

Amateur Boxing

Reynolds Park trio ready for Eastern championships

By DAVID BULLA
Chronicle Sports Editor

The three boxers rise and shine before the sun comes up, before the first biscuit is made.

"I call them at 4:30 and we're out running at the lake by 5," says Angus Lowery, who manages amateur boxers Harold Bennett, Michael Miller and Thomas Warren. "They run three miles in about 17 or 18 minutes. I think we're getting them ready."

Indeed, for the Winston-Salem trio will represent their state in the Eastern Sports Festival next week in Lake Placid, N.Y. Each won North Carolina Sports Festival titles last month. If they win in Lake Placid, they'll advance to the National Sports Festival at Baton Rouge, La., July 22 through Aug. 4.

"We don't know anything about the opponents yet," says Lowery, who became the threesome's manager when his brother Whit signed with Don King last month. "All we know is we're supposed to be there Monday."

"They're all champs, so no use treating them any differently."

Although he is the oldest of the three boxers, Warren is the least experienced. He has been boxing only three years.

Warren heard about the Reynolds Park program through one of Whit's friends,

whom he worked with at a Twin City barbershop.

"I was in a gang when I lived in Philadelphia," he said. "You had to be in a gang. I was maybe 9 or 10. Those were some mean children."

"Boxing is something I'd wanted to do from the first time I'd seen it. When I heard about Whit, I decided to come down here and give it a try."

Warren's success in the ring -- he owns a 40-12 record -- has brought him plenty of grief from his barbershop customers.

"Win, lose or draw they ride me," said Warren, who turns 22 next Friday. "But they do say to remember them if I win something big."

Bennett appears to have the best shot at winning in Lake Placid. He has won more than 90 fights.

"Harold has pretty good speed," says Lowery of the fighter who's been boxing since he was 5. "He can hit you pretty hard and takes a good punch."

The 17-year-old Bennett boxes in the 132-pound weight group; the 18-year-old Miller, who has more than 50 career wins, in the 106-pound class, and Warren at 139 pounds. Bennett won the state championship with a technical knockout in the finals, while the others won on decisions.

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Reaching For The Gold

Thomas Warren extends on a jab as he prepares for the Eastern boxing championships (photo by James Parker).

YMCA boxing feels the the ax

By DAVID BULLA
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James Ford remembers when he was the recipient of a head butt.

Ford says it didn't feel quite right and his boxing career ended that night. Felt like he was in limbo.

Today, he has the same feeling about the suspension of the YMCA boxing program, which had been stationed at the old Patterson Avenue building from 1951 until last week.

"You get a notice all of a sudden," Ford said, trying to hold back the emotion in his voice. "One day they close you up and the next day they take your equipment. Then they tell you they don't know what they're going to do. They put you in limbo with a one-day notice."

On the bright side, limbo may be kind of disorienting, but at least it's not purgatory.

That is to say, the YMCA boxing program may come back. In the meantime, Ford is training his boxers outdoors.

The future of the program rests in the hands of Norman Joyner, executive director of the new Winston Lake YMCA, which opened last Saturday. Joyner made the decision to suspend the boxing program, but he promises to make a permanent decision in September.

"I want to get our main programs going this summer," Joyner said. "It gives us the opportunity to meet with people. From this I hope to determine where and how we are going to go about providing services to those who are interested in boxing."

"We're not sure what's wanted and that's why I say let's wait until the fall."

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Greensboro Dudley's Pam Doggett eases to a state record in the 300-meter hurdles at the NCHSAA track and field meet at N.C. State (photo by Joe Daniels).

Sports Scope

Doggett becoming a track legend

By DAVID BULLA
Chronicle Sports Editor

GREENSBORO -- Pam Doggett lives in King's Forest, a middle-class neighborhood on the northeast side of the Gate City.

The street names would imply a Camelot in a textile town. There are King Arthur and Sir Galahad streets amid roads with names like Textile Street.

Although she has won four individual state titles, set three state records and participated in three state championship relay teams, the Dudley track and field standout is as modest as the neighborhood and home she has lived in since 1968.

"They're lucky she can only run four events. She'd dust 'em," says her father, who is not boasting but speaking the plain truth about one of the best all-around 16-year-old female athletes in the United States.

"But, Dad, she (East Forsyth's Debra Alexander) runs a 24 or a 25 (in the 200-meter dash)," his daughter says. "She'd dust me."

Doggett displays this kind of

"Parental support is the difference. There are several factors that make a quality athlete.

This separates Pam from the other athletes I've coached."

-- Track Coach
Charlie Brown

modesty almost as regularly as she wins medals and trophies. She led Dudley's girls to a second straight state championship two weeks ago and finished second in the heptathlon at the TAC junior nationals last summer in Los Angeles. Then she went on to capture the bronze medal at the junior Pan American Games.

"Yes, it's started to sink in," says Doggett, who turns 17 Saturday. "A

lot of people at school congratulate me and ask me when I'm going to run next. Others keep up with what I've done in the paper. My old friends are my biggest supporters. They just keep encouraging me."

They also have been keeping close tabs on her physical condition. With the injuries Doggett has had in the last year, her nickname might be "Old Aches and Pains." Here's why:

- At the nationals in Los Angeles last July, she had trouble breathing while running the 800. The Southern California smog was too much and she blacked out. The Greensboro athlete had to be carried from the field in a stretcher and, as if that wasn't bad enough, the emergency medical personnel assigned to the Los Angeles Coliseum accidentally dropped Doggett on her head while they loaded her into an ambulance on the infield.

