

## 2 Dragons heading to state track meet May 16-18

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

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Holyoke tracksters closed out the season at the LPAA/YWKC League Championships in Wray Saturday, May 11. The boys scored 95 points to finish in fourth while the girls placed ninth, scoring 52 points.

Jacinda Krueger and Carlos Diaz will represent Holyoke at the state meet Thursday-Saturday, May 16-18.

Krueger earned the No. 12 seed in the 300-meter hurdles and the 16th-seed in the 100-meter dash.

Diaz will compete in the high jump, entering the meet in a nine-way tie for the No. 14 seed.

Diaz, who coach Luke Thomas said only competed in the high jump two other times in the season, entered the event moreso as an end-of-the-year fun event and ended up qualifying for state.

“It is rewarding to see it happen for him,” Thomas said. “Good things are going to happen. We are all proud of him.”



**HHS tracksters headed to the State Track Meet this weekend are pictured from left,**

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### Carlos Diaz and Jacinda Krueger.

#### —Enterprise photo

Thomas noted the main concern is keeping the two athletes focused as they enter the last week of the season. Practices will aim to improve technique and build confidence while making sure muscles are rested and ready for competition.

Thomas said many kids were just outside of the top-18 times, distances or heights needed to qualify for state.

“We had a bunch of young kids on the cusp of making a run for state,” Thomas said. “It is going to be a very successful program if they stick around and work hard.”

Daniel Bencomo was just six inches short from qualifying in the discus. The boys’ 4x200-meter relay team was on pace to post a qualifying time Saturday, but going into the last leg of the race, a fallen runner entered into Holyoke’s lane, forcing T.J. Gertner to slow down, stutter step and jump the human obstacle. Thomas believes that at the pace the team was running, they would have easily qualified.

“I am so proud of all of the athletes,” Thomas said. “They worked hard and made it a very rewarding year for me and the other coaches as well.”

### Boys’ results

100-meter dash—T.J. Gertner, fifth, :12.39.

800-meter run—Ryan Parker, second, 2:09.17; and Matt Golden, fifth, 2:20.93.

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3200-meter run—Morgan Golden, eighth, 12:42.29.

110-meter hurdles—Carlos Diaz, third, :18.66.

4x100-meter relay—Marques Harvey, Fernando Rojo, Eric Rojo and Bencomo, fourth, :56.41.

4x200-meter relay—Andrew Kent, Parker, Cruz and Gertner, second, 1:40.21.

4x400-meter relay—Cruz, Gertner, Kent and Parker, third, 3:53.25.



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### **Jacob Vasa jumped his way to a third-place finish in the triple jump in Wray Saturday. —Enterprise photo**

High jump—Diaz, first, 5'10".

Long jump—Gertner, first, 18'08"; Diaz, second, 18'07.50"; Javy Rojo, fourth, 15'06"; and Harvey, sixth, 13'10.25".

Triple jump—Jacob Vasa, third, 35'05.50"; and Javy Rojo, fourth, 35'02.75".

Shot put—Chris Pell, eighth, 33'02.50".

Discus—Bencomo, fourth, 112'.75".

### **Girls' results**

100-meter dash—Krueger, fourth, :13.62.

200-meter dash—Krueger, sixth, :28.66.

800-meter run—Rosa Ochoa, seventh, 3:00.56.

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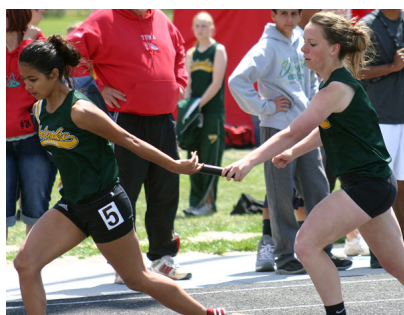
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1600-meter run—Ochoa, sixth, 6:38.33.

3200-meter run—Malena McWilliams, fifth, 14:51.87.

300-meter hurdles—Krueger, second, :48.49.



**Zuri Lopez takes the baton from Megan Parker on the last leg of the 4x200-meter relay race during the LPAA/YWKC League Championships in Wray Saturday, May 11. Lopez crossed the finish line at 2:06.06, giving the Dragons a seventh-place finish. —Enterprise photo**

4x100-meter relay—Lindsay Helgoth, Lori McWilliams, Adi Bencomo and Zuri Lopez, fourth, :57.56.

4x200-meter relay—Helgoth, Bencomo, Megan Parker and Lopez, seventh, 2:06.06.

4x800-meter relay—Ochoa, Dani Brandt, Lori McWilliams and Brittney Prottzman, fourth, 12:05.44.

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High jump—Helgoth, second, 4'06".

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