

## Miller fourth at state meet

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AUSTIN – Miller Grove's Logan Miller is becoming quite acquainted with Austin, and Friday morning he showed he is getting more comfortable at Mike Myers Stadium as well.

Miller, a MG junior, added a fourth-place finish in the 3,200-meter run at the UIL State Track and Field Meet to his growing resume.

After finishing ninth in the same race last year, Miller lowered his regional time by 15 seconds to come in at 10 minutes, 23.59 seconds at the state meet. He was four seconds out of getting a medal.

"My goal was to win this," Miller said. "I was trying to drop my time by 20 seconds because my coach thought that 10:20 would be good enough to win it. They all ran good times."

The other qualifiers didn't just run good times, the first three finishers all broke the existing Class A, Div. II meet record. Had Miller dropped his time by 20 seconds, he would have also broken the meet record.

As it was, he set a new personal mark and gave himself something to shoot for next season.

Already, Miller has ran in two state track meets, placed in the top 10 in the state cross country meet and was a starter on the state basketball qualifying team. In addition, he will compete in the 800-meter race and run a leg on the school's 4x400 relay team on Saturday.

In the 3,200-meter race, Miller settled into eighth place in a tightly bunched pack after the first lap. He came across at 71 seconds, then he began hitting his pace, running his next five laps in between 77 and 79 seconds each.

By doing that, he moved up into sixth place on the third lap, fifth place on the fourth lap and then put himself in fourth place on the fifth lap. He would stay in fourth the next three laps, usually just a few strides behind third place finisher, Derek Wieck of Hartley.

"My goal was to finish as strong as I could," said Miller as the pair hit the bell lap.

Wieck was able to hold off Miller's attempt to catch him on the back stretch, then finished strong to take the bronze medal.

Joseph Carrasco of Sanderson sprinted his way to the victory, shattering the meet record by more than 20 seconds as he broke the tape in 9:56.30. Micheal Perez of Rule was second in 10:13.58.

Usually, Miller's time of 10:23.59 would have earned him a medal – possibly a gold. But, on Friday, the competition broke records. Carrasco's record time was 24 seconds faster than what he ran at the regional meet.

"Our plan was to settle at the back," Miller said. "We were hoping everyone would die that first lap or first mile if they went out too fast."

That didn't happen, but Miller will have additional chances at this meet, and possibly future state events as well.

In other events over the weekend, Miller will be competing Saturday afternoon in the 800-meter run, teammate Nathan George will defend his state championship in the 1,600-meter run while being challenged by Saltillo's Dakota Carroll in that race, and the Miller Grove 4x400

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relay team will also be competing. Sulphur Bluff's Justin Goldsmith will be throwing the shot put Saturday morning. Meanwhile, Rains' pole vaulter Charlotte Brown will be jumping Friday afternoon.

Class A, Div. II

3,200-meter run

Boys Class A, Div. II

1. Joseph Carrasco, Sanderson 9:56.30
2. Michael Perez, Rule 10:13.58
3. Derek Wieck, Hartley 10:19.61
4. Logan Miller, Miller Grove 10:23.59
5. Manual Perez, Bronte 10:34.58
6. Isaac Williams, May 10:35.71