



ALL-COUNTY GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

Track Athlete of the Year ELLA AUDERSET

URBANA SOPHOMORE MIDDLE DISTANCE

■ Led the Hawks to the Class 4A team championship at the state meet with two gold medals—and nearly a third in the 400 dash—in addition to a seventh-place finish in the 4x200 relay.

■ Continued to dominate in her best event, the 800-meter run. Set a county record by crossing the finish line first in 2 minutes, 19.73 seconds before winning the 4A North regional title (2:19.48) and the state title (2:18.17). Her best time of the season before the state meet was 2:16.27 at the Knight Invitational. Then, she ran a 2:11.80 at the DMV Meet of the Elite and 2:11.89 at the New Balance National Outdoor meet following states.

■ At the Class 4A North regional meet, won the 400 (56.36 seconds), the 800 and ran the anchor leg for the Hawks' winning 4x200 (1:43.68) and 4x400 (3:59.12) relays. Went on to anchor the Hawks' winning 4x400 (3:55.02) at the state meet.



Field Athlete of the Year DARDLIE LEFEVRE

TUSCARORA SENIOR JUMPS-SPRINTS

■ After winning her first state title during the indoor season in the 300-meter dash, added two more during the outdoor season with victories in the Class 3A long jump and 4x100-meter relay.

■ Shined in the long jump throughout the season, winning the Frederick County (17-5 3/4), 3A West regional (18-6 1/2) and state (18-3) meets in the event following a second-place finish at the Central Maryland Conference meet (16-10). Her winning jump at the regional championships was a personal-best.

■ Placed at the state meet in four events. In addition to her victories in the long jump and 4x100 relay (48.86 seconds), finished second in 3A in the 200 dash (25.09) and ran a leg for the Titans' 4x200 relay, which finished fifth.

■ Will continue her track career on the Division I level at James Madison University.

FIRST TEAM

PAYTON BOHRER SENIOR POLE VAULT URBANA

■ Set a personal record in winning the Frederick County championship in the pole vault by going over the bar at 11 feet, 3 inches; went on to win the 4A North regional title (10-3) and place third at the state meet (10-6), helping the Hawks win the 4A team title.



PIPER JONS JUNIOR SPRINTS URBANA

■ A consistent point scorer for the Class 4A team champions in the sprinting events, captured the 4A North regional title in both the 100–(12.67 seconds) and 200-meter (25.44) dashes; also ran a leg for the Hawks' winning 4x400 relay at states.



MARY MILLER SENIOR DISTANCE URBANA

■ Won the county title in the 3,200-meter run for the second consecutive season (11:43.29) before setting a personal record at the Class 4A North regional meet (11:32.66) and placing eighth at states (11:39.21).



LILY MORRELL SENIOR SPRINTS URBANA

■ In helping the Hawks claim the Class 4A team championship, won the Central Maryland Conference (46.72) and Frederick County title (44.75) in the 300-meter hurdles before placing fifth at the state meet (46.34). Her time at counties was a personal record.



DEBORAH OBADOFIN JUNIOR JUMPS-HURDLES THOMAS JOHNSON

■ Won the CMC (37–2 1/2), county (36–6) and 3A West regional (35–6 1/2) titles in the triple jump before placing sixth at the state meet (35–10 1/4); also won the county title in the 100 hurdles in a personal-best 15.25 seconds before placing seventh at states.



KASIE OGWULU JUNIOR SPRINTS-RELAYS WALKERSVILLE

■ Qualified for the Class 2A state meet in the 100- and 200-meter dashes, as well as the 4x100 and 4x200 relays; helped both relay teams win 2A West regional titles and place fourth in the state meet.



JOANNA SAIMBRE SENIOR JUMPS-RELAYS WALKERSVILLE

■ A state qualifier in four events, placed second in Class 2A in the triple jump with a personal-best mark of 37 feet, 1 3/4 inches and sixth in the long jump (16–2); also helped the Lions 4x100 and 4x200 relays win 2A West regional titles.



ONI SCOTT JUNIOR JUMPS-THROWS URBANA

■ Her versatility was on display as she qualified for the state meet in the high jump, triple jump and shot put. She placed fifth in the Class 4A high jump and helped the Hawks win the state team championship.



JADA SOBRATTI SENIOR SPRINTS FREDERICK

■ After winning a state title in the 55-meter dash during the indoor season, followed suit in the outdoor season with a winning time of 12.25 seconds in the Class 3A 100 dash at the state meet; also placed fifth in the 200 and the 400 at states.



EMMA STRICKLAND JUNIOR DISTANCE CATOCTIN

■ Ran a school-record time of 2:23.83 to place second in Class 2A in the 800-meter run; also placed fifth in the 1,600 and helped the Cougars' 4x800 relay team to a second-place finish at states.



PAIGE TOLBARD SENIOR THROWS FREDERICK

■ Capped her outstanding throwing career for the Cadets with her first state title in the Class 3A discus at the state meet. Her winning throw traveled 118 feet, 2 inches; also placed fourth in the shot at states.



CHRISTAN CLAGGETT JUNIOR HURDLES FREDERICK

■ Ran her personal-best time of 14.92 seconds in the 100-meter hurdles to place third in Class 3A at the state meet; also placed third in the 300 hurdles at states with a time of 46.11 seconds.



