

Nichols Sets Two Records as Grove Romps to Easy Victory in County Meet

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Mike Nichols set two new records and won a third event as he led the Columbus Grove Bulldogs to an easy victory in the annual Putnam County Track and Field Meet Tuesday afternoon on the Columbus Grove athletic field.

Five Putnam County schools participated in the event, and as has been the usual custom, the Bulldogs ran away with it as they ran up 98 points, the highest team total in the meet in the past 12 years.

They were given a respectable chase by the Pandora-Gilboa Rockets who finished seconds with 87.5 points, but three other teams failed to provide much competition.

Continental scored 24.5 points for third place, while Leipsic was a close fourth with 21, and Ft. Jennings scored one point on the basis of a fourth-place finish in the last event of the day, the mile relay.

It was the second consecutive win for Columbus Grove, which has won the meet every year except four since 1951. Ottawa-Glandorf dominated the proceedings in 1965 and 1966. The only other winner during the last 18 years was Pandora-Gilboa in 1957 and 1962.

The Bulldogs won eight of the 15 events, and their depth gave them at least two scorers in every event but long jump, low hurdles and the relays. Pandora-Gilboa got five firsts and Continental and Leipsic one each.

NICHOLS SET the new records in his specialties, the hurdles. He knocked .25 second off the mark in the 120 yard highs set by Jim VanHousen of Ottawa-Glandorf in 1966, when he sped the distance in 15.8.

This was not true. The PCL record in 1968 for the high hurdles was set in 1926 by Everett Seitz of Ottawa with a time of 14.60.

He barely erased the old record in the 180 yard lows, doing that in the bare minimum of .05 second. His new mark of 21.1 seconds shades the mark set by Gene Reichenbach of Pandora-Gilboa in 1963 at

21.15. Nichols also won the high jump with a leap of 5'3".

One other new record was put on the books as Pandora-Gilboa's ace distance runner, Don Bucher, won the mile run in the record time of 4:40.3. He eclipsed the old record of Neil James of Ottawa-Glandorf by 2.2 seconds, which was set in 1965.

The meet's only other double winner was Grove's sprinter, Greg Miller, who took both the 100 and 220 yard dashes.

Except for the three records which were broken, none of the others were seriously threatened, and the 46 year old broad jump record of Owen Lowe of Continental stood up for another year.

Owen Lowe's record was broken by Larry Johnson of Leipsic in 1955 with a leap of 21'4".

SUMMARY

Columbus Grove 98, Pandora-Gilboa 87.5, Continental 24.5, Leipsic 21 and Ft. Jennings 1.

SHOT PUT - Gary Grismore (PG) 40'6"
DISCUS - Al Edgington (PG) 127'3"
HIGH JUMP - Mike Nichols (CG) 5'3"
LONG JUMP - Ken Kosch (Continental) 20'2¼"
POLE VAULT - Gary Kaufman (PG) 10'6"
120 YARD HIGH HURDLES - Mike Nichols (CG) 15.8
*NR 180 Yd LOW HURDLES - Mike Nichols (CG) 21.1
100 YARD DASH - Greg Miller (CG) 10.5
220 YARD DASH - Greg Miller (CG) 23.6
440 YARD DASH - Terry Cherry (PG) 55.0
880 YARD RUN - Tim Knott (CG) 2:09.6
*NR MILE RUN - Don Bucher (PG) 4:40.3
TWO MILE RUN - Jack White (Leipsic) 11:01.4
880 YARD RELAY - Jim Dunlap, Mike Zimmerly, Craig Woods and Greg Miller (CG) 1:36.8
MILE RELAY - Henry Langhals, Gail Caton, Mike Roethlisberger and Mike Zimmerly (CG) 3:44.9