

Garinger's Allen Stars In Regional

By KATE BOYLAN

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The word "champion" meant even more than usual Thursday night. Four girls, in particular, showed what it meant in the girls' Western Regional high school track meet.

Not only did Garinger's Teresa Allen win two events and place second in a third, but she also set two regional records. She won the long jump with a leap of 20-2¾. The previous best was last year's 19-6½ by West Charlotte's Katrina Grier.

North Mecklenburg's Louann Wynn was third with 18-1½. Wynn also anchored the Vikings' 400-meter relay team of Janet McAfee, Brenda Howze and Samantha Harris, which won with a 48.9.

Allen also set a record in the 100-meter dash. She finished just ahead of South Mecklenburg's Teri LeBlanc with 12.0. The previous mark, 12.1, was held by three sprinters.

Allen, with third in the 200-meter dash, helped Garinger to second place in the team standings with 39 points.

South won the meet, and LeBlanc was a primary reason for that. Not only did she sprint the 100 in 12.0 for second, but she also won the high jump at 5-4. She tied the 200-meter dash record at 24.9. Hickory's Vanessa Hammond shares the record from her performance last year.

LeBlanc also anchored the victorious 1,600-meter relay team of Helen Parker, Stephanie Connor and Troye Crickette. By the third leg, the Sabres had pulled to third in the race. Crickette brought them to first, about five strides ahead of the field. A Greensboro Grimsley runner kept trying to pass LeBlanc on the last leg and almost caught her on the final turn, but South won in 4:04.4 to Grimsley's 4:05.9.

South's Carman Nordman also played a part in that championship finish. She breezed in ahead of North Rowan's Leah Ann Miller in 2:22.2.

After the field events, though,



Observer Photo By WES BOBBITT

Garinger's Tawanda Allen gives her all in 440 relay

Myers Park led in team points. The Mustangs' 28 points and fifth-place finish were directly attributable to Katrina Swanson.

Swanson, like LeBlanc, cleared 5-4 in the high jump. She finished second because of an earlier miss. When she wasn't jumping, though, she was busy winning the shot put and discus. She won the shot with 39-6, defeating Concord's Carmen Safrit and Willa Wallace, who beat her last week in the sectional.

But Swanson's muscle aches and pulls hindering her last week in the sectional meet had disappeared. She said this is the best she's felt all season. She felt so good, in fact, that she threw the discus 133-5 to beat her old Western Regional record of 128-8. Her 133-5 is two feet better than the state record. State records, however, can be set only at the state meet.

She has one more meet — next Friday at Raeford — to try for the record before heading off to college at Tennessee.

Independence didn't set any records — but the Patriots made enough good showings to place third with 38 points and will have several entries in the state meet.

The Massey sisters contributed many of those points. Patrina Massey was on the winning 800-meter relay team (1:45.4) of Lisa McLean, Kim Ledbetter and Audrea Robinson. She also finished third, qualifying for the state in the triple jump.

Patricia Massey placed third in the 110-meter and 200-meter low hurdles.

Watauga's April Cook joined the Southwestern 4A girls in setting all-around performance standards. She won two events and placed third in the high jump.

Cook started in lane eight for the 400-meter run. She appeared to be leading the pack around the track. Soon it became apparent she was leading by much more than just the staggered distance. She finished 20 meters ahead of her closest contender. Her 56.0 was a regional meet record.

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Track

High School Western Regional Girls

At Charlotte Myers Park
Thursday's Results

Team Scores: South Mecklenburg (SM) 50, Garinger (Gar) 39, Independence (Ind) 38, High Point Andrews (HPA) 36, Myers Park (MP) 36, Wauga (Wat) 26.

Long jump: Allen (Gar) 20-2³/₄, Sanders (W-S Parkland) 19-4³/₄, Wynn (N.Meck) 18-¹/₂.

High jump: Leblanc (SM) 5-4, Swanson (MP) 5-4, Cook (Wat) 5-4.

Triple jump: Watkins (Thomvl) 38-4³/₄, Hamilton (KanBrown) 37-9, Massey (Ind) 37-

Shot put: Swanson (MP) 39-6, Safrit (Concord) 38-3, Wallace (Concord) 37-1.

Discus: Swanson (MP) 133-5, Hatch (HPA) 113-8, Wallace (Concord) 110-1. **100-meter dash:** Allen (Gar) 12.0, Leblanc (SM) 12.0, Miller (Polk Cntrl) 12.2.

110-meter low hurdles: Cook (Wat) 14.3, Hall (W-S Reynolds) 14.3, Massey (Ind) 14.5.

800-meter relay: Independence (Massey, McLean, Ledbetter, Robinson) 1:45.4, Andrews 1:45.6, HPCentral 1:46.6.

1,600-meter run: Ruff (Tryon) 5:14.5, Carson (NWCab) 5:15.9, Andrews (W. Guilford) 5:16.9.

400-meter relay: North Meck (McAfee, Howze, Harris, Wynn) 48.9, Garnger 49.3, Andrews 50.3.

400-meter dash: Cook (Wat) 56.0, Gillespie (SRowan) 59.1, Scales (E. Guilford) 59.8.

200-meter low hurdles: Cunningham (NGascon) 28.8, Foster (WRowan) 29.3, Massey (Ind) 29.4.

800-meter run: Nordman (SM) 2:22.2, Miller (NRowan) 2:22.4, Muckenfuss (WGuilford) 2:24.9.

3,200-meter run: McCall (McDowell) 11:23.4, Carlson (NwCab) 11:24.0, Little (Roberson) 11:29.6.

200-meter dash: Leblanc (SM) 24.9, Miller (PolkCntrl) 25.2, Allen (Gar) 25.6.

1,600-meter relay: South Meck (Parker, Connor, Crickette, Leblanc) 4:04.4, Greensboro Grimsley 4:05.9, Andrews 4:08.0.