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# RUNNERS-UP: Mustangs finish second at Division 1 track state finals

## Mustangs finish second at Division 1 track state finals

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Alison Robinson races with baton as Northville's 3,200 relay team took second place, set a school record and earned all-state status at the Division 1 state finals Saturday in Rockford. / Lynne Mosteller

Written by **Sam Eggleston** Correspondent

Sports are all about the numbers.

Here's a look at some numbers following the Northville girls track and field performance Saturday at the Division 1 state finals:

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- 2 – the [Mustangs'](#) finish among all teams in the state.
- 9 – the Mustangs' all-state finishes.
- 5 – school records set by Northville athletes.
- 1 – first-place finish by Northville.
- 50 – points scored by the Mustangs.

Heading into the final event, places through fifth were going to come down to how well each school did in the 1,600

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The Northville girls track and field team poses with the runner-up trophy at the Division 1 state finals. / Lynne Mosteller

relay.

Northville had a strong team, but after a long, hot day of competing, the members had no idea how [fast](#) they could go.

“As a team, we were in fourth place with 42 points, Rockford was in third place with 47 points and East Kentwood was in second with 49,” Northville coach Tim Dalton said, noting Oak Park – the state champion [team](#) – had the 1,600 relay all but wrapped up as a clear favorite. “If we could find a way to finish second in the four-by-four, it would move us into second place with 50 points. We were seeded fourth in the race.”

But seeding didn't matter to the team of Gracie Goble, Morgan Robertson, Chloe Abbott and Lindsay Walters. The quartet went out and raced its best time of the season, blazing across the finish line in 3:54.49, cutting six seconds off its previous best and [earning](#) second place and all-state status. The finish, which also set the Northville school record – propelled the Mustangs to second place overall as they finished ahead of Rockford and East Kentwood failed to make the top eight.

“The whole team was at the finish line to celebrate and I know it is a memory these girls will have for a lifetime,” Dalton said. “It was a total team effort from top to bottom and I am very proud of this group of student-athletes.”

Also turning in a second-place performance, an all-state finish and setting a school record was the 3,200 relay team of Alison Robinson, Lexa Barrott, Erin Zimmer and Rachel Coleman with a time 9:01.99.

Coleman was the only Northville athlete to earn an individual state title. She ran to a school record in the 1,600 with a time of 4:45.76. Lexa Barrott was 12th in 5:08.17, followed by Taleen Shahrigian in 16th in 5:14.2.

Sam Eggleston is a freelance writer covering sports for the Northville Record and Novi News.

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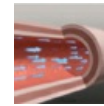
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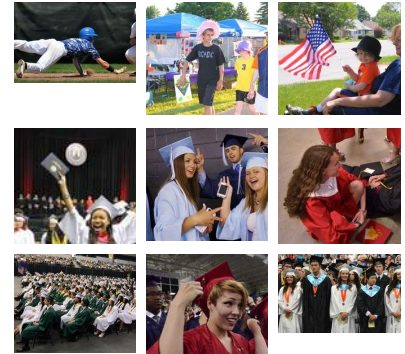
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