

## Syracuse upends top seeded Oklahoma

By the Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — The fans chanted "One more year!" as Carmelo Anthony trotted off the court. Syracuse's sensational freshman was just happy for one more game.

For a change, Anthony struck early Sunday against Oklahoma, scoring 10 of his 20 points in the first 12 minutes as the third-seeded Orangemen beat the top-seeded Sooners 63-47 in the East Regional final.

The Orangemen (28-5) will face Texas on Saturday.

Freshman De'Angelo Alexander led the Sooners with 14 points and Hollis Price finished with eight. Ebi Ere, coming off a 25-point performance against Butler, had seven.

### ■ Texas 85, Mich. St. 76

SAN ANTONIO — T.J. Ford's shot was off, way off.

Yet the Texas point guard wasn't going to let that stop him. The Longhorns were one win from the Final Four and he was determined to get them there.

Ford was 4-of-12 from the field, sinking three layups and just one jumper. But he went to free-throw line 13 times, making 11, for a game-high 19 points.

The sophomore sparkplug also had 10 assists as Texas (26-6) scored the most points the Spartans (22-13) allowed all season.

Texas will make its first appearance in the national semifinals in 56 years on Saturday night against Syracuse.

Texas had five players score in double figures.

Paul Davis led Michigan State with 15 points, and Erazem Lorbek had 14 points and nine rebounds.

### ■ Kansas 78, Arizona 75

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Nick Collison did it one game, Kirk Hinrich the next.

That's how it works at Kansas, and the payoff is a return trip to the Final Four.

Hinrich went from his least productive performance of the season to one of his best, scoring 28 points and blocking a 3-point attempt by Jason Gardner in the final seconds Saturday as the second-seeded Jayhawks beat top-seeded Arizona 78-75 to win the West Regional.

The victory was the 1,800th for Kansas — third-most in NCAA history. The Jayhawks will play in their 12th Final Four, the fourth in Roy Williams' 15 years as coach.

Williams has a 417-100 career record and his .807 winning percentage is the best among active coaches, but he's never won a national championship.

The Jayhawks (29-7) will face Marquette in New Orleans.

### ■ Marquette 83, Kentucky 69

MINNEAPOLIS. — Marquette did what no team had done in three months, and what many people thought was impossible.

Dwyane Wade and the Golden Eagles upset Kentucky 83-69 Saturday, ending the top-seeded Wildcats' 26-game winning streak and earning a trip to the Final Four.

# Lady Truckers move up to D-I competition

Twenty-two participants bodes well for veteran coach Ron DeLuca.

A good starting point is Tiffany Mulder.

The junior finished in the top-16 of the state in the 1600-meter run last season.

Other pieces to the puzzle include senior Victoria Kasten in the high jump and long jump; junior Laura Jones, sprints and hurdles; junior Alicia Caprara, sprints and hurdles; junior Lauren Woods, sprints and relay; junior Anna Babcock, distance; senior Amber Fortson and juniors Liz Koba in throws and junior Brittany Van Natta, distance.

Van Natta finished fourth in the Northern Ohio League in the 3200 at 12:39.19.

The rest of the team includes seniors Sally Smetzer and Leah Wilson; juniors Jackie Harvey and Erin Smetzer and freshman Leann Jones, Cassandra Conley, Brook Goosetree, Allie Lambes, Lisa Lee, Amanda Mowry, Megan Sellers, Tricia Welfle and Elizabeth Wright.

"We don't have a lot, but hope to use everyone," DeLuca said. "They should all be very active."

DeLuca is looking for a solid league race again this season.



LOU REDA/REFLECTOR

Members of the Norwalk girls' track and field team this season include (from left): front row — Brittany Van Natta, Brook Goosetree, Martha Leffler, Cassandra Conley, Allie Lambes, Anna Babcock, Lauren Woods, Alicia Caprara and Daniell Welfle; middle row — Liz Scott, Lisa Lee, Tricia Welfle, Laura Jones, Elizabeth Wright, Erin Smetzer, Jackie Harvey, Liz Koba, manager Betsy Phillips and coach Mark Sindlinger; back row — head coach Ron DeLuca, assistant coach Steve Gray, Leann Jones, Sally Smetzer, Leah Wilson, Amber Fortson, Victoria Kasten, Tiffany Mulder, Megan Sellers, manager Samantha Ludwig and coach Bob Knoll.

Last season, Norwalk finished seventh in the NOL.

"You look at Shelby and they have a great program, along with Tiffin, Galion and

Bellevue," he said. "We're moving up from the bottom. Part of the problem is that we don't have the numbers."

One big change for Norwalk is

the postseason.

The Lady Truckers have moved up to Division I.

They will travel to Fostoria for district competition and

Amherst for the regional meet.

"It gets a little tougher," DeLuca said. "I think it will be an impact, but we have to rise to the occasion."

## St. Paul building for future

By DON HOHLER  
Reflector Sportswriter

For St. Paul coach Dean Shelley, it will be a matter of molding a team for the future.

The first-year coach has 19 participants, but the important aspect is that nearly all are returners.

"I have 14 girls with obvious experience including eight in the weight events," Shelley said. "We are real strong in both the shot and discus."

Senior Angie Camp heads the list of those working in the two circles.

"Angie's goal is to get to the state in the shot and if she continues to improve, she has a good chance," Shelley said. "She seems to be on a mission."

