

Track & field

Central Coast Section
Region 4 Championships
At Hartnell College, Salinas

BOYS' VARSITY
Team scoring — 1. Santa Cruz 59; 2. Salinas 57; 3. Live Oak 52; 4. (tie) Gilroy 51; North Salinas 51; 6. Palma 37; 7. Soquel 24; 8. Watsonville 22; 9. North Monterey County 19½; 10. Valley Christian 20; 11. Hollister 18; 12. Monterey 17½; 13. Seaside 12; 14. Robert Louis Stevenson 11; 15. Gonzales 10; 16. (tie) Pacific Grove 8; San Lorenzo Valley 8; 18. (tie) Menlo 4; King City 4; Carmel 4; 21. Pinewood 2; 22. (tie) Alisal 1; Sacred Heart-Menlo Park 1.

400 RELAY — 1. Live Oak 42.96; 2. Santa Cruz 43.12; 3. North Salinas 43.31; 4. Monterey 43.45; 5. Watsonville 43.89; 6. Gilroy (no time).

1600M — 1. Clarke (So) 4:28.2; 2. Anole (Pa) 4:31.5; 3. Meyer (LO) 4:33.0; 4. Church (NC) 4:36.5; 5. Martinez (Wa) 4:37.4; 6. Mayers (So) 4:38.9.

1J — 1. Lopez (NS) 22-¼; 2. McCoy (Mo) 21-1½; 3. Jones (Cz) 21-5¼; 4. Elskridge (Mo) 21-4¼; 5. Gonzales (Cz) 21-5; 6. Dickerman (So).

5P — 1. Hicks (Mo) 59-3; 2. Harper (Wa) 53-5; 3. Tribble (Pa) 52-5¼; 4. Fortino (Gi) 51-4¼; 5. Gilbert (LO) 46-10½; 6. Hartwig (Gi) 44-5¼.

100M — 1. Harris (Va) 18.8; 2. Rodgers (LO) 11.0; 3. Henry (Cz) 11.1; 4. Ruiz (NS) 11.3; 5. Johnson (LO) 11.3; 6. Floyd (SH) 11.4.

800M — 1. Anole (Pa) 1:56.2; 2. Jevurek (SLV) 1:58.7; 3. Thomas (NS) 1:59.2; 4. Penham (So) 1:59.4; 5. Venutti (Gi) 2:00.3; 6. Torres (CA) 2:02.9.

1J — 1. Morrison (NS) 45-3½; 2. Lane (Pa) 43-8¼; 3. Wu (PG) 43-4½; 4. Villafuerte (Sa) 42-¼; 5. Jones (Cz) 42-8¼; 6. Smith (Si) 42-8.

110M H — 1. Zapfen (Gi) 15.01; 2. Batzler (Gi) 15.04; 3. Roles (Gi) 15.3; 4. Strange (NC) 15.45; 5. Shields (Cz) 16.1; 6. Mack (NS) 16.12.

400M — 1. Petric (Cz) 49.55; 2. McCleskey (Sa) 49.74; 3. Hill (Sa) 49.94; 4. Wilkinson (PG) 50.71; 5. Henderson (Mo) 51.26; 6. Zapfen (Gi) 51.21.

100 — 1. Thelen (LO) 14-0; 2. Snyder (Mo) 14-0; 3. Lanni (GO) 13-4; 4. Aquino (Go) 13-4; 5. Flanders (PG) 13-4; 6. Gregg (Wa) 13-0.

DT — 1. Campbell (NC) 147-4; 2. Mosley (Si) 143-7; 3. Gartenberg (Se) 142-0; 4. Beermann (HO) 139-10; 5. Arias (NS) 139-4; 6. Tribble (Pa) 138-8.

200M — 1. Harris (Va) 21.9; 2. Rodgers (LO) 22.2; 3. Henry (Cz) 22.5; 4. Ruiz (NS) 22.6; 5. Johnson (LO) 22.7; 6. 22.7; 7. Greco (Wa) 22.8.

