	KW	1:59.89
2.	Brown	GA	2:00.18
3.	Coates	DX	2:00.38
4.	Fletcher	CA	2:03.79
5.		PRW	2:04.16
6.	Lima	RO	2:04.67

800m Relay

1.	Powe, Slusser, Colomer, Bond	KW	1:32.14
2.	McClelland, Hooker, Rabe, Roth	CA	1:32.28
3.	Davidson, Smith, Willey, Rienstra	DX	1:34.63
4.	Jones, Cowsall, Paull, Wright	PR	1:35.10
5.	Hendrickx, D. Bahen, P. Bahen, Burgmeier	AL	1:35.96
6.	Thurman, Norin, Kuban, DePauw	GE	1:36.72

400m Dash

1.	Dave Bopp	GE	50.74
2.	Adam Faupl	OT	51.09
3.	Mike Sunstrom	GE	51.93
4.	Mike Rettig	AL	52.22
5.	B. Horner	RO	52.74
6.	Matt Wheeler	DX	53.65

TRIPLE JUMP

1.	Albert Greene	GA	41'00"
2.	Kyle Reade	GE	40'11"
3.	Matt Edgecomb	LP	39'6"
4.	Jeremiah Lotz	MT	39'3"
5.	Nick Welgate	KW	38'10"
6.	Moellering	RO	38'5½"

LONG JUMP

1.	Denniko Powe	KW	21'00"
2.	Matt Wright	PR	19'8"
3.	Stitcher	DX	19'2"
4.	Robert Ayers	Ca	19'1"
5.	Albert Greene	GA	18'10"
6.	Noah Brooks	CA	18'5"

POLE VAULT

1.	Bob Jackson	OT	13'6"
2.	Gabe Neal	RI	13'0"
3.	Kyle Kubiak	OT	13'0"
4.	Jeremiah Lotz	MT	12'6"
5.	Inman	RO	12'6"
6.	Zack Hamilton	MT	12'6"

300m Intermediate Hurdles

1.	Calvin Opgenorth	GA	39.61
2.	Cory Parrish	GE	39.85
3.	Brad Monk	DX	41.32
4.	Luke Maurer	MT	42.36
5.	Zack Hamilton	MT	42.40
6.	Alba	DX	42.78

1600m Run

1.	Nic Rogers	RI	4:31.83
2.	Bergeson	RO	4:34.90
3.	Brian Long	CA	4:36.02
4.	Andy Buester	GE	4:37.17
5.	Nick Hird	AL	4:44.20
6.	Kel Bond	DX	4:44.67

200m Dash

1.	Denniko Powe	KW	23.14
2.	Craig Roth	CA	23.20
3.	Dan Bond	KW	23.37
4.	Josh Rienstra	DX	23.38
5.	Sweger	RO	23.62
6.	Brent Walters	OT	23.93

Big Boy Relay

1.	Richwoods	
2.	Canton	
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		

1600m Relay

1.	Parrish, Venema, Sunstrom, Bopp	GE	3:26.52
2.	Wheeler, Monk, Willey, Cotes	DX	3:28.49
3.	Horner, Lima, Hewitt, Dougherty	RO	3:29.88
4.	Johnson, Opgernoth, Ralston, Brown	GA	3:32.32
5.	Slusser, Trigg, Cruse, Petty	KW	3:33.80
6.	Valliere, Weime, Bahen, Rettig	AL	3:36.39

Shot Put

1.	Nick Byrnes	DX	57'2"
2.	Jeff Bowling	GE	55'1½"
3.	Ryan Matha	DX	52'11"
4.	Chris Campos	RO	52'3½"
5.	Matt Fletcher	LP	50'9"
6.	Andrew Shaw	RI	50'½"

Discus

1.	Kent Williams	DX	156'10"
2.	Dan Doddroe	KW	155'9"
3.	Don Sheridan	DX	144'6"
4.	John Young	RI	144'3"
5.	Jeff Bowling	GE	142'5"
6.	Matt Fletcher	LP	140'2½"

High Jump

1.	Brad Wilke	MT	6'4"
2.	Andy Bral	KW	6'0"
3.	Scott Brosowoske	RI	5'10"
4.	David Marincic	RI	5'10"
5.	Jeremiah Lotz	MT	5'8"
6.	Matt Edgcomb	LP	5'8"