

Four Records Fall as Grove Dominates Putnam County Track Meet

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Columbus Grove, still rolling merrily along, defended its Putnam County Track and Field championship in fine style Friday at Pandora by breaking three records and piling up a total 88 points.

Pandora-Gilboa finished second with 65.5 points and broke a record. Ottawa was third with 41.5, followed by Leipsic with 13.5, newcomer Ottoville and Continental with six points each, Glandorf with two and Fort Jennings, another newcomer, with 1.5 points.

Pandora's coach, Bill Shonk, described the Grove effort as "just tremendous," and that is exactly what it was. The Bulldogs won eight events, finished second six times and placed in every event. The Grove squad also snapped three records and produced the meet's best individual performance.

Gary Miller, the Bulldogs' vaulting champ, broke the old pole vault record with ease and continued to clear the bar until he had gone over 12'2½", a height that has been good enough to win the State Class A meet nearly every year. The old record, 10'7¾", was set by Grove's Barry Eversole in 1959.

DAVE BASINGER of Pandora-Gilboa had another great day and came away with three firsts. The Rocket junior took the 100 yard dash, the 220 yard dash and the broad jump. He just missed the records in both dashes. His 100 yard time was 10.3, just over the mark of 10.25 and he ran the 220 in 22.5, as compared to the standard of 22.45. Both records were set by Gene Shawber of Leipsic last year.

This was not true. The PCL Record for the 100 yard dash was set in 1948 by Roger Diller with a time of 10.20.

Basinger won the broad jump with a leap of 20'5¾", but fell nearly 18 inches short of the record in that event, so Owen Lowe's 42 year old mark has survived another challenge and stays in the books for another year.

In 1923, Owen Lowe set the long jump record with a leap of 20'11½". A few years later, however, the newspapers incorrectly listed his leap at 21'11½". In 1955, Larry Johnson of Leipsic set the PCL record with a leap of 21'4", but it was not recognized. The mistake was not discovered until 2009.

The other records that fell Friday were in the long runs. Grove's Allen Smith shattered the county's second oldest mark when he sped the mile in 4:43.7, which is 4.1 seconds faster than Herman Hilty did it in 1945. Pandora's Dick Rower put his name in the record books with an 880 time of 2:04.6, exactly one second better than Dave Wenger's 1957 time. The fourth new record belongs to Grove's mile relay

team of Dave Welty, Steve Baxter, Oscar Flores and Dave Moffat. The quartet broke Leipsic's year old record of 3:41.9 by going 3:39.1.

IN ADDITION to his part in the mile relay, Welty also won the high hurdles and the 440 yard dash. He ran the 120 yard hurdles in 16.6 seconds and raced the quarter mile in 53.6 seconds.

Grove's other firsts were notched by Dave Darbyshire in the discuss with a throw of 129'11"; Dave Moffat in the 120 yard low hurdles in 21.5 seconds; and the 880 relay team of Rich, Gary and Jerry Miller and Tom Eversole in 1:35.9.

Pandora won every event that Grove didn't win, took the shot put and high jump in addition to Basinger's three firsts and Rower's 880 record run. Dane Martin tossed the shot 45'11" to win that event and Eddie Diller leaped 5'7" to win the high jump.

Third place Ottawa finished second three times and third seven times to score most of its points. Leipsic had one second and two thirds. Ottoville scored its first track points on a second and a fourth, both by Bob Brinkman. Continental had a third, a fourth and a fifth. Glandorf was fourth in one event and Ft. Jennings, in its first meet, had to settle for a fourth place tie by Don Luebrecht in the high jump.

SUMMARY

Columbus Grove 88, Pandora-Gilboa 65.5, Ottawa 41.5, Leipsic 13.5, Ottoville 6, Continental 6, Glandorf 2 and Ft. Jennings 1.5.

SHOT PUT - Dane Martin (PG) 45'11"

DISCUS - Dave Darbyshire (CG) 129'11"

HIGH JUMP - Ed Diller (PG) 5'7"

BROAD JUMP - Dave Basinger (PG) 20'5¾"

*NR POLE VAULT - Gary Miller (CG) 12'2½"

100 YARD DASH - Dave Basinger (PG) 10.3

220 YARD DASH - Dave Basinger (PG) 22.5

440 YARD DASH - Dave Welty (CG) 53.6

*NR 880 YARD RUN - Dick Rower (PG) 2:04.6

*NR MILE RUN - Allen Smith (CG) 4:43.7

120 YARD HIGH HURDLES - Dave Welty (CG) 16.6

180 YARD LOW HURDLES - Dave Moffat (CG) 21.5

880 YARD RELAY - Rich Miller, Gary Miller, Jerry

Miller and Tom Eversole (CG) 1:35.9

*NR MILE RELAY - Dave Welty, Steve Baxter, Oscar

Flores and Dave Moffat (CG) 3:39.1