

Reynolds Thinclads Loaded For City/County Title Run

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Last May, when Reynolds Coach Norm Trzaskoma took a glance at the scoresheet from the City-County track meet, he knew this year's Demon squad would be a good one.

"I knew we'd have a good year this year when, in last year's city-county meet, our seniors scored only two more points than our juniors did," said Trzaskoma. "Because of our two-year system you tend to have a good year followed by a great year."

This could well be the year that Reynolds outdistances its competition. Seniors Mark Dance, Kenard Bynum, Darvez Hall, Matt Murphy, Leigh Hawkins, Antwone Archie, Frank Wilson, James Jones, Danny Murray, Mike Makens, Emily Hord, Heidi Beilfuss, Wendy James, Melody Barnes and Paige King give Trzaskoma and girls' Coach Linda Zink a deep, talented squad that could qualify any number of performers for the sectional, regional and state meets.

"We have the makings of a championship team," said Trzaskoma. "We've got a unique combination this year. We're strong in the field events, have good distance people and have some good ones in the shorter distances."

Dance, the defending city and Central Piedmont conference champ who leaped 6-foot-8½ in the high jump last year, is joined by outstanding junior Tony Thompson. Both have done 6-6¼ already this spring. Hall, the defending city champ in the triple jump, has done 46-foot-2-inches and 22-foot-4 in the long jump. Murphy, who has cleared 11-



NORM TRZASKOMA
...*Demons' coach*...

feet-6 in the pole vault, heads the area's best vaulting crew.

Hawkins has tossed the shot 47-foot-8¼ and the discus 138-foot-1, both county bests so far this season. Archie has added a 133-foot-4 effort in the disc. Hurdler Bynum is one of the area's top sprinters.

The Demons are especially strong in the middle distance and distance runs. Wilson and Brown are solid quarter-milers and Brown will also help in the 800 meters. Junior Jeff Murphy won the city 9-10 800 title last year. Murray and transfer Makens have each clocked 9:52.8 in the 3,200 meters while junior Kurt Seeber has done 10:17.6. They should all get even better.

High jumper Hord, a regional qualifier last year, and distance runners Beilfuss, James and King join a group

of speedy juniors to swell Coach Linda Zink's girls' ranks. Shotputter Bonnie Loric and sprinters Tracey and Trina Hymes, Ann Hall, Angela Roberts, Annita Green and Jackie Hatcher could propel the Lady Demons to the league title.

PARKLAND — Mustang girls Coach Ed McDonald calls her the best female athlete around. As a junior she lost the state championship in the long jump by one-quarter inch with a jump of 19-foot-6½. This year Catherine Sanders hopes to amend that finish. Sanders has leaped 18-foot-8 inches so far this season and has sights set on 20-feet. She also has designs on the triple jump and McDonald feels she will do as well there as in the long jump. Sprinter Angela Hairston is Parkland's only other returning runner.

The Parkland boys' strength will be in the sprints and field events. Tracey Gainey was the Mustangs' MVP as a junior and Coach Jim Moose has high expectations for Gainey in the long, high and triple jumps as well as the hurdles. Joe Samuels (23-foot-6), Chuckie Moore (21-9½) and Chris Barber (21-0) give Parkland the best long jump crew around.

EAST — East track has, by necessity, always stressed quality over quantity, but this year Coach Richard Gizinski may not have to forfeit one for the other. Gizinski has the largest squad (25) in his tenure at East, including a potentially strong junior class.

"This is the first year that we've run out of uniforms," said Gizinski. "We've got ev-

See West, Page 24

West Track Team Has Big Turnout; Hopes Are High

Apr. 15, 1983

Continued from Page 23
ery event covered. Unbelievable."

Gizinski terms this the year of the sprinter at East and seniors Fred Smith, Darryl Cook and Reggie White, along with junior Jeff Hilton, back him up. Senior Miguel Langford handles the 400 meters. Senior Gilbert Rucker and juniors Robert Ray and Terry Fields anchor the 800 and 1,600 meters. Billy Harrell is a solid intermediate hurdler. Junior Kenneth Rucker has been Gizinski's most pleasant surprise. Rucker has soared 43-feet-1 in the triple jump with limited practice.

The Lady Eagles lost a group of top sprinters to graduation and Coach Dennis Powell admits his squad may be weaker. But sprinter-dis-

cus thrower Tonya Southern is a returning gem.

NORTH — A small turnout at North leaves Coach Scott Brent with a handful of sprinters. Seniors Pat Dobson, Al Smith and O.J. Bracy are good ones but junior Cedric Roberts, the 9-10 city champ at 100 meters, may be the best of the bunch. He has yet to be beaten. Basketball star Howard Coe is making rapid progress in the long and triple jumps. Darryl Johnson (800 meters) Jimmy Butler (1,600 meters) and Jimmy Westmoreland (3,200 meters) are the Vikings' best bets in the middle and distance events.

WEST — Coach Lloyd Hudson has more numbers than usual and concedes that "that's a good sign" for his boys team. Weightmen Kevan

Sawyer and Derek Ballard, pole vaulters Todd Young and Rodney Nivens, high jumpers Eli Phelps, Anthony Nelson and Antonio Smith, long jumper Joe Walker and triple jumper Randy Fulp will score points for the Titans in the field events.

Sprinters Zeke Williams and Vernal Pender, quarter-milers Eugene Edrington and Todd Blocker, half-miler Terrance Friend and distance runners Richard Littlejohn and Morris Piercy nail down the track events.

A pair of potential stars light up girls' Coach Louis Newton's not-so-distant future. Seniors Kathy Bergman and Melissa Stone both qualified for the sectionals a year ago and are back in the weight events and high jump.

Hairston Looks to Olympics

Continued from Page 22
gram. She was a national Junior Olympic hurdles champ.

As a freshman, she set Auburn records in six events, including the 50-, 60- and 100-meter hurdles and long jump and was named All-America.

But all that came to a halt last June.

"I first noticed it (the injury) on the trip to the TAC senior nationals in Knoxville," she said. "I had to sit cramped up all the way and there was this pain in the knee. It gave out on me three times."

Auburn coaches hoped time and rest would promote healing, but the problem persisted

and by late fall an operation was recommended.

"I thought I'd be able to jump right back after the surgery," she said. "I have high standards for myself and I thought I should have been running. I was ready to do some jogging, but the doctors said to take my time. I did sneak in some easy jogging before they told me it was okay."

The doctors gave their okay in mid-January and by late February, she was sprinting and going over the hurdles again. Her first two meets weren't anything to write home about, but the knee improved steadily. At the Dog-

wood Relays in Knoxville, Tenn. on April 7-8 she tumbled at the start of her heat, yet caught three runners to finish sixth overall in :14.2.

"I was really surprised to finish sixth," she said. "But I got mad because I fell coming out of the blocks and the last five hurdles is where I really get going. It was the best I've felt all year."

A dual meet with Georgia and the Penn Relays are the big tests in the near future and Hairston hopes to qualify for the NCAA championships soon. But there is an even bigger date on the horizon.

"I'm looking at '84," she said flatly. "I will be ready."