

Lady Roughriders fare well in prelims

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TRACK AND FIELD

COLUMBUS — Western Reserve fared well in Friday's running preliminaries with Stephanie Tinney and the 1600-meter relay team as the No. 1 qualifiers in their respective events.

Tinney, who was sixth in the one-even lap last year, clocked in at 57.93 in leading the 16-runner field that is now down to eight.

One of those who failed to qualify, however, was teammate Tiffany Patrick. She ran seventh in her heat and 12th overall in 61.97. It took a 60.32 to reach the finals.

"I felt I ran a good race," Tinney said. "But I felt myself tightening up in the end so it's something I will have to work on prior to the finals.

"This was the most competitive race I have run this season, but not over my career. I hope I can do better (tomorrow)."

Less than an hour later, Tinney anchored the winning 1600 relay team.

Their time checked in at 4:01.68 and sheared almost two seconds off their regional time.

Tinney was solid in stretching the lead over the final 400, but the super lap came from second runner Colleen Nitchman. She went from sixth to second, handing the baton to Danielle Sidell.

She quickly took the lead and gave Tinney a two-step cushion.

Patrick, who was working less than an hour from the open 400, ran the first lap.

"And I may have a little left," Nitchman said. "We are very confident. We survived a lot of injuries early in the season. We'll be ready to go (tomor-

row). Unlike (today), we have just one runner in the 400."

In the other girls' prelim, Plymouth's Kristin Keaton missed out in the finals of the 300 hurdles.

Keaton made up 15 meters in the head leaders, but finished 13th overall at 46.90.

Warren John F. Kennedy's Angele Cicero was the top qualifier at 45.20.

In the boys' prelims, New London's Brian Sheller in the 200 and Duane Berry, Brent Dearth, Chris Foor and Duane Berry in the 800 relay failed to qualify for the finals.

Sheller held the lead going into the third turn in his heat of the 400, but then was run down by much of the field and finished seventh at 51.94.

The relay was in the mix until a bad exchange dashed their chances. It sent the quartet from contenders to last place.

■ **Notes:** Crestview's Andrea Bader topped the field in the 200 at 25.05...Western's girls team is tied with Sycamore Mohawk for fourth with six points after three events...Woodmore, Seneca East and Belpre are tied for the lead with 10 points, each producing one winner...Toledo St. John's Marcus Waugh was one of 16 entries in the Division I shot put, but failed to make it out of the nine-man field. He finished 10th with a best put of 53-1 1/2. He needed to find 9 more inches to stand on the podium. He is the son of former Norwalk and The Ohio State University football player Tom Waugh and the grandson of Norwalk attorney Fred Waugh...Action resumes at 9 a.m. today for area entries and continues all day.