The other candidates for the two weight events are seniors Kristen Playko, Krista Fritz, Sara Beal, Laura Hoffman and Laura House, while the lone junior in the hunt is Karen Pfeifer. Dawn Smith is the only sophomore.

"That is a nice group," Shelley said. "And that includes the necessary senior leadership. A num-



LOU REDA/REFLECTOR

Members of the St. Paul girls' track and field team this season include (from left): front row — Laura House, Laura Hoffman, Krista Fritz, Kristen Playko, Jordan Centers and Sara Beal; middle row — Kay Osborne, Lindsay Bungard, Anne Marie Prack, Amy Widman, Karen Pfeifer and Veronica Geretz; back row — Sadie Deckard, Dawn Smith, Alicia Crum and Amanda Allard.

ber of them will also help us in other events. Playko is also a solid high jumper."

The Lady Flyers also have a quality hurdler in sophomore Veronica Geretz.

A Firelands Conference placer last year as a freshman, she gained some work in this winter at Kent

State. Geretz is also run middle distance races.

The list of sprinters includes senior Jordan Centers, who is hoping track and field can make her quicker as she heads for Miami University on a volleyball scholarship in the fall.

Three sprinters, all juniors,

return with letters. They are Dallas Niedzwiecki, Anne Marie Prack and Amy Widman. Adding to the depth in that area will be freshman Alicia Crum.

Although just a sophomore, Lindsay Bungard heads the list of 400-meter dash veterans.

She is proven as is her class-

mate, middle-distance entry Amanda Allard.

Two juniors, Luda Pasechnyk and Laura Reichel, are also being counted on this season. Freshman Sadie Deckard has also looked good this spring and could furnish instant help in several events.

# Defending FC champions return four state qualifiers

COLLINS — Western Reserve is going for quality this season.

Of the 20 members on the team, 10 are returners, including four state returners.

Jenny Tinney was a double placer, finishing second in the shot put and third in the discus; Amanda Patrick claimed eighth in the shot, while Rebecca Bement and Jenny Hall reached the state in the 300-meter hurdles and 400 dash, respectively.

Tinney also claimed the discus and shot titles in the Firelands Conference meet in earning the outstanding field event athlete for the event.

Bement, who took the 100- and 300-meter hurdle crowns in the FC, was named co-outstanding athlete in the running events.

In addition, Krystal Bennett and MaraLee Albright were regional qualifiers.

The Lady Roughriders captured the league championship with 131 points to finish head of

## GIRLS' TRACK AND FIELD

Crestview's 119.5.

Albright, Bement, Bennett and Tinney are three year letter-winners; Jessica Patrick, Hall and Jennifer Ryan, both two and Jackie Davis, Amanda Patrick and Brittany Pickett, one each.

"Our strengths are experience and great leadership from the upperclassmen to go along with six regional qualifiers and five state qualifiers returning," fourth-year coach Todd Pooch said.

"The goals are high this season as the girls will go for their third straight conference title and move on into the districts, regionals and state meet in Dayton."

Western finished second in the district meet last season.

Pooch is assisted by Steve Adams, Jerry Beck, Keith Landis and Barry Pickens.

### ■ Willard

WILLARD — Despite losing one state qualifier, Willard brings back another one, plus a regional qualifier this season.

Amy Hutchinson advanced to the state tournament in the 400-meter run, but has since departed.

That leaves junior Danielle Stockmaster as the lone Lady Flash with state experience. She is actually two-time state qualifier in the 3200-meter run.

Meanwhile, senior Beverly Weithman advanced to the regional meet in the 400 and holds the school record in that event in 59.8.

"We have an outstanding senior class and very good underclassmen," ninth year coach Dominick Fratta said. "Depth may be a weakness." Other pieces to the puzzle

include seniors Stacy Niedermeier in the sprints and hurdles; Jessica Sanderson, shot put and discus; Elizabeth Frye, Whitney Wiles and Rachel Kaylor, sprints and Sarah Becker, high jump and long jump; juniors Kristen Buurma and Lydia Gallion, distance and Michelle Albright, sprints and sophomores Alicia Niedermeier, distance; Brittney Coder, mid-distance and high jump; Stacey Massie, sprints and long jump and Michaela Danhoff, shot and discus.

One Willard's goal is to improve on a fifth-place Northern Ohio League finish.

Fratta is assisted by Brandie Stackhouse, John Buss, Sean Stumbo and Matthew Dominique.

### ■ Plymouth

PLYMOUTH — Plymouth could be primed to make some noise in the sprints this season

with three returners.

Senior three-year letter-winner Mandy Shepherd and junior two-year letter-winner Megan Carter and Laurie Shepherd are the top sprinters.

"We have good kids that are willing to work," said Marty McKenzie, who is in his 14th year at the school and sixth as head coach. "The 4x100 and 4x200 could be very strong."

Sophomores Heather Stodt and Brooke Waddles are returners in the mid-distance and distance events, respectively. Other team members include junior Kristina Ice in distance and freshman Brandi Chaffins, sprints; Kristin Keaton, hurdles; Megan Hedeon, middle distance; Jessica Shepherd, relays and Chasity Messer, shot put and discus.

"We need some young throwers to step up and to find some jumpers," McKenzie said. "The distances could be a weak area."