300M H — 1. Roles (Gi) 39.4; 2. Smith (Sa) 39.5; 3. Shields (Cz) 40.4; 4. McBurney (Cz) 40.8; 5. Kang (Si) 41.0; 6. Arnette (Sa) 41.2.

2200M — 1. Carrillo (Sa) 7:31.7; 2. Mendo (Wa) 7:52.4; 3. Clarke (So) 7:52.5; 4. Trullio (LO) 7:57; 5. Kinney (PW) 10:02.8; 6. Gufferrez (Wa) 10:07.0.

1600M RELAY — 1. Salinas 3:24.9; 2. North Salinas 3:25.7; 3. Seaside 3:27.7; 4. Palma 3:28.1; 5. Menlo 3:29.2; 6. Santa Cruz 3:29.3.

HJ — 1. Sorattino (Sa) 6-4; 2. Jones (Cz) 6-4; 3. Banks (Gi) 6-1½; 4. Lindsay (So) 6-1½; 5. Wright (Mo) 6-1½; 6. Haney (NC) 6-1½.

D-172.

GIRLS' VARSITY

Team scoring — 1. Santa Cruz 41; 2. North Monterey County 47; 3. King City 40; 4. Watsonville 36; 5. Harbor 28; 5. Salinas 27; 6. (tie) North Salinas 23; Santa Catalina 22; 8. (tie) Carmel 22; Gilroy 22; 10. (tie) Notre Dame 19; Live Oak 19; 12. (tie) Aptos 14; Alisal 14; 14. Monterey 15; 15. Stevenson 14; 16. Soquel 12; 17. Redwood Christian 11; 18. Gonzales 4; 19. Hollister 5; 20. Southbay Christian 2.

HJ — 1. Blair (Cz) 5-5; 2. Raquinio (PS) 5-2; 3. Loeffler (Wa) 5-2; 4. Bailey (Cz) 5-0; 5. Phillips (Ap) 5-0; 6. Randall (ND) 4-10.

TJ — 1. Fowler (NC) 35-1½; 2. Iwankovich (NC) 34-7½; 3. Blomquist (Go) 33-10½; 4. Rodriguez (ND) 33-4½; 5. Payne (LO) 33-4; 6. Burns (Cz) 32-10.

1J — 1. McCandless (Wa) 119-10; 2. Andrews (Mo) 118-2; 3. Reyes (NS) 113-5; 4. Kraus (Wa) 110-1; 5. Alderin (Wa) 105-1; 6. Chavez (NS).

100M — 1. Blair (Cz) 12.7; 2. Banks (ND) 13.0; 3. Marcus (So) 13.1; 4. Nimmer (RC) 13.1; 5. Gutman (NS) 13.2; 6. Weinheimer (HO) 13.2.

800M — 1. Moore (Ha) 59.9; 2. Lones (Ca) 59.5; 3. Jones (Sa) 59.7; 4. Vilches (Cz) 59.5; 5. Cohen (Sa) 1:00.12; 6. Cooper (RC) 1:00.7.

1600M — 1. Durette (Ap) 2:22.4; 2. Dauphine (Si) 2:22.8; 3. Ferber (Cz) 2:25.0; 4. Skillman (Gi) 2:26.1; 5. Harrison (HO) 2:27.1; 6. Gannon (LO) 2:27.8.

1J — 1. Blair (Cz) 14-8; 2. Allegri (Ha) 14-5¼; 3. Raquinio (PG) 16-5½; 4. Kinzel (Gi) 16-3; 5. Maloney (SB) 16.0; 6. Contreras (NS) 15-11½.

100M LH — 1. Raquinio (PG) 15.47; 2. Preston (HO) 15.52; 3. Schmidt (So) 15.77; 4. Shanley (Cz) 16.13; 5. Phillips (Ap) 16.3; 6. Tyson (Mo) 16.32.

1600M — 1. Lewis (Cz) 5:14.2; 2. Skillman (Gi) 5:24.1; 3. Holmes (LO) 5:27.4; 4. Gannon (LO) 5:28.2; 5. Ash (NC) 5:34.5; 6. Tozer (Ap) 5:38.5.

