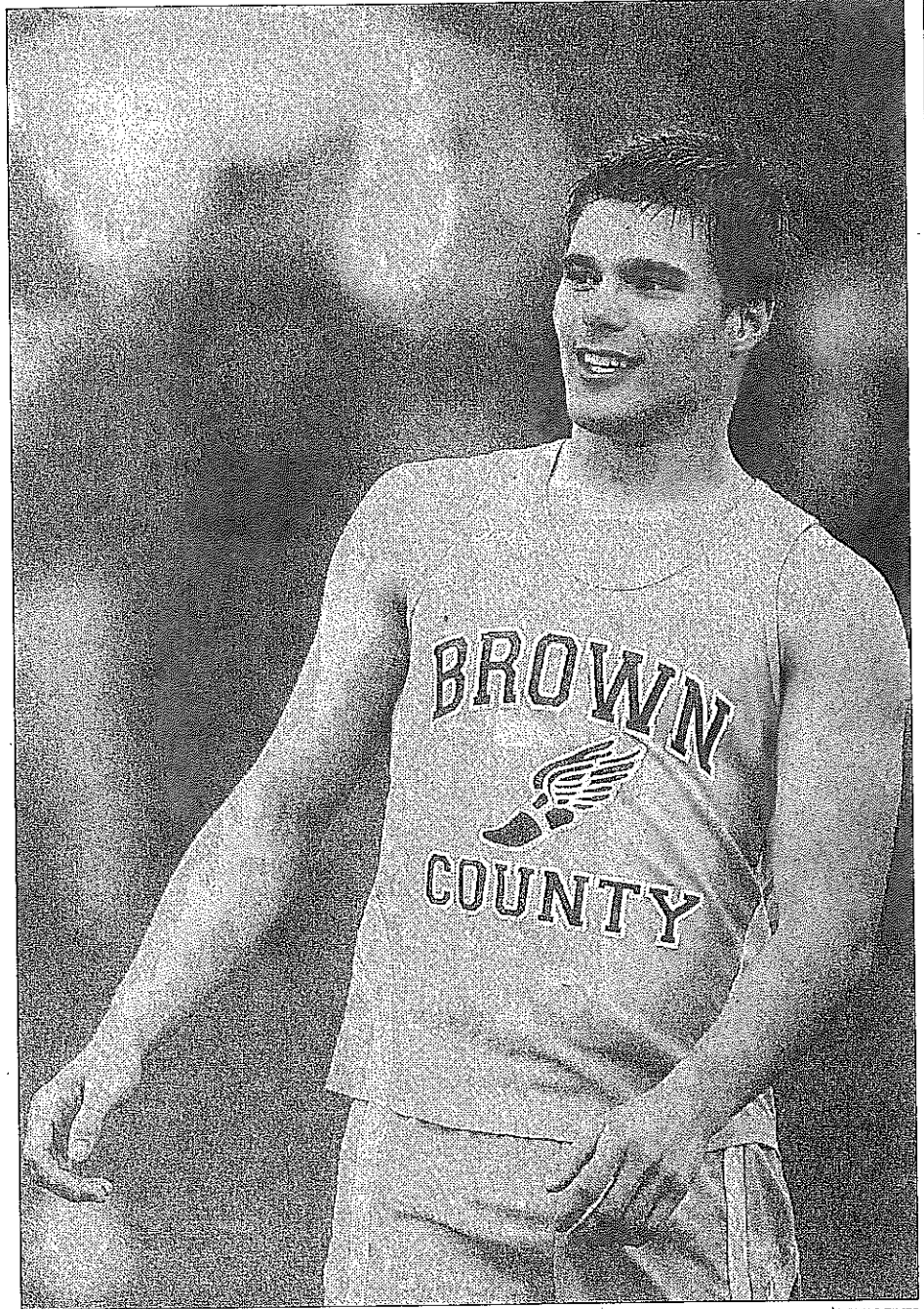


BOYS' TRACK AND FIELD NOTEBOOK



MONTY HOWELL | HERALD-TIMES

Brown County's Brian Brady reacts after clearing a school-record 14 feet in the pole vault at last week's boys' track and field regional at North.

Brown County's Brady takes flight — just like his sister

It was a *deja vu* moment, with a nice twist.

Two years ago, Brown County's Paige Brady was qualifying for the girls' state meet in the pole vault, only to have to turn down the invitation because six days later, she was shipping off for basic training in the Air Force.

Last week, there was her brother, Brian, qualifying for state in the pole vault and setting a school record (Paige still owns the girls' mark) in the process. He too, has enlisted in the Air Force, but will get to compete in this Saturday's state finals at IU. He had a June 24 reporting date but was able to push it back to Sept. 2, which will free him up the entire summer.

"I asked for a later date, just to be sure," said Brian after his 14-0 jump on that damp Thursday.

Brian had set the school mark at the Talon Relays back in April at 13-9 and will continue to take flight, even when his pole vaulting days are done.

"When he was a sophomore, he no-heighted at regional, so there was a big learning curve," BC coach Rob Abraham said. "He had a breakthrough last year, and this year, doing well indoors really got him going. Coach Travis Herb does a great job with him.

"Brian has just put it all together, we've just waiting for a meet for it to happen."

Brian is headed for a job as an aircraft loadmaster, meaning he'll be in charge of making sure the huge C-130 transports are loaded properly before takeoff. He hopes to land a stint in

Germany.

"I wanted to go in before she did, actually," Brian said. "But seeing how much fun she has, I can't wait."

Pulled in two directions

With plans in the works to move Edgewood's regional baseball game to Friday, that could put Reece Phillips, the school's lone state qualifier, in a pinch. The boys' track finals are on Friday this year. Phillips' 400 heat is set to take off at 7:05 p.m. He also starts in left for the Mustangs, who shocked No. 1 West Vigo in the sectional opener.

Phillips and sprinter/long jumper James Ridge both pulled off the double this year.

"It's been busy," Phillips said. "No spare moments to do anything else. But it's been awesome."

Bell lap

How about this for an unusual double for South's Gabe Hull: state boys' basketball champion and discus titlist. Hull is out to become the fifth repeat discus champ and just the third to reach 200 feet in the finals. It hasn't been done since John Schulte of Hanover Central set the record at 217-1 back in 1993. Rocky Moore of Union County was the last to take both throwing events back in 2000. ... Bloomington will be looking to claim at least one state individual title at the boys' meet for a fourth year in a row. That hasn't happened since 1979-83. ... There will be no repeat of the Triple Crown won by Hobart's Jarvis McMilian at last year's meet. Then a junior, he took the 100, 200 and 400 titles. He opted out of the 100 this year, but still qualified in the 200 and won a regional title in the 400 in 48.66. He and Hull are two of nine defending champs back this year.



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