

# Preston edges Lancers for District One title

By BRUCE CLOSWAY

Sunday News Sports Writer

Tom Severson placed first in two events, took third in another, anchored a winning relay team, and scored a total of 16½ points, but it still wasn't enough to enable La Crescent to hold off Andy Bunge and his Preston teammates in the District One track meet held at Jefferson Stadium Friday afternoon.

Preston compiled a total of 50 points, four more than the Lancers, to notch its first district title in over five years. Out of the 16 teams that participated in the meet, La Crescent had to settle for the runner-up spot with 46 points despite Severson's individual heroics.

But Severson wasn't the only outstanding individual performer in the meet. Bunge, a dedicated junior who proved he doesn't need anyone else to push him to run his best, turned in the fastest clocking in the 880-yard run in the state this season by winning the event in a remarkable time of 1:56.4.

Following the Lancers in team scoring were Caledonia with 35 points, Chatfield with 22, Mabel-Canton with 21, Spring Valley, last year's district champion, with 17, Lewiston with 16, Grand Meadow with 14, Lanesboro with 12, Peterson with eight, Rushford with six, Harmony, LeRoy-Ostrander and Spring Grove with three apiece and Houston with two.

The Bluejays held a six-point lead going into the final event on the strength of Brian Hoff's second-place finish in the two-mile run coupled with a fourth-place finish — that was the result of a personal 30-second improvement — from Jim Snyder.

La Crescent's only chance to tie for the district crown would have been to take first in the mile relay and hope that Preston didn't place at all. Well, the Lancers did wind up with the fastest time in the event, but Coach Paul Zimmerman's Preston squad took the second heat and was credited with the second-fastest clocking for the four laps.

The Lancers' foursome of Rick Serres, Steve Wedl, Rick Lui and Severson was clocked at 3:34.9, while Preston's unit of Greg Hoff, Scott Snyder, Ben Sikkink and Bunge came in with a time of 3:35.7. Bunge's split time, for his quarter-mile leg according to two different judges at track side, was blazing 49.5.

"I've learned that I have to push myself if I expect to improve on my time," noted Bunge in reference to his incredible performance in Friday's meet. "I'd only run three open half miles this season before today and I felt it was about time I made my move."

Bunge, who also took second in the long jump in addition to

anchoring the Bluejays' victorious 880-yard relay team, recorded his fastest career time in the half mile in the state meet last year when he finished second to Mark Kittleson of White Bear Lake with a 1:55.5 clocking.

Severson, a wiry senior, was the only double winner in the meet taking the 220-yard dash in 23.3 and earlier winning the 440-yard dash with a time of 52.3. La Crescent's only other first beside the mile relay was provided by Steve Ham in the discus with a toss of 138-6.

Marty Kujawa of Chatfield won the 120-yard high hurdles in 15.8, and later finished an eyelash behind Greg Hoff of Preston in the 180-yard low hurdles. Hoff's winning time in the event was 21.4.

Mabel-Canton's Jeff Williams staged his highest career jump to win the pole vault at a height of 12-6, and sophomore Steve Olson of Peterson was second on the basis of fewer misses for Williams. Luther Manion of Lewiston cleared six feet to win the high jump, and Lanesboro's Peter Bothun went 19-4½ to take the long jump.

Preston got a first from Bruce Dornick in the 100-yard dash and a second in the 220, Leon Holst heaved the shot a winning distance of 50-2½, Pete Peterson of Lanesboro won the mile in 4:43.2, George Von Arx of Caledonia breezed to victory in the two-mile run with a 10:20.5 clocking, and Spring Valley won the sprint medley relay.

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**TEAM TOTALS** — Preston 30, La Crescent 46, Caledonia 35, Chatfield 22, Mabel-Canton 21, Spring Valley 17, Lewiston 16, Grand Meadow 14, Lanesboro 12, Rushford 6, Peterson 4, Harmony, LeRoy-Ostrander, and Spring Grove 3 each, and Houston 2.

**Shot Put** — 1. Leon Holst (GM); 2. Ham (LC); 3. Feine (R); 4. Ogroske (L-O); 5. Golish (Lew); D—50-2½.

**Discus** — 1. Steve Ham (LC); 2. Holst (GM); 3. McDougall (Chat); 4. Feine (R); 5. Ogroske (L-O); D—138-6.

**Pole Vault** — 1. Jeff Williams (MC); 2. Olson (Pete); 3. Luff (LC); 4. Snyder (Pres); 5. Onsgard (SG); H—12-6.

**120-Yd. High Hurdles** — 1. Marty Kujawa (Chat); 2. Williams (MC); 3. Morse (V); 4. Hutchinson (SV); 5. Schroeder (Cal); T—15.8.

**100-Yd. Dash** — 1. Bruce Norrick (Pres); 2. Rool (Lew); 3. G. Hoff (Pres); 4. Richards (Cal); 5. Skangen (SG); T—10.5.

**Mile Run** — 1. Pete Peterson (Lan); 2. Brenatz (Chat); 3. Colleran (Cal); 4. Burg (Cal); 5. McDougall (Chat); T—4:43.2.

**880-Yd. Relay** — 1. Preston (Dornick, Ben Sikkink, Dale Hoffberg, and Andy Bunge); 2. Caledonia; 3. Lewiston; 4. Spring Valley; 5. La Crescent; T—1:35.2.

**440-Yd. Dash** — 1. Tom Severson (LC); 2. Vogeler (MC); 3. Jetson (Harm); 4. Johnson (Chat); 5. Ham (LC); T—52.3.

**180-Yd. Low Hurdles** — 1. Greg Hoff (Pres); 2. Kujawa (Chat); 3. Luff (LC); 4. Richards (Cal); 5. Morse (SV); T—21.4.

**880-Yd. Run** — 1. Bunge (Pres); 2. Wold (MC); 3. Kruchow (Cal); 4. Carrier (Hou); 5. Onsgard (SG); T—1:56.4 (New district record).

**Long Jump** — 1. Peter Bothum (Lan); 2. Bunge (Pres); 3. Severson (LC); 4. Johnson (Pete); 5. Schroeder (Cal); D—19-4½.



Marty Kujawa (Chatfield)



Tom Severson (La Crescent)