

Columbus Grove Dominates County Track Meet

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Taking first place in six of the 14 events, Columbus Grove thinclads easily walked off with the Putnam County Track and Field crown at Pandora last Friday afternoon and evening as five new meet records were set.

Larry Johnson of Leipsic put on a brilliant one-man show to lead the individual scoring with 23 points. He won three firsts and tied for first in another, setting two new records enroute.

Columbus Grove piled up 86 points with Pandora-Gilboa finishing second with 54.25, Leipsic third with 41.5, Glandorf fourth with 18, Ottawa Sts. Peter and Paul fifth with 13 and Ottawa Public sixth with 11.25.

Besides winning almost half of the events, the Bulldogs took advantage of their great depth of field to add seven second places, five thirds, three fourths and two fifths to their point total.

In running second, Pandora-Gilboa won only two events, but placed second in four events and third in four others.

LEIPSIC'S JOHNSON won about as many points as is possible for one man. Entering the limit of four events he finished first in all of them but had to share one of his first places.

He ran the 440 yard dash in 53.8 seconds and the 220 yard dash in 23.2 seconds, setting new records in both. Those records were both previously held by Gene Buddelmeyer of Glandorf who ran them in 53.9 and 23.6 respectively in 1947.

Johnson also won the 100 yard dash in 10.6 seconds and the broad jump at 21'4". He is the defending state champion in that event.

In 1923, Owen Lowe set the long jump record with a leap of 20'11½". However, the newspapers incorrectly listed his leap at 21'11½" a few years later. The mistake was never discovered until 2009. Thus, Johnson held the record for over 50 years but never received the credit.

Ironically Johnson had to share first place in the 220 event with Bill Begg of Columbus Grove. Johnson's record breaking 23.2 came in a preliminary heat and he and Begg tied in the evening finals.

Judges announced Begg as the winner of the event with Johnson second. However, a consultation later showed both boys were timed at 24.3 so Sheldon Hall, meet manager, ruled the boys tied.

DELMAR NICHOLS of Columbus Grove set a new mark of 16.4 seconds in the 120 yard high hurdles, breaking of the old mark of 16.7 set in 1953 by Glenn Kid of Columbus Grove.

This was not true. The PCL record in 1955 for the high hurdles was set in 1926 by Everett Seitz of Ottawa with a time of 14.60.

The Grove half mile relay team won that event in 1:36.8 to better the 1953 Grove team's record of 1:38.6.

The other new record was set by Pandora-Gilboa's Ronnie Reichenbach in the 180 yard low hurdles. He won the 180 yard low hurdles. He won the preliminary in 21.5 seconds to better the record of 22.3 held jointly by Nolan Dunlap and Glenn Kidd, both of Columbus Grove.

Grove won other first places in the shot put, mile run and 180 yard low hurdles.

Pandora-Gilboa won the mile relay and discus events.

Denny Nienberg won two events for Glandorf, the 880 yard run and the high jump. Chuck Nusbaum of Ottawa St. Peter and Paul won the other event, the pole vault.

SUMMARY

Columbus Grove 86, Pandora-Gilboa 54.25, Leipsic 41.5, Glandorf 18, Ottawa SPPS 13 and Ottawa Public 11.25.

SHOT PUT - Ivan Verhoff (CG) 43'1"

DISCUS - James Tousley (PG) 110'9 ¾"

HIGH JUMP - Denny Nienberg (Glandorf) 5'7"

*NR BROAD JUMP - Larry Johnson (Leipsic) 21'4"

POLE VAULT - Chuck Nusbaum (SPPS) 10'0"

120 YD. H. HURDLES - Delmar Nichols (CG) 16.4

*NR 180 Yd. LOW HURDLES - Ron Reichenbach (CG) 21.5

100 YARD DASH - Larry Johnson (Leipsic) 10.6

*NR 220 YARD DASH - Bill Begg, CG and Larry Johnson (Leipsic) 23.2

*NR 440 YARD DASH - Larry Johnson (Leipsic) 53.8

880 YARD RUN - Denny Nienberg (Glandorf) 2:13.7

MILE RUN - Doug Nance (CG) 5:05.9

*NR HALF MILE RELAY - Don Darbyshire, Dan Maag Gary Clymer & Bill Begg (CG) 1:36.8

MILE RELAY - Dick Stewart, Paul Nemire, Keith Diller & Dick Frantz (PG) 3:49.0.