

TRACK

F - Apr 26, 96

W. Meck runs down Mustangs

1,600 meters provides margin in Relays title

By **BRETT HONEYCUTT**
Special Correspondent

Feeding off Saturday's strong performance from the Queen City Relays, West Mecklenburg's girls track team overtook Myers Park in the last event Thursday to win the Lady Sabres Relays at South Mecklenburg.

"I think we did as well as we could in the events that we entered," said coach Brian Lawing, whose West Mecklenburg team took first place 62-57.

"Considering we had only 12 girls it was a pleasant surprise, and I'm thrilled that the seniors (Amanda Mills, Stephanie Alexander, Wendy Bradham and Kim Robinson) are going to have this memory."

Even though the Indians did well in the running events (they also won the 3,200-meter relay and took two seconds), Mills' performances in the discus and shot put got them over the top. She had the longest throw of the day in the discus at 110 feet one inch.

The inaugural relays for girls was run on the same format as the Dick Williams Relays at East Mecklenburg (today at 5 p.m.) for boys and including all 11 Charlotte public schools.

In the field events, teams added their top three performances from

each event to get a score in the four disciplines. The remaining seven events were on the track.

West Mecklenburg went into the final relay (1,600 meters) trailing Myers Park 56-52, but the Indians (Alexander, Cesnee Bowden, Cede Bowden and Davina McCluney) ran their best time of the season and a school record, four minutes 6.9 seconds. Combined with the Mustangs' eighth-place finish in the event, West Mecklenburg took home the title.

"I wasn't sure how many points we were down," Lawing said, "because I couldn't hear the announcement (before the event). But we wanted to win that relay, and we were hoping that if we did we'd win the meet."

Lawing didn't allow himself to celebrate until the announcement came that the Indians had won.

Independence, third overall in the competition, was second in the 1,600-meter relay edging South Mecklenburg 4:15.2 to 4:15.3. Olympic was fourth at 4:16.7.

Myers Park won the most events, four. The discus, shuttle hurdles, distance medley and 1,600 team race.

Team Results: 1. West Mecklenburg 62; 2. Myers Park 57; 3. Independence 46; 4. East Mecklenburg 38; 5. Olympic 35; 6. Harding 34; 7. Providence 32; 8. South Mecklenburg 29; 9. (tie) Garinger, North Mecklenburg 17; 11. West Charlotte 4.

High Jump: 1. East Mecklenburg 14-0; 2. (tie) Harding, North Mecklenburg 13-8; 4. South Mecklenburg 13-4; **Long Jump:** 1. Harding 43-1; 2. Garinger 42-6; 3. Olympic 42-2½; 4. Independence 41-7; **Shot Put:** 1. West Mecklenburg 92-11; 2. Myers Park 91-4½; 3. Providence; 4. South Mecklenburg 89-3; **Discus:** 1. Myers Park 288-3; 2. West Mecklenburg 265-6½; 3. East Mecklenburg 240-7; 4. Olympic 238-10; **Shuttle hurdles relay:** 1. Myers Park 1:14.8; 2. Independence 1:15.8; 3. Garinger; 4. Providence 1:16.9; **3,200 relay:** 1. West Mecklenburg 10:22.3; 2. Providence 10:33.8; 3. East Mecklenburg 10:35.1; 4. North Mecklenburg 10:44.3; **400 relay:** 1. Independence 50.4; 2. West Mecklenburg 51.3; 3. South Mecklenburg 53.0; 4. West Charlotte 53.2; **Distance medley:** 1. Myers Park 13:46.5; 2. West Mecklenburg 14:20.2; 3. Independence 14:20.4; 4. Providence 14:40.4; **Sprint medley:** 1. Olympic 1:56.5; 2. East Mecklenburg 1:56.8; 3. Myers Park 1:59.2; 4. West Mecklenburg 2:00.2; **1,600 team race:** 1. Myers Park 32:00; 2. East Mecklenburg 37:00; 3. Providence 39:00; 4. West Mecklenburg 41:00; **800 relay:** 1. Harding 1:47.9; 2. Independence 1:49.6; 3. Olympic 1:58.3; 4. South Mecklenburg 1:59.2; **1,600 relay:** 1. West Mecklenburg 4:06.9; 2. Independence 4:15.2; 3. South Mecklenburg 4:15.3; 4. Olympic 4:16.7.