

Three boys qualify for regionals

By Kevin Gordon

OAK HARBOR — Dalton Hesselbart, Gage Might and Bryce Koprowski-Kistner are headed to the regional high school track and field meet.

The Eastwood athletes qualified for the regional during Thursday's opening day of the Division II district at Oak Harbor High School.

Hesselbart finished second in the pole vault, Might finished third in the shot put and Koprowski-Kistner finished third in the long jump to advance to next week's regional at Lexington High School.

The top four finishers in each event qualified for the regional, with the fifth- through eighth-place finishers scoring team points.

The finals of the 4x800 relay, pole vault and long jump were held Thursday, along with the preliminaries of the 100, 200, 400, 110 hurdles, 300 hurdles, and the 4x100, 4x200 and 4x400 relays.

The district meet concludes Saturday, with the field events at 10:30 a.m. and the running finals at noon.

"A solid day overall," Eastwood head coach Brian Sabo said. "We've got three guys going to the regionals, and we got a lot of guys to the finals. A lot of them have an opportunity to make it to regionals, and that's all we can ask."

The Eagles had six personal records during the meet.

"We had a lot of PRs," Sabo said. "That's what we asked of them, to compete and to PR. We still have another chance to do that on Saturday."

Eastwood is second in the team standings with 30 points to trail Perkins with 60. Oak Harbor is third with 15.

Sabo also was pleased with the experience the Eagles received during the meet. Eastwood has a roster dominated by freshmen and sophomores.

"There's still a lot of teaching, and a lot of things this group can learn," Sabo said. "The seniors have led great, but only a couple of them have competed in the districts before, so that's new for them. Just getting this experience is great for the younger guys."

Regional qualifiers/running finals

Might needed a big throw during the shot finals to qualify for the regional after he was in eighth place following the prelims. The senior eventually advanced with a throw of 45-0 after his best throw during the prelims went only 40-9.

The 23 athletes received three throws during the prelims, with the top nine distances qualifying for the finals. The athletes then received three more throws during the finals in an attempt to improve their distance.

"He survived to get to the regional," Sabo said of Might, whose best is 46-4¼. "He really got after it in the finals, and launched a big one."

Eastwood's Mason Steele finished sixth in the shot with distance of 43-8, a PR over his previous best of 43-1. He PR'd in the shot for the third straight meet and sixth time this season after starting the season with a mark of 36-5.

“He’s had a tremendous year,” Sabo said of Steele, who competes in the discus Saturday. “He’s had a solid year competing, and he’s been an even better leader. He’s been a tremendous leader and captain for us.”

Dalton Hesselbart, a senior, was second in the pole vault with a jump of 12-0, and sophomore Bryce Hesselbart was seventh at 9-6.

Koprowski-Kistner, a sophomore, advanced in the long jump with a distance of 19-9½. Senior Connor Oberhouse was eighth at 19-¼.

Eastwood’s 4x800 team of senior David Russell, juniors Devin Good, Xander Ramsey, and Cory Jay was fifth in 8:37.48, just off the Eagles’ season-best of 8:37.19. Good ran a PR split.

Advancing to the finals

Qualifying for the finals for the Eagles were:

- 100, senior Ryder Boice, 11.66, seventh fastest of the qualifiers.
- 110 hurdles, sophomore Noah Smith, 16.02, third fastest.
- 300 hurdles, Smith, 43.93, sixth fastest.
- 4x100 relay, team of senior Ethan Kwiatkowski, Boice, Koprowski-Kistner and junior Jake Limes, 44.62, sixth fastest. The time was Eastwood’s best this season, lowering its previous best of 44.87.
- 4x400 relay, team of Russell, Limes, freshman Noah Haar and Smith, 3:35.15, fifth fastest. The time was Eastwood’s best this season, improving on its previous best of 3:36.36. Haar and Russell ran PR splits.

PR performances

Posting PRs for the Eagles were:

- 200, Boice, 23.62, lowering his previous best of 23.89.
- 400, Russell, 54.97, beating his previous best of 55.17.

Complete results of the meet are available at:

<https://www.baumspage.com/track/trevent.php?peventid=1095&table=C>