5P — 1. Bruno (NC) 34-4½; 2. Rodriguez (NC) 35-¼; 3. Maxwell (Mo) 34-8½; 4. McCandless (Wa) 33-4½; 5. Rowley (Gi) 33-2½; 6. Carrillo (Cz) 32-8½.

400M RELAY — 1. Santa Cruz 51.1; 2. Salinas 51.1; 3. North Monterey County 51.3; 4. Notre Dame 51.4; 5. 51.7; 6. North Salinas 51.8.

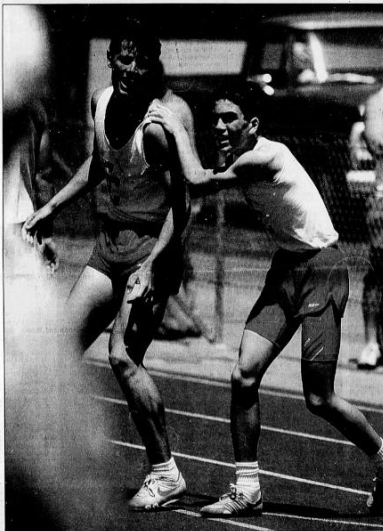
800M — 1. Reyes (NS) 24.3; 2. Jones (CA) 24.4; 3. Vilches (Cz) 24.6; 4. Weinheimer (HO) 27.0; 5. York (PG) 27.3; no sixth.

200M LH — 1. Allegri (Ha) 45.4; 2. Preston (HO) 46.4; 3. Torres (LO) 48.4; 4. Wilkinson (PG) 49.1; 5. Montelano (NS) 49.1; 6. Davis (NC) 49.2.

1600M RELAY — 1. Salinas 4:11.4; 2. King City 4:13.4; 3. Redwood Christian 4:15.0; 4. Carmel 4:15.1; 5. Notre Dame 4:16.7; 6. North Monterey County 4:17.7.

2200M — 1. Lewis (Cz) 11:25.4; 2. Romo (Wa) 11:47.6; 3. Dauphine (Si) 11:52.2; 4. Skillman (Gi) 11:54.2; 5. Lurie (Wa) 12:05.3; 6. Ash (NC) 12:06.1.

Red-letter day for Cardinals



Santa Cruz's Tim Shields, right, and Nick McBurney are both going for the CCS championship most after finishing third and fourth, respectively, in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles.



Not even something like a little of miss in the high jump could keep Mercedes Blair of Santa Cruz high from winning four events.

Santa Cruz track teams win region championships

By KEVIN WOODWARD

Sentinel staff writer

SALINAS — Saturday was a day of firsts for Santa Cruz High as the Cardinals won both the boys' and girls' varsity team titles at the Region IV Track and Field Championships.

"We've been up and down all season, but we've certainly on top of things now," said Santa Cruz junior Mercedes Blair, who won three individual events and anchored the Cardinals 400-meter girls' relay to another victory at the Hartnell College track.

Santa Cruz won its third varsity girls' championship with a wire-to-wire effort. The Cardinals edged up to points, followed by North Monterey County in second with 15 and Watsonville third with 36.

The boys' varsity victory is one believed to be the first Region IV championship for the Cardinals, whose previous best was a second place in 1981. Santa Cruz had 49 points to top past Salinas and Live Oak, which finished second and third with 37 and 38 points, respectively.

"I'm absolutely ecstatic," said Santa Cruz coach Bill Johnson. "The kids were out of their heads today. We really had a lot of fun out there."

■ Santa Cruz's Mercedes Blair is four-time winner — Page D2.

With the top four finishers in each event qualifying for the Central Coast Section meet Friday at Independence High, the Cardinals are going to have to charter a trip to San Jose. In all, Santa Cruz qualified 16 athletes in 14 different events for the CCS meet.

Leading the Santa Cruz charge was Blair, who won the high jump in 5 feet, 2 inches, the long jump in 14.6, the 100-meter dash in 12.7 and anchored the Cardinals 400 relay to a victory in 51.1.

The Cardinals' boys were led by Corey Jones, who was second in the high jump at 6-4, third in the long jump in 21.5, and fifth in the triple jump in 43-4.

