

Tigers come back strong

BY ERIC BROWNING

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Wheaton Warrenville South came back and treated Day Two of the Class AA West Aurora sectional just like it will next week in Charleston.

"Just like the state meet, you have to compete one day and come back the next," Wheaton Warrenville South coach Ken Helberg said.

Picking up 12 state qualifications along the way, the Tigers scored 100 points for first place, followed by **Boys track** Glenbard South with 67, Waubonsie Valley with 53.3, Glenbard East with 48 and Hinsdale Central with 41.83.

It came as no surprise that four of the Tigers' qualifications came at the hands of senior Justin Harrison.

After winning both the 100 meters and 400-meter relay on Friday, Wheaton Warrenville South's senior faced off with Glenbard South's Lee McGinnis in the 400 meters and the 1,600-meter relay.

Harrison ended up winning the 400 meters in 47.43 over McGinnis' 47.68. Harrison also led his 1,600-meter relay to first place over McGinnis and

Glenbard South's Eric MacTaggart, who won the 3,200 meters Friday, found himself in an unusual set of circumstances when he and Benet sophomore Matt McCabe rounded the final turn in a tie.

"I don't race very often, I mean, really race," MacTaggart said, acknowledging that his events are usually run alone due to lack of good competition.

Junior Chris Vasich led 10th-place Naperville Central in the hurdle events.

Having already solidified a trip to the state meet Friday with a win in the 110-meter hurdles, Vasich also qualified in the 300.

"I was happy with my time given the strong wind," Vasich said after winning in 38.72.

Although the 300-meter hurdles turned out to be Vasich's pleasure, it was nothing but pain to Wheaton Warrenville South's Adam VanIten.

VanIten, a state qualifier in 2003, was running on pace to qualify downstate but tripped and fell over the final hurdle.

"It's unfortunate, but that's the way sectionals are," Helberg said.

But a meet that boasts so much uncertainty is bound to swing in favor of the unlikely athletes. In this case it was Naperville North's 800-meter relay team.

The fifth-place Huskies relay consisting of Scott Pavel, Brandon Huggins, Matt Struckmeyer and Dwight Carter saw that their time, 1:30.0, was just .2 under the state-qualifying cut.

"We knew we had a good chance if our handoffs were perfect," Carter said about his state-qualifying relay team.