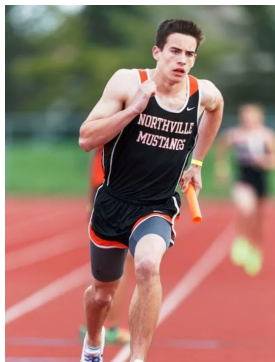


# Salem sprints to convincing boys track win vs. Mustangs

[Brad Emons](#), hometownlife.com Published 12:47 a.m. ET April 29, 2017 | Updated 20 hours ago

## Mustangs place 10th at Spartan Classic at MSU



(Photo: XIN WAN)

With Mason Phillips leading the way, Salem dominated the sprint events and it was more than enough beat Northville in a KLAACentral Division boys track and field meet, 91-46, on April 25.

The host Rocks captured 12-of-17 events led by Phillips, a senior who swept the 100- and 200-meter dashes in 11.34 and 22.56, respectively. He also captured the long jump (21 feet, 8.5 inches) and teamed up with VerShawn Patrick, Jeremiah Roberts and Trevor Nowaske for victory in the 400 relay (44.33).

Alex Howie, meanwhile, swept the shot put (49 feet, 0.5 inches) and discus (139-8) for Salem, which improved to 3-0 overall.

Other Salem individual winners included Cody Tapp, pole vault (11-6); John Paul DeLa Cruz, 110 hurdles (16.91); Shariff Dyer, 300 hurdles (42.05); Andrew Davis, 400 (51.31); Derek Skaff, 800 (2:07.71).

The Rocks also won the 800 relay as Patrick, Ryan Young, Roberts and Davis were clocked in 1:33.26.

"Salem is incredibly talented in the sprints," Northville coach Tim Dalton said. "We knew going in that it would be tough to overcome, so hats off to them."

Northville (1-2) got individual wins from Nicholas Couyoumjian in the 1,600 (4:33.1) and Ben Cracraft in the 3,200 (10:06.94). The trio of Caleb Shaheen, Alec Hopkins and Gustaf Tjernberg all tied for first in the high jump (5-8).

The Mustangs' 1,600 relay team of Ben Steinig, David Perozek, Brandon Liu and Andrew Lane posed a first-place time of 3:41.8. Northville's 3,200 relay team of Tommy Versosky, Josh Morrissey, Casey McCord and Grant Gattoni (8:22.53) also added a first.

Second place Northville finishers included Ja'Quan Crawford, shot put (40-5); Jacob Blackmore, 800 (2:07.99); and Peter Bejin, 3,200 (10:07.84);

Thirds went to Anmol Multani, shot put (39-3); Crawford, discus (110-11); Ben Shuart, long jump (18-4) and 110 hurdles (16.99); Jacob Pichler, 300 hurdles (44.5); Enzo Rodriguez, 100 dash (11.96); Nolan Knight, 400 (53.01); Cracraft, 1,600 (4:35.91);

"Enzo Rodriguez showed in the 100 dash that he has great potential," Dalton said. "If he is willing to work hard over the next three years he could be special. Our high jumpers also came up with a big sweep going one-two-three. Our 4 x 800 also came up with a victory and Nick Couyoumjian ran a nice 1600."

## Spartan Classic

On Friday, Northville took 10th overall with 25.5 points in the Spartan Classic at Michigan State as the 3,200 relay team of Cracraft, Evan Ferrante, Blackmore and Couyoumijian took second in 8:19.02.

Rockford captured the team title with 131.33 points followed by Traverse City Central (85) and Okemos (74.33) taking the first three places.

Other top finishers for the Mustangs included Couyoumjian, fourth, 1,600 (4:26.18); Brandon Kearney, sixth, 100 (11.54); Cracraft, sixth, 1,600 (4:28.36); Bejin, seventh, 3,200 (9:59.61); Shaheen, eighth, high jump (5-10); and Shuart, eighth, 110 hurdles (16.92).

Northville's 400 relay team of Andrew Hezemy, Alex Kim, Rodriguez and Benair Covington also placed eighth (46.44).

"Brandon Kearney had a great day for us on Friday placing sixth in the 100," Dalton said. "Nick Couyoumjian and Ben Cracraft also ran nice 1,600 races breaking in to the 4:20s. We are a team that needs to keep putting in the work at practice. We are not flashy but we are getting better everyday. I'm excited to see where we can get to over the next 5 weeks."

bemons@hometownliffe.com

Twitter: @BradEmons1



**CAPTAIN U**

**WANT COLLEGE  
TRACK COACHES  
TO NOTICE YOU?**

**#1 HIGH SCHOOL RECRUITING SITE**

**CREATE A FREE PROFILE**