

Lyons track team features 45 athletes

By Mike Courson

Last year Lyons sent some kids to the state track meet but not the usual. Then-sophomore Samantha Trejo had a bad regional and failed to qualify for her third-straight state meet. Instead, Eddie Landeros finished fourth in the 100m dash and Tyler Edwards ran in the 300m hurdles. This year, James Johnston will have some options with 24 girls and 21 boys on a large squad.

"We have a lot of boys and girls out," Johnston said. "I am looking forward to seeing them compete."

Trejo may not have qualified for state but she returns as one of the team's stars in the distance events. Trejo is a three-time state



The Lady Lion track team is, back row from left: Jacque Tabares, Anna Stansbury, Ashlyn Troyer, Katie Marshall, Cassie Loesch, April Lange, Patricia Douglas, and Kennedy Cain. Front row: Denisse Rodriguez, Andrea Bagby, Janeeth Martinez, Julianne Snyder, Samantha Trejo, Lesly Jaime Bianca Lopez and Karime Vargas. (photo by Jessica Winford/LHS)

cross country qualifier and was headed for top-10 finishes at league and possibly

at state before suffering some health issues this fall. Last May, on a cold

and rainy day in Beloit, Trejo finished fifth in a tough 1600m field, miss-



The Lion track team is, back row from left: Jarett Phillips, Terek Smith, Jack McClure, Oscar Jaime, and Lance Wilder. Front row: Shane Wilson, Tony Carpenter, Yo Yo Alvarez, and Christian Hall.

(photo by Jessica Winford/LHS)

ing qualification by just four seconds. She did not run in the 3200m run, an event in which she ran eighth at state as a freshman. Her time of 12:22.65 was second-best in the four-county Rocket coverage area. This season, junior Katie Marshall will join Trejo in the distance events. Marshall ran seventh in a loaded 300m hurdle event at last year's regional.

Elsewhere on the girls' side, junior Cassie Loesch returns in the throws. She just missed state qualification as a freshman and did not throw at regionals last year. Her season-best shot throw of 33-9.5 would have placed fifth at the Beloit regional, and her discus toss of 105-9 would have been good enough for sixth at the regional.

The boys will have some missing talent. Landeros was the area's top sprinter and set a meet record in Sterling before finishing fourth at state. Landeros also has the No. 6 long jump in 3A during the regular season. Jake Buckman was a member of the CKL-champion 4x100

team and finished third in the league in the triple jump. Senior Dylan Newill died in a tragic house fire last fall. He had the No. 10 discus throw in 3A last season.

But the Lions do have plenty to offer. Edwards will double duties again as a key contributor for the LHS baseball team. At last year's regional, he finished third in the 300m hurdles to qualify for state where he placed 11th in the preliminaries. Edwards also had the third-best 110m hurdle time in the Rocket coverage area.

Junior Jack McClure returns in the jumps. He finished 11th in the Beloit regional last year. Senior Blaine Shea returns to the sprints and as a member of the 4x100 team. Junior Denzale Clark also returns as a member of the 4x100 team that ran the No. 16 in Class 3A during the regular season.

Senior Oscar Jaime returns as the leading distance runner. He ran eighth in the mile at last year's regional, missing state qualification by 14 seconds.

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Lyons track 2016

March 31	@Nickerson
April 5	HOME
April 8	HOME
April 12	@Goessel
April 19	@Fairfield
April 21	@Sterling
April 26	@Peabody
April 29	@Hillsboro
May 3	HOME
May 12	CKL@Lyons
May 20	Regional TBA
May 27-28	State @Wich. State



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