



Lady 'Stangs race to state

Back to back second-place finishes



~ 2023 ~



Congratulations

Eldon Track Team!

Eldon Athletic Booster Club



The Eldon Lady Mustangs finished second at the MSHSAA Class 3 Girls Track and Field Championships May 25-26, at Jefferson City High School. The Lady Mustangs finished with 37 points, finishing second only to Lutheran St. Charles. Members of the team are, from left, front row: coaches Sydney Prater, Kay Reed, Toby Eldridge, Renee McDevitt and Taylor Wall; middle row: Emily Ramirez, Heather Bradfield, Leanda-Sanchez-Wilson, Anmarie Dillon, Karmen McNeil, Delaney McGhay, Corin Davis and Helen Adrent; back row: Brittany Wallace, Zoe Martonfi and Mikala Huckabee. This is the second consecutive second-place finish for the Lady Mustangs.



Congratulations

Eldon Mustangs Track

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Saluting success on the track



Back on top - The Eldon Lady Mustang track and field squad won its seventh Tri-County Conference championship in 10 years Thursday, May 4, at School of the Osage. Members of the team are, from left, front row: Hannah Beanland; middle row: Audrey Dinwiddie, Mikayla Huckabee, Leandra Wilson-Sanchez and Ravyn DeLong; back row: Delaney McGhay, Corin Davis, Zoe Martonfi, Stevana Wixson, Karmen McNeil, Anmarie Dillon, Ashlynn Hill, Adrianna Frakes, Kamdyn Wright, and Heather Bradfield. Submitted photo)

1600-meter relay squad secures Eldon's finish

It came down to the final track event before the Eldon Lady Mustangs were able to secure the the team's second-place finish.

The quartet of Heather Bradfield, Karmen McNeil, Mikala Huckabee and Anmarie Dillon had been working hard all season. Early on it had been a bit of a struggle, but they managed to put things together, running a 4:18.21 to clinch their spot in the sectional meet.

Then things really clicked, according to their coach, Rene McDevitt.

"At Sectionals is when ev-

eryone stepped up and did their job," she said.

The team shaved nearly six seconds from their time.

"We went from around 4:19 to a 4:13," McDevitt said.

There were no changes, either to the team, or to the order, according to McDevitt.

"The same girls were on the team, it was just working together as a team and everyone doing their job. They started to believe in themselves as much as I believed in them. It was amazing to watch."

In the prelims, the Lady Mustangs ran a 4:13.49 and earned the last qualification

spot in the finals. In their final, the girls finished with a time of 4:14.62, which falls right in line with what they had been doing in the post season.

Dillon agreed that it was more about believing in themselves.

"We started trying even harder," Dillon said. "I think the two underclassmen (Huckabee and Bradfield, really wanted us seniors (Dillon and McNeil) to get a state medal.

Dillon added "It feels really good to get out of there with at least one medal."



One fast quartet - Eldon's 4x400-meter relay team finished eighth at the MSHSAA Class 3 Championships Saturday, May 27, at Jefferson City High School. Team members are, from left: Anmarie Dillon, Karmen McNeil, Mikala Huckabee and Heather Bradfield.



Heather Bradfield
Sophomore



Mikala Huckabee
Freshman



Anmarie Dillon
Senior



Karmen McNeil
Senior

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Triumphant walk - The Eldon Lady Mustang track and field team heads to the medal stand to collect their second-place trophy at the MSHSAA Class 3 Track and Field Championships Saturday, May 27, in Jefferson City. The Lady Mustangs finished with 37 points, finishing behind Lutheran St. Charles

Martonfi makes Mustang memories

Eldon High School junior Zoe Martonfi has not etched her name in the annals of the Lady Mustang track and field program. She has carved them in stone.

Zoe, the daughter of Steve and Robin Martonfi, is now the most decorated track and field athlete in school history after her marvelous performance at the MSHSAA Class 3 Track and Field Championships May 26-27, in Jefferson City.

Zoe won four state medals at the meet, giving her 11 in three years. Sara Rhine is second with nine overall state medals in four years. (2012-2015).

