

Bulldog track teams seen as title challengers

After finishing in second place behind Akron-Fairgrove for two years straight in the North Central D League track meet, Bulldog coach Arnie Besonen is forecasting a similar tight race this year.

"We'll be a contender for the league title with Akron-Fairgrove and North Huron," he said.

Owen-Gage has lots of talent in both the boys' and girls' ranks.

Assistant coach in charge of the girls for the first time this year will be Dick Glidden (Sr.).

The Bulldogs' stock-in-trade the past few seasons among the boys has been speed and it still has it.

There's Jeff Hallock, winner of the top male performer title in two Thumb area meets last season, in the 100 and 200 yard dashes, 880-yard relay and long jump. (Athletes normally compete in only three events per meet.)

The other speedster is Brad Erickson in the 440 yard dash, 880-yard and mile relays and 330 low hurdles.

Jim Glidden, who has high jumped 6 ft., 2 in., will also be competing in the 880 and mile relays and 440-yard dash.

Another hot prospect this year is sophomore Jim Patnaude, who took fifth place in Class B and under in the pole vault at 12 1/2 ft. in the state indoor championships March 18 at the University of Michigan.

Besonen is also expecting good performances this year from Pete Klemkowsky, discus and shotput, Kirk Carolan, likely to win the league title in the high hurdles, Scott Gaeth in the hurdles and sprints, transfer student Darryn LaZar, middle distances, Garry Zimmer, mile and two miles, and Wayne Shantz, mile and two miles.

Among the girls, Besonen forecasts Mary Kay Burrows as a top competitor in the hurdles and the relays.

Other good performances should come from Jennifer Errer in the middle distances and the relays, Donna Salcido in the sprints

and relays and Cheryl Mandich in the mile and mile relay.

Other letter winners back are Dawn Wissner in the middle distances and Carol Goslin and Paula Good, both in the shot put and discus.

Adding depth to the team will be Beth Maxson and Terry Sontag, both in the 100 and 220-yard dashes and the relays.

In addition to Akron-Fairgrove and North Huron, plus his Bulldogs, Besonen predicts Kingstons and Peck will be strong this season.

The schedule:

- April 11 at Lakers
- April 16 at Akron-Fair.
- April 18 Mayville at Caro
- April 22 Caseville, NH, A-F at O-G
- April 25 CMU relays (boys)
- April 26 at SVSC (boys)
- April 30 at USA (boys)

- May 2 CMU relays (girls)
- May 6 at Caseville (junior high)
- May 7 C & D Invt. at USA
- May 9 Huron Invt. at O-G, 4 p.m.
- May 12 at USA (jr. high)
- May 13 league meet at Kingston, 3 p.m.
- May 15 Port Hope (jr. high) at O-G at Akron-Fair.
- May 16 (jr. varsity)
- May 17 regionals at Caro
- May 19 Bad Axe meet of champions
- May 20 jr. high league meet at Kingston
- May 21 jr. varsity boys' invit. at USA
- May 23 at Kingston (jr. varsity league meet)
- May 27 Caro meet of champions
- May 31 state finals, Grand Blanc



OWEN-GAGE TRACK -- Members of the team who are not also on the baseball or softball team, or attending driver's education when the photo was taken are, front row, from left, Marie Radabaugh, Donna Salcido, Linda Zimmer, Dawn Wissner, Stu Stirrett, Middle row, Dave Reil, Mary Kay Burrows, Cheryl Mandich, Jennifer Errer, John Patnaude. Back row, coach Arnie Besonen, Pat Hallock, Darryn LaZar, Jim Patnaude, Gary Erickson. Also on the track team only are Dan and Dave Ondrajka, Chris Huizar, Brad Erickson, Dawn Wissner, Paula Good, Pam Pavlichek, Lenny Hallock, Mike Salcido, Beth Maxson.



OWEN-GAGE BASEBALL -- Team members are, front row, from left, Mike Sullivan, Alan Haag, Kirk Carolan, Jim Glidden and Pete Klemkowsky. Second row, Craig Enderle, Jim Kuhr, Jeff Hallock, Scott Gaeth and John Reinford. Third row, Terry Muntz, Paul Lopez, Jason Reinhardt, George Vargo and Dan Glidden. Back row, assistant coach John Osterland, Vince Salcido, Mark Furness, Randy Radabaugh and coach Phil Gray. Missing was Miles Thorp.

O-G favored to repeat as North Central champs

It isn't that coach Phil Gray and his Bulldogs aren't willing to share, but if given a choice, they would rather have the whole pie.

The Owen-Gage baseball squad shared first place in the North Central D League last season with Carsonville-Port Sanilac with a 14-2 mark and finished 19-6 overall.

The Bulldogs are aiming for another first place finish and have the apparent tools to do it.

Pitcher Pete Klemkowsky is back, who was 10-4 last year and had a 1.63 earned run average. He was named to the all-state second team for his performance last season.