Petric's victory in the 400 was the school record of 49.55 over 400 yards last by Al Marshall, that had stood since 1981. Earlier in the season during a meet at Soquel High, Petric had tied Marshall and held the former.

Photo by CARDINALS — D2

D-2—SENTE CRUZ SENTINEL — SUNDAY, MAY 22, 1988

It was in the cards



Mercedes Blair, center, never trailed in the 100, winning in 12.66. It was one of her four wins on the day.

Day to remember for Blair

By KEVIN WOODWARD

Sentinel staff writer

SALINAS — Once Santa Cruz High's Mercedes Blair started "winning Saturday, there was no stopping her."

"It just makes you that more focused," said Blair, who won three individual events and anchored the Cardinals' winning 400-meter relay team at the Region IV Track and Field Championships. "You just want to win again and you can't wait until the next event."

Less than 48 hours prior to the meet, Blair was wondering if she'd even be able to compete Saturday at Hartnell College, let alone win. "I've been really sick the last couple of days," Blair said. "I could barely get out of bed Thursday. That's why I'm so surprised."

Blair pulled off her biggest shocker early, soaring three inches over her previous personal best to win the girls' high jump in a school-record 5 feet, 2 inches.

"I'm only 5-4, so it's a even more of a surprise," said Blair, who made the height on her third and final attempt. "The high jump is the one event that I do for fun, so I just try and do the best I can."

For Blair, the fun was just starting. Immediately after finishing the high jump, Blair walked briskly over to the long jump for two quick run-throughs before the start of the girls' 400 relay seconds later.

When Blair took the baton, the Cardinals were in fourth place. By the time she hit the tape, Blair was leading the field as Santa Cruz posted a season-best time of 51.09 seconds for the win.

"I felt really good," Blair said. "It was just great seeing all those people go by. I feel like everything's coming together for me right now."

The other members of the winning relay team were Gwen Vilches, Larkin Ferber and Meghan Kinney, who helped Blair celebrate the win.

"When the rest of the team does well it makes it all the better," said Blair. "This team is really good for supporting each other."

Next up for Blair was the long jump, where once again she saved her best for last. On her third and final attempt in the finals, Blair jumped 14-0 to win and push Harbor's Vickie Allegri into second place. Last week at the Santa Cruz Coast Athletic

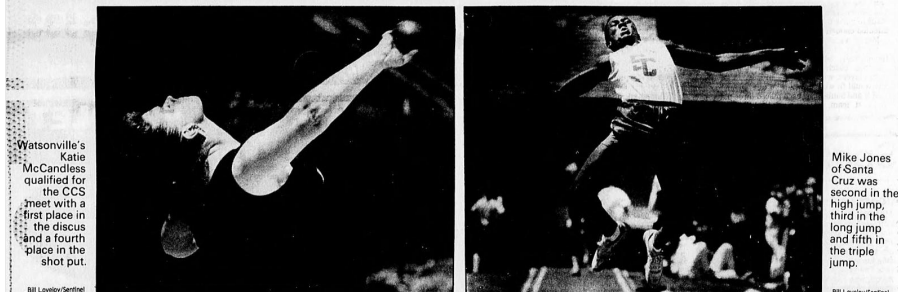
League Championships, Allegri had slipped by Blair on the last jump of the day for the victory.

"I was aching to get it this time," Blair said.

"The only race remaining for Blair was the 100 meters, where she had won her heat in the trials, but was not expected to win. There were five other runners in the race with faster qualifying times than Blair's 13.6 going into the Region IV meet.

"The Santa Cruz junior, who had transferred from Soquel last summer, wasn't about to let that slow her down. Blair virtually lost out of the blocks into the early lead and never trailed."

"All I can do is my best," said Blair, whose winning time of 12.66 was another personal record. "To have a day like this takes a lot of luck, too. It just all came together for me."



Watsonville's Katie McCandless qualified for the CCS meet with a first place in the discus and a fourth place in the shot put.

Bill Loveloy/Sentinel

Mike Jones of Santa Cruz was second in the high jump, third in the long jump and fifth in the triple jump.

Bill Loveloy/Sentinel