HONORABLE MENTION

Brunswick—Michelle Cincotta, Rebekah Shullenbarger, Amy Tarcza, Liz Willman; **Catoctin**—Brenna Williams, Emily Williams, Emma Wivell, Jenna Zentz; **Frederick**—Rose Bubakar, Brianna Feifer, Sarah Meredith, Destiny Noel, Bwari Ogendi, Nicole Osei, Phoenix Staub; **Linganore**—Payton Arneson, Melanie Barger, Khelsa Connolly, Gemma Davies, Myah Davies, Sarah Moravansky, Mikayla Moxley, Caroline Perrone, Savannah Stitler; **Maryland School for the Deaf**—Rajena Guettler, Cassidy Perry; **Middletown**—Kayla Dalhouse, Sophia Frizzell, Lauren Leatherman, Keren McRea, Allison Watt; **Oakdale**—Emily Baba, Anna Clary, Madison Gamble, Emily McGraw, Hayley Ross, Anna Wilson; **Thomas Johnson**—Rachael Adeoye, Ariana Jones, Makayla Vaughns; **Tuscarora**—Maliyah Anderson, Hardee Bolivar, Ruth Gordon, Aylene Hernandez, Taylor Hilliard, Aliyah Hopper, Norah Jarrahi, Jordan Johnson, Polina Kassir, Joelle Kimbembe, Sophia Routzahn, Haley Stevenson; **Urbana**—Brooke Alban, Susannah Auderset, Kelsey Calabrese, Rachel Custer, Michaela Garvey, Harmony Hartje, Sara Jarman, Riley Johnson, Emily McDonnell, Karly McDonnell, Brin Strouse; **Walkersville**—Megan Bertolette, Ayanna Hill, Regine Jones.

TOUR DE FRANCE

Struggling champ Thomas no longer touching the sky

By JOHN LEICESTER AND SAMUEL PETREQUIN
AP Sports Writers

LA MONGIE, France — When the team of Geraint Thomas was in its pomp at the Tour de France, a time trial followed by a big mountain stage would have been playgrounds for Sky — now in new colors as Ineos — to take cycling's greatest race by the scruff of the neck and leave everyone else fighting for second place.

Not this year.

Thomas, the defending champion, cracked on Saturday on the Tour's first encounter with a climb to above 2,000 meters (6,500 feet), exposing unprecedented weaknesses in his team that has won six Tours in the past seven years.

The time trial on Friday and the climb up to the legendary Tourmalet pass on Saturday seemed primed for Thomas to reel in Julian

Alaphilippe, the yellow jersey-wearer from France who is setting the Tour alight with his punchy riding and determination to keep the race lead, filling French fans' heads with dreams of a first homegrown winner since 1985.

But instead, Thomas has seen Alaphilippe only get further and further away. In two days, with a win in the time trial and a strong second-place on the Tourmalet, the Frenchman has put 50 seconds of extra daylight between him and the Welshman. His lead — up to 2 minutes, 2 seconds — is becoming large enough to start realistically envisioning Alaphilippe in yellow in Paris next weekend as the first French winner since Bernard Hinault.

Further fueling the ecstatic crowds that lined Saturday's steep uphill finish, French rider Thibaut Pinot won Stage 14, putting him

back in the picture to fight for the podium after he lost mountains of time on Stage 10.

Thomas rightly pointed out that the Tour is far from done, with six more ascents to above 2,000 meters still to come. But his inability to stay with Pinot, Alaphilippe and other podium contenders at the top of the Tourmalet — he was eighth, 36 seconds behind Pinot — was a mini-earthquake for the Tour dominated by his British team since 2012 — with champions Bradley Wiggins, Chris Froome and, in 2018, Thomas.

“Not the best day. I just didn't feel quite on it from the start. I was quite weak,” Thomas said.

“At the end I knew I just had to pace it. I didn't really

attempt to follow when they kicked. I just thought I should ride my own pace rather than follow them and blow up on the steepest bit at the end. It's disappointing. I just tried to limit the damage.”

Having taken cycling to a new level since 2012 with its vast budget and attention to the minutest of details, the team run by David Brailsford has been hit both by misfortune and by the inevitability that, eventually, other teams would start to close the gap. Strikingly, Thomas and his teammates didn't ride at the front of the pack up the Tourmalet, unlike previous years when their infernal pace uphill left others gasping and unable to attack as Pinot did this time.

“There are many very strong teams, including mine,” Pinot said. “The level

is really high.”

A horror crash in training for four-time winner Froome, now recovering from career-threatening broken bones, robbed the team of its ace. Thomas' own preparations were hampered by a crash at the Tour of Switzerland last month. And Egan Bernal, being groomed by Brailsford to succeed Froome and Thomas, looks increasingly unable to compete for the title this year. Bernal was fifth on the Tourmalet and is fourth overall, 3 minutes behind Alaphilippe.

Alaphilippe is still being coy about his chances of winning, but the prospect is clearly creeping into his thoughts with each extra step he takes in yellow toward the Champs-Elysees.

“The closer we get to Paris, the more I'll be able to ask myself that question,” he said.

Pinot, sixth overall and 3:12 behind Alaphilippe, is showing remarkable grit in

bouncing back from his Stage 10 misfortune, when he was caught in a group that got separated from other podium contenders in crosswinds.

“I have this rage inside me, because in my opinion it was an injustice,” said Pinot, a podium finisher in 2014. “It was a slap the kind of which I've rarely suffered.”

On Saturday's climb, he slapped back.

“Since the start of the Tour I had this stage in the back of my mind. The Tourmalet, it's mythical,” said Pinot, who has three career stage wins at the Tour.

French President Emmanuel Macron, on hand at the top of the Tourmalet to see Pinot win and Alaphilippe extend his lead, gushed about the “two fantastic riders.”

“They attack and they have heart,” Macron said.

With just one week left, chances will soon start running out for other riders to spoil France's party.



Thomas