Gray must still find a strong back-up pitcher and

prospects are Jim Kuhr, who did some pitching last year, Randy Radabaugh and Alan Haag.

At home plate, letter winner Miles Thorp must fill the catcher's mask left by Mark McDonald, who made the all-conference team in that position last season.

Other returning players include Kirk Carolan, all-conference shortstop last year, back for his fourth season; Haag at third base, all-conference second team (fourth season); Jim Glidden, second base, all-conference second team (third season); Kuhr, when he isn't pitching, will be at first base.

Jeff Hallock, who made

the all-conference first team last year, will be strong in centerfield as well as around the bases. He stole 27 of them last year.

Potential weaknesses, in addition to the question marks behind home plate and for second spot on the pitcher's mound, are in hitting -- more power is needed, according to Gray -- and a tougher schedule. The Bulldogs are playing non-league Lakers, Ubyly and Caro.

Gray is starting his fifth year as coach. His teams have an overall win-loss record of 48-39. He was selected regional coach of the year last season.

He predicts Carsonville will again be battling Owen-Gage for the top spot in the

league, with North Huron coming in third. All regular games are double headers, starting at 4 p.m. The schedule:

- April 7 at Caro (non-league)
- April 21 at Port Hope
- April 24 Carsonville
- April 28 Ubyly (non-league)
- May 1 at Akron-Fair.
- May 3 Port Hope at Port Austin, (Huron county tourney)
- May 5 Peck
- May 8 at North Huron
- May 10 Harbor Beach or Bad Axe if winner
- May 12 Caseville
- May 15 at Kingston
- May 20 Lakers (non-league)
- May 30 district tourney

PRESENT TROPHIES

Trophies were presented at the Charmont following the game. Mutual received the regular season title award and People's the play-off toga.

Individual scoring leader was Rick Tuckey with a 20.1 average and a high game of 37 points. Most valuable player award was voted to Paul Beachy of Mutual, a leading scorer and rebounder for Mutual.



OWEN-GAGE SOFTBALL -- Team members are, front row, from left, Joan Mosack, Julie Enderle, Karla Kretschmer, Deb Gettel, Robin Sullivan. Second row, Sherry Volz, Jo Wissner, Jackie Kain, Deidra Thick, Sue Lenhard. Third row, Bonnie Wynn, Heidi Rockefeller, Vicki Alexander, Leeann Ellicott, Michelle Schwartz. Back row, Becky Howard, Julie Andrakowicz, Rita Sullivan, Dana Laurie, coach Judy Campbell. Missing are Carol Goslin, Terri Sontag, Karen Wright, Tammy Kain and Deb Shope.

Area players considered

Coaches award grants

The Michigan High School Football Coaches Association has announced the 1980 scholarship winners.

They are Albert Wesley, Anchorville, Daniel Saville, Kalamazoo Central, Brad Tomassucci, West Iron County, and Steve Hoffman, P'ushing.

Each year the MHSFCA awards four \$300 scholarships to high school football players in Michigan, based on scholarship and testing, leadership and character, and financial need. The monies are sent to the college of their choice to be used in their freshman year

of enrollment. Area athletes who finished high on the list were Kirk Carolan, Owen-Gage, William Kelley, Caseville, Tim Messing, Ubyly, and James McTaggart, Bad Axe, according to Owen-Gage coach Arnie Besonen, the association's Region II director.

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Powerful O-G aims for 5th loop softball title

The Bulldogs of coach Judy Campbell are aiming for their fifth straight North Central D League softball crown this season and if they can find consistent pitching, they should be able to do it.

Despite lack of strong pitching last season, Owen-

Gage finished first in the league with a 14-2 mark and was 20-4 overall. The team won the district title.

Pitching should be better this year, Miss Campbell said, because of last year's experience. Handling the mound duties will be Becky

Howard and Dana Laurie, with backup from Julie Andrakowicz and Tammy Kain.

Who will be the catcher was still a question mark as practice was getting underway.

The team's strong point is experience, with eight of nine of last year's starters back.

The one loss was a big one, however, Laurie Andrakowicz, who was the team's best all-around player, stolen base leader and clean-up hitter.

Miss Campbell describes herself as "not real panicky" about hitting because of Howard, Julie Andrakowicz and Carol Goslin, all of whom she describes as strong hitters.

"We should be pretty good, I guess," was her conservative summation of her team's chances. She expects the strongest competition to come from Caseville, which only lost their catcher from last season's starting line-up and shared the league title with Owen-Gage, and Peck.

Games are double-headers, starting at 4 p.m. Home games are played at the Gagetown village park. The schedule:

- April 21 at Port Hope
- April 24 Carsonville-Port Sanilac
- May 1 at Akron-Fair.
- May 3 Unionville-Sebe- waing tournament
- May 5 Peck
- May 8 at North Huron
- May 12 Caseville
- May 15 at Kingston
- May 30 district tourney
- June 7 regional tourney

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