

# YOUNG TEAMS, BIG DREAMS

Athletes run through obstacles

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**W**ith a young girls team and an even younger boys team, there was no telling what would happen out on the track in the spring. After a few weeks of training, though, it was evident that both teams were dead set on having a successful season.

"Our team was young this year, but we had a ton of amazing performances; we have a lot for which to be proud of," said **Alison Kirgis, 10**.

The first meet took place directly after spring break, and the girls won third place or above in four consecutive meets afterwards. The boys team also made their mark when they won the Gold Baton-the only home meet of the season-despite awful weather and tough competition.

"We did have a young team, but our guys worked really hard, and they were incredibly determined," said **Coach Hank Ray**.

**Taylor Williams, 11**, placed first in the GMC 1600m run and fourth in the State Tournament. Other standouts included **Cameron Luning, 11**, in long jump, **Shannon Williams, 10**, in high jump, **Luke Tawney, 11**, in hurdles and **Stephen Hull, 9**, in the 400m, and **Yavuz Inanli, 12**, and **Brian Weber, 12**, who placed in the GMC meet in their respective distance events. The boys team also sent many relay teams and individuals to the regional meet.

The girls also finished strong. **Morgan Swedberg, 11**, continued to improve in 100 hurdles, **Alanah Sonntag, 9**, impressed with her distance running. **Ali Shewmon, 10**, contributed in most sprinting and mid-distance events. Both track and field participants came through to win an outstanding 4th place in the GMC.

"We're losing some important people, but we're excited with everyone coming back," said **Coach Scott Popoff**.



## PROFILE

### PLAYER'S



"This season went really well. From practicing pole vaulting indoors during the winter, I was able to really improve my form and increase my height."

-**Anna Pittman, 12**

"This is my first year on track and it's been great, the coaches and runners were great."

-**Daryl Pierce, 11**



**Michael Latessa, 11**, sprints past his competition. Latessa was a top ten runner in the GMC and won numerous races. He placed among the top ten runners in the 100 meter dash in the GMC.



**Devon Feagans, 10**, makes another good jump. Feagans was definitely an asset to the team. Not only did she participate in the high jump, but she also ran the 4x100, the open 400, and the 4x4.



**Thomas Zajdel, 10**, hurdles past his opponent. He has been a member of the team throughout his high school career and plans to run the next two years. He was among the top runners in the GMC this year.