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Del Norte, Eureka, Fortuna hog White Stars

By **JACKIE CHRISTENSEN**, The Eureka Reporter

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The Del Norte, Eureka and Fortuna track and field teams took first place in a combined 23 events (out of the 32 total) at the White Star championships at Albee Stadium on Friday.

The Del Norte Warriors finished with the most White Stars in the conference, taking first in seven events, as well as winning both of the girls' relay events (the 4x100 meters and the 4x400m).

Eureka and Fortuna finished the day with six White Stars apiece, and the Logger boys won the 4x100m and the Fortuna boys won the 4x400m.

"We did about as well as we expected to," said Eureka head coach Joel Thornburgh. "You always wonder at this meet if there's going to be some upsets in some of the events, and there were a few surprises, but overall, I was real happy with how we performed."

One pleasant surprise for the Loggers was sophomore Soma Vainuku, who usually runs the 100m sprint and the 4x100m relay. Vainuku took first place in the shot put, earning a conference White Star with a throw of 46-feet-7-inches.

"It's something he's picked up here in last two or three weeks," Thornburgh said. "He was a little hesitant because he had never tried it before, but he's improved by about 8 feet the past two weeks. The sky's the limit for him, he's such a strong individual."

In the girls' shot put, meanwhile, Fortuna's Amber Glenn knocked off Hoopa's two-time defending champion, Alanna Nulph, with a throw of 37-feet-8.5 inches.

"She's a senior, and I'm just thrilled that she gave such a huge effort tonight," Kausen said of Glenn. "She's worked so hard and she's just getting better and better."

Double White Star winners at the meet were Del Norte's Bailee McCulloch, who took first in the 100m (12.5 seconds) and the 200m (25.9 seconds); Arcata's Anya Ritter, who won the 400m (61.0 seconds) and the 800m (2:29.2); and Fortuna's Mallorie Franco, who won the high jump (5-4) and the triple jump (34-0.5).

The top three individual finishers at last week's league championships advance to the North Coast Section championships at Rohnert Park next Saturday.