

# Nichols Leads CG to Putnam County Track Title

Putnam County Sentinel – May 10, 1969

Mike Nichols broke two records and scored four firsts as he led Columbus Grove to an easy victory in the Putnam County Track and Field Meet Wednesday afternoon.

The leaping Bulldog smashed his own record in the high hurdles and broke a 13 year old mark in the high jump, in addition to posting a victory in the low hurdles and running a leg of the winning 880 yard relay team.

Columbus Grove nearly set another record for their high team score as they amassed 103 points to clearly outdistance the five team field. That was the most team points scored in the county meet since another Columbus Grove team scored 104 back in 1956.

Coming in a distant second was Pandora-Gilboa with 60 5/6; Continental with 56 5/6 was third, while Leipsic was fourth with 14 1/3. Ft. Jennings which entered only a few boys scored three points.

ALTHOUGH THE SCORE was quite lopsided, there were several mighty close races. The 880 yard run ended in a dead heat among three boys as Mel Shafer of Continental, Paul MacDonald of Leipsic and Mark Sommer of Pandora-Gilboa all hit the tape at exactly the same instant.

The Columbus Grove mile relay team won that event by just .3 second over Pandora-Gilboa. Less than half a second separated the first three boys in the 220 yard dash and the 100 went the same way. Both of these dashes were won by Grove's Greg Miller.

Continental's Mel Shafer won the mile run with only about three seconds to spare and Mark Benroth of Columbus Grove took the lead on the last lap of the two-mile to win that race by only 2.4 seconds.

NICHOLS STARTED his record setting pace in the meet's first running event. He sped the 120 yard high hurdles in 15.1 seconds to knock .7 second off the mark he set a year ago.

**This was not true. The PCL record in 1969 for the high hurdles was set in 1926 by Everett Seitz of Ottawa with a time of 14.60.**

He won the low hurdles in the time of 21.8 seconds but that was not quite enough for the new record. He need not feel bad about that however, as he also owns that mark which he set last year in 21.1.

In the high jump, Nichols went 6'3/4" which raised the old record by 1 1/2". The old standard was set in 1956 by Dan Maag of Columbus Grove.

The Bulldogs won nine firsts and six seconds to pile up their points. They placed two boys among the top five in 11 of the 13 events in which it was possible to do so.

Continental won four first places but did not have sufficient depth to place them higher in the standings. Pandora-Gilboa got the other two firsts.

## SUMMARY

CG 103, Pandora-Gilboa 60 5/6, Continental 56 5/6, Leipsic 14 1/3 and Ft. Jennings 3.

SHOT PUT - Jim Barkimer (CG) 44'1"

DISCUS - Dick Diltz (Continental) 128'9"

\*NR HIGH JUMP - Mike Nichols (CG) 6'3/4"

LONG JUMP - Ken Kosch (Continental) 19'5 3/8"

POLE VAULT - Gary Kaufman (PG) 11'3"

120 YARD HIGH HURDLES - Mike Nichols (CG) 15.1

180 YARD LOW HURDLES - Mike Nichols (CG) 21.8

100 YARD DASH - Greg Miller (CG) 10.5

220 YARD DASH - Greg Miller (CG) 23.9

440 YARD DASH - Jon Diller (PG) 54.3

880 YARD RUN - Mel Shafer (Continental) Paul

MacDonald (Leipsic) and Mark Sommer (PG)  
2:13.7

MILE RUN - Mel Shafer (Continental) 5:01.7

TWO MILE RUN - Mark Benroth (CG) 10:56

880 YARD RELAY - Jim Dunlap, Mike Nichols, Mike  
Snider and Greg Miller (CG) 1:35.5

MILE RELAY - Don Bowers, Jeff Markwood, Steve  
Stechschulte and Mike Snider (CG) 3:50