She won three of her four events (800m run, 1600m run and 300m hurdles). She also added a third-place finish in the triple jump. That adds up to 36 points. As a team, the Lady Mustangs finished second with 37 points.

During her three-year run, Martonfi has also proven to be a versatile athlete. She has won state medals in eight different events. She also has state medals in the following events: 3200-meter relay, high jump, 100-meter hurdles and the long jump.

But Zoe is so much more than a great athlete, accord-

ing to her coaches.

“One of the things I like most about Zoe’s accomplishments is the respect the other teams’ athletes have for her,” said assistant track coach and head cross country coach Kay Reed. “She is kind to all of them and has formed several friendships throughout her cross country and track seasons. Her humble spirit is also evident after her races, jumps etc. She isn’t boastful at all.”

“Zoe is a very gusty runner,” head coach Toby Eldridge said. “She understands that you have to be willing to make your body uncomfortable in practice and often at meets in order to get better.”

Eldridge says she usually seems up to the task.

“We coaches can break down the events and set the times and practices, but she still has to complete the plan. We are always honest with Zoe. This has helped build tremendous trust and she appreciates the comments, even in criticism. She is willing to be accountable. She is an encouragement to her teammates and she tries hard when no one is watching,” Eldridge said. “These things help separate her from other high school athletes.”



Just running - Zoe Martonfi leads the way as she wins the 1600-meter run at the MSHSAA Class 3 Track and Field Championships Saturday, May 27, in Jefferson City.

Simply the Best

Zoe Martonfi has won 11 medals at the MSHSAA Track and Field Championships in her career.

- 2021
- 100m hurdles - 6th
- 300m hurdles - 2nd
- triple jump - 4th
- 2022
- 1600m run - 2nd
- 300m hurdles - 2nd
- 4x800m relay - 3rd
- high jump - 3rd
- 2023
- 800m run - 1st
- 1600m run - 1st
- 300m hurdles - 1st
- triple jump - 3rd



Reaching - Zoe Martonfi reaches to the sky as she finishes third in the triple jump Friday, May 26, at the MSHSAA Class 3 Girls Track and Field Championships at Jefferson City High School. Martonfi won three other events over the weekend.



Earning their point - The Eldon Lady Mustang 4x400-meter relay team poses with the second-place trophy Saturday, May 27. Members of the team are, from left: Brittany Wallace (Substitute), Mikala Huckabee, Anmarie Dillon, Karmen McNeil, Heather Bradfield and Emily Ramirez (Substitute). The relay team finished eighth, which provided the Lady Mustangs the point needed to earn the second-place finish.

On the Cover -

Our cover features scenes from Eldon’s second-place showing at the MSHSAA Class 3 Championships May 26-27 at the Licklider Complex on the campus of Jefferson City High School. Clockwise, beginning upper left: Eldon seniors Anmarie Dillon and Karmen McNeil give the second-place trophy a little kiss; Eldon’s Zoe Martonfi is all smiles on the medal stand and why shouldn’t she be? She won four medals, including three championships. And finally, the girls make their way down the track to pick up their second-place trophy.

Congratulations

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Second straight second-place finish

Martonfi wins three events as Lady Mustangs earn state track trophy

For the Eldon Lady Mustang track and field team, a strong performance by its star athlete could very well give them at least a shot at the second track trophy in program history.

Well that star athlete did her part and the Lady Mustang squad saw a relay team earn a medal on its way to its second consecutive second-place finish in the MSHSAA Class 3 Girls Track and Field Championships May 25-26, at the Licklider Complex at Jefferson City High School.

The Lady Mustangs finished with 37 team points, trailing Lutheran St. Charles, and finishing one point ahead of Centralia and two clear of Palmyra.

Junior Zoe Martonfi had a historic weekend, racking up four medals, including three championship showings.

Martonfi won the 300-meter hurdles (44.61 seconds); the 800-meter run (2 minutes, 16.02 seconds) and the 1600-meter run (5:04.59). All three of those events occurred within a 2 hour, 30 minute

time span.

In the 300 hurdles, she had to come from behind in the last 75 meters to eke out the win. The 800 and 1600 were more dominant as she held small leads until the final lap each time, then pulling away.

