



Lene Hestdal

... won 3 events

Hestdal Sparks Mustangs To Girls' Sectional Title

By SAM FULWOOD III
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SPENCER — Myers Park, led by distance runner Lene Hestdal's three first-place finishes, won the North Rowan girls' sectional track meet Friday.

Hestdal took the 1,600-meter (5:25), 800- (2:20.1) and the 3,200- (11:35) runs.

"I didn't expect (us) to place that well," said Myers Park coach Wallace Davis. "I really didn't think we would win it."

The Mustangs won with 62½ points. It was 1½ points more than finisher West Charlotte, the premeet favorite.

"One and a half points," exclaimed West Charlotte coach Ann Davis as she congratulated the Myers Park coach. "You'd better believe it (hurts to lose by

so narrow a margin.)"

Along with Myers Park and West Charlotte, North Rowan (56), Gastonia Ashbrook (34), South Mecklenburg (26) finished among the meet's top five teams. Olympic and Davie County tied for sixth with 24.

The top four qualifiers in each of the 15 events advance to Thursday's regional meet at Myers Park. Top placers in that meet advance to the state meet.

Among Piedmont-area schools with particularly impressive showings was North Rowan and Ashbrook.

North Rowan won both the 800- and 1,600-meter relays.

"It doesn't take many people to score well in a meet like this," said North Rowan coach Leland

Peacock. "We had a few strong athletes."

Ashbrook got a first from Patricia Whitworth in the 200. Her 25.2 clocking edged Hickory's Vanessa Hammond (25.8) and North Rowan's Cassandra Alexander (25.9).

But, clearly the meet's star was Myers Park's Hestdal, an exchange student from Norway.

"I run some distance races," she said. "But the team can't win with just distance. We have to have some throwers, sprinters and jumpers."

TEAM SCORES

1. Myers Park (MP) 62½; 2. West Charlotte (WC) 61; 3. North Rowan (NR) 56; 4. Gastonia Ashbrook (Ash) 34; 5. South Mecklenburg (SM) 26; 6. (tie) Davie County (DC), Olympic (Oly) 24; 8. Hickory (Hic) 23; 9. Garinger (Gar) 20; 10. Harding (Har) 18½; 11. North Mecklenburg (NM) 17; 12. (tie) East Rowan (ER), Independence (Ind) 16; 14. (tie) South Rowan, West Rowan 13; 16. (tie) East Mecklenburg (EM), Kannapolis Brown and Lexington (Lex) 12; 19. North Stanley (NS) 10; 20. West Iredell 6; 21. North Wilkes 2; 22. (tie) Salisbury (Sal), Statesville (St) 1½.

FIELD EVENTS

Shot Put: Shunta Robinson (NM) 39-2¼; Tammy Witherspoon (MP) 38-10; Sarah Gardiner (DC) 38-4½; Bobbie Wrenick (Oly) 37-5.

Long Jump: Katrina Grier (WC) 17-11¾; Teresa Allen (Gar) 16-6½; Cassandra Alexander (NR) 16-4½; Luann Wynn (NM) 16-4¼.

High Jump: Pat Poole (ER) 5-7; Patricia Whitworth (ASH) 5-6; Jeanne King (HIC) 5-2; Belinda Harris (Ind) 5-2.

Discus: Tammy Witherspoon (MP) 115-4; Katrina Swanson (MP) 105-7½; Laura Brunnemer (EM) 104-9; Gloria Campbell (Brown) 97-11½.

Triple Jump: Katrina Grier (WC) 35-7¾; Tammie Worth (NR) 34-8¾; 3. Lisa Smith (Lex) 34-1¾; 4. Faye Pressley (Ash) 34¾.

RUNNING EVENTS

100 Hurdles: Sonia Marshall (Oly) 14.3; Tracey Easter (WC) 14.4; Twana Gardin (Ash) 14.6; Patricia Whitworth (Ash) 14.8.

100 Meters: Wanda Foster (WR) 12.7; (tie) Katrina Grier (WC), Teresa Allen (Gar) 12.8; Zina Hair (Brown) 12.81.

800-Meter Relay: North Rowan 1:45.6; West Charlotte 1:47.0; Hickory 1:47.6; Harding 1:47.9.

1,600 Meters: Lene Hestdal (MP) 5:25; Lisa Eden (DC) 5:28.8; Kelly Almond (Ind) 5:29; Tina Beckedorf (SM) 5:31.5.

400-Meter Relay: West Charlotte 50.7; North Rowan 50.9; Lexington 51.1; (tie) Garinger, West Rowan 51.5.

400 Meters: Teresa Morris (NS) 58.5; Darwin Davis (SM) 58.7; Teresa Gillispie (SR) 58.8; Lisa Blakeney (EM) 58.81.

200-Meter Hurdles: Sonia Marshall (Oly) 29.1; Tracey Easter (WC) 29.11; Twana Gardin (Ash) 29.4; Helen Bailly (WI) 30.8.

800-Meter Run: Lene Hestdal (MP) 2:20.1; Leah Ann Miller (NR) 2:23.2; Laura Frederick (Alb) 2:28.1; Barbara Latta (DC) 2:29.5.

200-Meter Dash: Patricia Whitworth (Ash) 25.2; Vanessa Hammond (Hic) 25.8; Cassandra Alexander (NR) 25.9; Zina Hair (Brown) 26.2.

3,200 Meters: Lene Hestdal (MP) 11:35; Tina Beckedorf (SM) 11:55.9; Lisa Eden (DC) 12:09; Connie Fraley (ER) 12:09.2.

1,600-Meter Relay: North Rowan 4:11.2; Harding 4:13.3; South Rowan 4:15.3; South Mecklenburg 4:17.