

Columbus Grove Girls Win Easily on Saturday

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Miller City track star Amy Vennekotter was tired Saturday during the Putnam County League track meet. It was easy to see why – she had to keep pace with Columbus Grove's Paula Stechschulte.

Grove Coach Emma Pleimann felt that both the heat and having to run in three straight preliminary events (the 100, 200, and 300 meter lows) did not help Vennekotter. It was also a reason Pleimann did not have Stechschulte compete in the 200 meters. "I wanted to have Paula have some time to rest between the 100 and 300 lows," the Grove coach stated. It looked to have worked.

Stechschulte set a record in the 100 meters at 12.6 (previously owned by her sister Mary) and edged Vennekotter as well in the 300 lows (47.9). The senior star was also the anchor leg on the winning 400 and 800 meter relay teams as the Bulldogs dethroned Pandora-Gilboa as 1987 girls' champions. CG scored 119 points to outdistance Leipsic (99) and Continental 78½. Miller City scored 74 points, Ottoville 62½ and PG 59 as all six schools came up with very solid individual performances.

"The kids performed very well," said Pleimann noting Melissa Selhorst's 5'4" effort in the high jump (a PCL record). Selhorst, a sophomore, also won the 200 meter dash (27.9). "And Paula had a very good day. The whole team did."

Leipsic, scoring just seven points in the field events, did extremely well in the running events. The Vikings captured the 3200 relay and was second in the 400 relay. Michelle Schroeder and Jenny Wyant placed 1-2 in the 400 meters and Karen Weis easily won the 800 meter dash. Amy Haselman added a runner-up in the 3200 meters.

Continental, which hoped to have made more of a run at the title, had just two firsts: Tabby Slattman in the 100 meter hurdles and Chandra Dangler in the 3200. Dangler was second in the 1600 as was Wendy Coble in the 100 meter hurdles.

Vennekotter was second in the 100, 200 and 300 meter lows and added a first place in the long jump at 16'10¾". It broke by 10¼" the old mark she set two years ago as a freshman. Second in the event was Stechschulte.

PG's Roxie Zimmerly bettered her old PCL standard in the shot put with a fantastic 38'3" effort. She also won the discus again at 109'9".

"Roxie's been going after that 38 foot mark all year," said Coach Sue Christman. "It felt just right, Zimmerly said. "I've had the right form all year but had not been releasing well. That release felt right that time though."

This was not true. The PCL shot put record was set by Carol Lammers of Miller City in 1977 when she threw the shot 40'10½".

Selhorst, whose previous best in the high jump had been 5'0", cleared the height on her first attempt Saturday. She instantly had the bar raised at 5'3" to surpass the record height of 5'2¾" set by Linda Honigford of Ottoville (now a Northern Kentucky) in 1983.

She missed her first two attempts but nailed the third for the meet record. She cleared her try at 5'4" before failing to hit 5'5".

This Saturday Leipsic and Pandora-Gilboa are involved at the Blanchard Valley Conference meet at Findlay's Donnell Stadium while Columbus Grove will be at the Northwest Conference meet at Ohio Northern University.

SUMMARY

Columbus Grove 119, Leipsic 99, Continental 78½, Miller City 74, Ottoville 62½ and Pandora-Gilboa 59.

SHOT PUT - Roxie Zimmerly (PG) 38'3"

DISCUS - Roxie Zimmerly (PG) 109'9"

*NR HIGH JUMP - Melissa Selhorst (CG) 5'4"

*NR LONG JUMP - Amy Vennekotter (MC) 16'10¾"

100 METER INTERMEDIATE HURDLES - Tabby

Slattman (Continental) 17.4

*NR 300 METER LOW HURDLES - Paula Stechschulte (CG) 47.9

*NR 100 METER DASH - Paula Stechschulte (CG) 12.6

200 METER DASH - Melissa Selhorst (CG) 27.9

400 METER DASH - Michelle Schroeder (Leipsic) 1:08.0

800 METER RUN - Karen Weis (Leipsic) 2:33.2

1600 METER RUN - Carmen Miller (Ottoville) 5:51.3

3200 M. RUN - Chandra Dangler (Continental) 14:01.1

400 METER RELAY - Jenny Martz, Melissa Selhorst, Cindy Smith and Paula Stechschulte (CG) 53.4

800 METER RELAY - Cindy Smith, Debbie Ridenour, Jill Kissell and Jeri Roney (CG) 1:59.1

1600 METER RELAY - (Ottoville) 4:41.6

3200 METER RELAY - Melissa Feldman, Amy Haselman, Renee Kreinbrink & Karen Weis (Leipsic) 10:45.4.