

Bulldog Girls Claim PCL Track Crown

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Friday night, on their home track, the Grove girls rolled to the championship without much trouble. The Grove girls had an easy time as they scored 184 points for the championship. P-G was second with 101 points, Ottoville was third with 99, Miller City had 50 points, Continental had 47 points and Leipsic had six points for sixth place.

Although the Grove girls are under new leadership this season, the change didn't seem to affect their performance on the track.

Taking over the reigns on the Grove program this season was Tim Staley. Staley took over the program after long time head coach Emma Plieman retired after winning a second straight PCL title and Staley knew he would have big shoes to fill.

"It was quite a challenge coming in here," Staley said Friday. "Emma and Mary Ann Krauss did a great job in building the program. I knew if I didn't come in here and screw it up, we would be okay. The girls have done a great job. They have worked hard and we have been real pleased. The thing is they don't compete against each other, but they do push each other and that has helped them get better."

Even though the Bulldogs have just one senior on the roster they won 11 events Friday and had double placements in 10 events.

Junior sprinter Andrea Ruen enjoyed a big day as she won two individual events and helped two relay teams to victories.

Ruen won the 100 meter dash in 13.2 and captured the 200 meter in 27.6. She also anchored the 800 meter relay team of Stephi Palte, Arin Gertsen and Jessica Fuerst to a win in 1:57.2. The 400 meter relay team of Jenni Langhals, Brandey Gertsen, Nikki Ricker and Ruen won with a time of 54.3.

Tara Ruen won the discus with a throw of 114'4" and Staci Predmore was second with a throw of 99'6". Ruen also was second in the shot put with a throw of 34'4".

The Bulldogs 3200 meter relay team of Amanda Roeder, Jamie Butler, Tammy Bogart and Stephanie Renner won with a time of 11:26.7 and their 1600 meter relay team was second to P-G in 4:35.7.

The Bulldogs distance crew also did a good job as they won all three events.

In the 1600 meter run Shara Ridenour won with a time of 5:58.3 and Steph Renner won in the 800 meter run in 2:43.3. Rachel Roberts won the 3200 meter run in 13:51.8,

while teammate Katrina Stechschulte was second with a time of 13:52. In the 800 meter run Amanda Roeder was second in 2:44.8.

In the 400 meter run Stephi Palte won with a time of 1:05.2 and Augusta Halker won the 300 meter low hurdles in 48.8.

"Andrea (Ruen) just did a tremendous job," Staley said. "Tara (Ruen), Augusta Halker, Steph Renner, Arin Gertsen also turned in some great efforts. We also had some freshmen do a good job tonight. Rachel Roberts won the 3200 run and we had some younger girls come in and do a great job in the relays."

Ottoville's Jamie Knippen won two individual events as she won the 100 meter hurdles in a time of 16.7 and won the long jump with a leap of 15'7½". Also for the Big Green Nikki Byrne won the high jump over Continental's Kristy Smith. Byrne and Smith both cleared 4'10" in the competition, but Byrne won on the basis of fewer misses.

Continental's Kellei Clementz won the shot put by two feet as her winning throw was 36'4".

Pandora-Gilboa picked up their only win in the meets final event as they won the 1600 meter relay in a time of 4:31. Running the event for the Rockets was Jackie Sommers, Melissa Siefer, Jessie Arthur and Melanie Siefer.

SUMMARY

Columbus Grove 184, Pandora-Gilboa 101, Ottoville 99, Miller City 50, Continental 47 and Leipsic 6.

SHOT PUT - Kellei Clementz (Continental) 36'4"

DISCUS - Tara Ruen (CG) 114'4"

HIGH JUMP - Nikki Byrne (Ottoville) 4'10"

LONG JUMP - Jamie Knippen (Ottoville) 15'7½"

100 METER INTERMEDIATE HURDLES - Jamie Knippen (Ottoville) 16.7

300 METER LOW HURDLES - Augusta Halker (CG) 48.8

100 METER DASH - Andrea Ruen (CG) 13.2

200 METER DASH - Andrea Ruen (CG) 27.6

400 METER DASH - Stephi Palte (CG) 1:05.2

800 METER RUN - Stephanie Renner (CG) 2:43.3

1600 METER RUN - Shara Ridenour (CG) 5:58.3

3200 METER RUN - Rachel Roberts (CG) 13:51.8

400 METER RELAY - Jenni Langhals, Brandey Gertsen, Nikki Ricker and Andrea Ruen (CG) 54.3

800 METER RELAY - Andrea Ruen, Stephi Palte, Arin Gertsen and Jessica Fuerst (CG) 1:57.2

1600 METER RELAY - Jacki Sommers, Melissa Siefer, Jessie Arthur and Melanie Siefer (PG) 4:31.0

3200 METER RELAY - Amanda Roeder, Jamie Butler, Tammy Bogart & Stephanie Renner (CG) 11:26.7