

Fairport bids adieu to league meets before Championships

The Fairport Track & Field team participated in its last league meet of the 2009 -2010 season in its initial trip to the famed tunnel at the University of Rochester.

The January 22nd meet at the U of R had six athletes establish personal bests on the oversized track, 207 meters, with its tight corners and chasm of a tunnel--a ghostly aura. "I heard that sometimes runners go into that tunnel and don't come out," said one younger athlete who demurred to give a name, "it is scary."

Anyway, the fear of the unknown in the tunnel didn't prevent Adam Staveski, Matt Stoutz, Jane Rosenthal, Lauren Star, Tylyn Martin excelling from previous performances.

In the 3200 meter run, both Staveski and Stoutz, ran their best times ever indoors with 10:48.06 and 10:52.15 -- for a 7th and 8th place finish respectively.

Jane Rosenthal, in the very fast 1000 meter race, ran 3:18.22 for a personal best. It was a race that had some of the fastest times in the event run this season. "Jane is a gamer," said Coach Sean Van Laeken. "She races with intelligence and really competes--she is coming into her own this indoor season."

The 300 meter dash, the long sprint of the indoor campaign, is the event that has produced very solid results for Lauren Star and Tylyn Martin all season. On Saturday, both established personal bests again with 47.98 and 48.8 times respectively. They finished 20th and 26th overall.

The sixth personal best was recorded by Fairport's lone pole vaulter, Collin Wheatly. He cleared the bar at 11' 9", easily his best vault indoors this season or any season indoors. He finished 5th in the competition.

The other competitors, their places and times were:

The **300 meter dash**: Peter Larmann, 40.32 and 3rd; Julia Sanger, 46.68, 8th; Jillian Gueli, 47.94, 17th. "Of all the distances run at the U R, I think the 300 meter dash suffers the most with the tight turns," said Coach Mike Van Auker. "It is really hard to run good times in there with the long sprint."

The **3000 meter run**: Ashton Hughes, 11:06.68, 4th; Rachel Malone, 11:22.77, 5th; and Veronica Goodrich, 12:13.1, 11th.

The **600 meter run**: Brandon Bachstein, 1:36.6, 11th; Alex Gilmore, 1:39.46, 23rd; Michelle Barnum, 1:45.97, 3rd -- in the faster 600 meter race this season in Section V; Angie Zablony, 1:46.49, 4th.

1000 meter run: Justin Green, 2:49.88, 55th; Matt Spitzer, 3:00.52, 18th; Emma Dustman, 3:32.91, 13th.

55 meter hurdles: James Paratore, 8.95 seconds for 6th place; Janessa Mathews, 9.65, 6th.

The high jump: Jillian Gueli, 4' 4", t-9th.

Long Jump: Emily Renna, 15' 7", 6th.

55 meter dash: Jamie Brooks, 7.22 seconds, 24th; Mike Optis, 7.45, 36th.

1600 meter run: Kevin Jablonski, 4:52.91, 4th.

Shot Put: Russell Kolker, 32' 2", 32nd place; Loren Metzger, 28' 4", 5th.

Up next on the schedule will be the Rochester Invitational at RIT on Saturday, January 30 and then, two-and-a-half weeks later, the Section V Championships on February 18th. The State Qualifier is scheduled for RIT, again, on February 27th. And for those athletes who qualify, the State Championships at Cornell University on Saturday, March 6th --and possibly the NIKE National Championships in Boston on March 13 & 14th.