"That's kind of my style," she said. "I like to set the pace. I know I can finish really strong."

There was concern about her being able to manage such a tight schedule. So much so that her coaches tried to get her back out of the sun follow-

ing the 300 hurdles, but she had to climb the podium to get her medal. Not that it mattered. Martonfi, now has a whopping 11 state track and field medals, most in school history.

"Winning that first medals got me really pumped up," she said. "I felt really great and I am so excited about representing my team."

She also finished third in the triple jump on Friday with a leap of 10.61 meters (34 feet 9.75 inches)

Eldon's 4x400-meter relay

team of Heather Bradfield, Karmen McNeil, Mikala Huckabee and Anmarie Dillon got into the finals and finished eighth in that race with a time of 4:14.62.

"I am so very proud of this team," relays coach Renee McDevitt said. "The girls worked really hard."

Head track coach Toby Eldridge agreed.

"Earlier this season, this team wasn't even cracking the top 20," he said. But they kept getting better each time out."

Other Lady Mustangs who

competed in the meet were: Delaney McGhay, ninth in the discus with a throw of 32.15 meters (105-6); Corin Davis, 14th in the discus with a toss of 28.53 meters (93-7) and Leandra Sanchez-Wilson, 15th in the shot put with a toss of 9.15 meters (30-0.25)

"We are such a young team," Eldridge said. "We have a chance to be even better next year."

Throwers show plenty of promise

Eldon high school's throwers had a really good season. The Lady Mustangs sent three throwers to the state meet and although none of them managed to crack the top eight, all three of them will return and will look to help lead the way toward another state finish.

Delaney McGhay just missed earning an all-state medal as she managed to make the finals in the discus.

She was among the top seven for most of the day, but she got passed a pair of competitors late and she finished ninth with a throw of 32.15 meters (105 feet, 6 inches).

"I felt I threw okay, but I definitely could have done better," she said.

Her teammate, Corin Davis, finished 14th in the competition. She had a best throw of 28.53 meters (93 feet, 7 inches).

It should be noted that six of the top eight finishers were seniors. Eldon could have a very good chance of having medalists next season.

McGhay is only a sophomore. Davis is a freshman. She was the lone freshman among the 16 competitors at the state meet.

Eldon's youth was also served in the shot put as sophomore Leandra Sanchez-Wilson finished 15th, uncork-

ing a best throw of 9.15 meters (30-0-2.5) inches on her first throw of the day.

Throwers coach Taylor Wall said she is looking forward to next season as she had all of her throwers returning to action.

"We also have at least one incoming freshman who could be able to help us quite a bit," she said.



Fling it - Corin Davis finished 14th in the MSHSAA Class 3 girls discus Friday, May 26, at Jefferson City High School.



Letting go - Delaney McGhay qualified for the finals on her way to a ninth-place finish in the discus at the MSHSAA Class 3 Track and Field Championships Friday, May 26, at Jefferson City High School.



Girls who throw things - Eldon's three state qualifying throwers pose with the team's second-place trophy from the MSHSAA Class 3 Track and Field Championships in Jefferson City. Throwers are, from left, Corin Davis, Leandra Sanchez-Wilson, Delaney McGhay and Eldon throwers coach Taylor Wall.



Good spot - Leandra Sanchez-Wilson finished 15th in the MSHSAA Class 3 girls shot put Saturday, May 27, at Jefferson City High School.



All alone - Zoe Martonfi kicks it into high gear and appears to be all alone on her way to victory in the 800-meter run Saturday, May 27, at the MSHSAA Class 3 Girls Track and Field Championships at Jefferson City High School.

MSHSAA Track and Field Championships Class 3 Girls Team standings

1. Lutheran St. Charles - 51
2. Eldon - 37
3. Centralia - 36
4. Palmyra - 35
5. Summit Christian - 32
6. New Covenant - 27
7. El Dorado Springs - 26
8. Incarnate Word - 24
9. Winfield - 23
10. Kauffman - 20



Congratulations,
to all of our
Eldon Lady Mustangs!!

Delaney,
I am so proud of you!
Love, Dad