- Before the junior Pan Am Games, Doggett pulled a hamstring. She had to cope with that aggravation when she went to the Pan Am Games at

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Summer Track

TAC athletes advance to sectionals

Following are results from last Saturday's City-County TAC track and field meet at Winston-Salem State. Top-four finishers from Forsyth County are listed below. They advance to the sectionals at Greensboro's Jamieson Stadium June 15. Events in that meet begin at 8:30 a.m.

Key: RR-Roadrunners; CR-ChevRelays; I-Independent.

Bantam Girls

100 meters: Jatarsa Hayes (CR) 14.49, Christine Frey (RR) 14.83, Candace Crawford (RR) 16.39. Long jump: Hayes (CR) 11-9/4. 200: Hayes (CR) 31.80, Frey (RR) 31.87, Nikicha Webster (RR) 33.62, Crawford (RR) 35.04. 400: Webster (RR) 1:17.0. 1,500: Britt Armentrout (I) 6:45.0. 4x100 relay: Roadrunners 1:05.04.

Bantam Boys

Long jump: Russell Mahon (RR) 11-5. 100: Hamilton Cuthrell (RR) 14.11, Che

McPherson (RR) 14.65, Rogereich McCollum (RR) 15.84. 200: Eric Murden (RR) 34.72, Anthony Jones (RR) 35.55, Chad Waiters (RR) 39.99. 800: Russell Mahan (RR) 5:00.0. 4x100: Roadrunners A 1:02.37, Roadrunners B 1:11.81. 4x400: Roadrunners A 6:11.18, Roadrunners B 6:12.18.

Midget Girls

100: Kenya Turner (RR) 13.00, Tamonica Wright (CR) 14.57, Regina Brown (CR) 15.09. Long jump: Brown (CR) 9-6, Wright (CR) 9-10 1/2. 200: Turner (RR) 28.69, Wright (CR) 32.64, Brown (CR) 33.36. 400: Chandra Guthrie (RR) 1:20.00. 4x100: Roadrunners 1:02.70.

Midget Boys

100: Derrick Speas (RR) 12.47. Long jump: Duane Goodman (RR) 12-1/2. 200: Speas (RR) 27.1, Rufus Cuthrell (RR) 30.02, Jabbar Bennett (RR) 30.71. 400: William Crews (RR) 1:12.28. 4x100:

Roadrunners 56.45. 4x400: Roadrunners 5:37.88.

Youth Girls

100: Jerryeen Woods (RR) 12.62, Tameka Waiters (RR) 12.63, Renee Squires (CR) 12.64, Shev Martin (CR) 13.27. Long jump: Shevonne Martin (CR) 11-0, Kim Hayes (CR) 10-5/4, Renee Squires (CR) 8-1/4. 200: Woods (RR) 27.05, Waiters (RR) 28.42, Latrese Cunningham (RR) 29.89, Shanta Young (RR) 29.89. 400: Iysha Stowe (RR) 1:14.97, Shanta Young (RR) 1:15.11. 100 hurdles: Martin (CR) 19.22. 4x100: Roadrunners A 52.88, ChevRelay 54.18, Roadrunners B 56.31. 4x400: Roadrunners A 5:10.79, Roadrunners B 5:12.95.

Youth Boys

100: Harvey Hughes (CR) 11.40, Stephen Torrence (CR) 12.19, Torre Jessup (RR) 12.20. Long jump: Corey Brown (I) 12-1/4, Curtis Canty (CR) 11-1/4. 200: Julius Reece (CR) 23.28, Hughes (CR) 23.89, Jessup (RR) 25.14, Torrence

(CR) 25.30. 400: Reece (CR) 54.08, Michael Jones (RR) 1:06.05. 800: Brant Armentrout (CR) 2:32.62, Kyle Armentrout (CR) 2:34.35, Michael Petile (CR) 2:49.96, Chris Mack (RR) 2:51.56. 1,500: B. Armentrout (CR) 4:51.40, K. Armentrout (CR) 4:51.56. 3,000: K. Armentrout (CR) 10:22.38, B. Armentrout (CR) 10:26.50. 200 hurdles: Curtis Canty (CR) 38.98. 4x100: ChevRelays 46.69, Roadrunners 51.28. 4x400: Roadrunners B 4:19.39, ChevRelays 4:22.96, Roadrunners 4:53.70.

Intermediate Girls

100: Yolanda Shepherd (RR) 12.33, Madiona Caesar (RR) 12.62, Danita Roseboro (CR) 12.63, Phyllis Nance (CR) 12.64. Long jump: Bobbette Love (RR) 16-3/4. High jump: Katrina Lash (RR) 4-10. 200: Shepherd (RR) 25.68, Caesar (RR) 25.69, Danita Roseboro (CR) 26.20, Marcia Williamson (RR) 26.94. 400: Micheala Fair (RR) 1:05.25, Lash (RR) 1:05.92, Pam Washington (CR) 1:06.09. Please see page B3



Yolanda Shepherd crosses the finish line to complete the Roadrunner intermediate girls' victory in the 4x100-meter relay (photo by James Parker).