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Fresh faces shine at ECIC track finale

West Seneca East's Smigiera takes 100-meter dash title.

By Nate Beutel
Special to The News



YORKSHIRE -- With two of Western New York's premier sprinters resting up for sectionals, it was time for some of the area's other speedsters to shine Saturday.

West Seneca East's Andy Smigiera edged Williamsville North's Collin Preston in the 100-meter dash. Photo by John Hickey / Buffalo News

West Seneca East's Andy Smigiera and Torell Myles of Lake Shore were the boys sprint champions with Williamsville South's Kailyn Arcury and Emilee McGee of JFK winning the girls sprint titles at the 54th ECIC Track and Field Championships at Pioneer High School.

Smigiera, a sophomore, finished the 100-meter dash in 11.32 seconds. Myles, a senior, won the 200 in 23.02. Both events are usually dominated by defending Section VI champion Wayne Gordon, a

Sweet Home senior.

"Wayne's a great runner, but with this field there's still a lot of good competitors out there," Smigiera said. "I'm looking forward to seeing Wayne next week, though. It should be a good race."

Myles, who also won the 400 (49.82) and led off the winning 1,600 relay (3:29.37), added: "I felt confident and ready. Wayne's a really good runner and I'm pretty sure I can compete with him, but I know I have a lot of work to do to beat him."

For the girls, it was Baylor-bound Amherst senior Ashley Fields who was absent. Arcury, a junior and friendly rival of Fields, won the 100 in 12.80 seconds. McGee, a junior, ran 26.70 seconds to finish tops in the 200.

"I look at it like they're all great competitors," said Arcury, who also won the 100 hurdles (14.93). "I imagine them all in front of me when I'm running so I can catch them at the end. For me, I love to run every meet no matter what because I'm constantly pushing hard toward my goals."

Joining Arcury as a double winner on the girls side was Maryvale junior Mikayla Pearce, who took first in the long jump (18 feet, 2 1/2 inches) and triple jump (37-4 1/4). The defending Division II sectional champion was pleased with her effort after missing a few weeks with a pulled quadriceps.

Double winners on the boys side were Lake Shore's T.J. Hornberger and Jaily Twitty of Amherst. Hornberger, a freshman, won the 3,200 (9:44.99) and 3,000 steeplechase (10:01.68). Twitty, a junior, was first in the long jump (21-9) and triple jump (45-6).

Also for the boys, Starpoint senior Jake Wray defended his title in the 110 hurdles (14.73), reigning Division II sectional champion Daryl Spencer, a junior at Cleveland Hill, won the 400 hurdles (56.29), Springville senior Chad Maloy was first in the 1,600 (4:25.94) and West Seneca West sophomore Kalen Sullivan took first in the 800 (1:56.83).

In the field, Williamsville North junior Allesio Gullino won the high jump (6-0), senior teammate Brian Corretore was first in the discus (163-10), Pioneer junior Mike Prevorse won the shot put (53-4 1/4) and Alden senior Jake Crocker took first in the pole vault (13-6). Jamestown senior Taylor Ordine won the pentathlon with 2,868 points. Alden won the 400 relay (43.84) and Williamsville North was first in the 3,200 relay (8:18.23).

On the girls side, defending state champion Kala Allen, a junior at Williamsville East, breezed to victory in the 400 (57.12), East Aurora freshman Marta McLaughlin defended her title in the 800 (2:16.88) and also helped the Blue Devils win the 3,200 relay (9:29.79). Junior teammate Sarah Anstett was first in the 3,000 (10:27.70), Iroquois senior Abbie Benson won the 1,500 (4:45.32), Amherst sophomore Emily Irish Ryan was tops in the 400 hurdles (1:03.01) and Williamsville South senior Elisa Frazier won the 2,000 steeplechase (7:28.59).

In the field, reigning sectional champions Stephanie Izard and Kelly Truppo both took first. Izard, a junior at Sweet Home, won the high jump (5-6) and Truppo, a senior at Alden, won the pole vault (11-6). Cleveland Hill senior Rasheena Hamilton finished first in the discus (104-3) and Lancaster freshman McKenzie Kuehlwind won the shot put (37-10). West Seneca East junior Kayleigh Waslewski won the pentathlon with 2,451 points. Lancaster won the 400 relay (50.54) and West Seneca West was first in the 1,600 relay (4:03.69).

Large school team champions were Williamsville North (boys) and Frontier (girls). Small school winners were Alden (boys) and East Aurora (girls).