

Ottoville Girls Repeat as PCL Champs

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Ottoville girls track Coach Vaughn Horstman challenged his team prior to the Big Green hosting the Putnam County League meet Friday night. Going into the meet, the Big Green had already suffered three losses, which is what they lost all of last season going into tournament. And with Pandora-Gilboa and Columbus Grove featuring solid teams he knew his team would have to perform well on the track if they wanted to repeat as league champs, And that's exactly what they did.

Led by sophomore Shayla Siefker the Big Green stepped up their performances Friday night to reclaim the PCL.

The Big Green scored 173 points to repeat as league champs. Pandora-Gilboa finished second with 116.5 points and Grove was third with 108.5 points.

"I challenged the girls tonight," Horstman said. "Last year we had three losses and this year we already had three losses, so I told them we couldn't lose any more in the regular season. I was figuring points before the meet and figured it would be within 14 points between us, P-G and Grove. I told the girls we had to run better and the field event girls had to step up and they did."

Siefker was one of the key figures for the Big Green as she helped her team to wins in four events, two relays and two individual.

The sophomore standout teamed with Molly Maag, Holly Heitmeyer and Kari Beining to win the 3200 relay in 9:56.90 and the same group claimed the 1600 relay in 4:09.81. Siefker also claimed her specialty, the 1600 meter run, in 5:12.75 and she out kicked Heitmeyer down the stretch to win the 400 in 59.72, a new meet record. Winning the 400 was a surprise for Siefker since she had not run that event much this season.

"I haven't been running much this year," Siefker said. "I've been doing more sprint work at practice and running with Holly helps me because she pushes me a lot and that makes a difference. It was a great night to run. The wind was not a big difference as we have been training in it the whole season. We knew what we had to do and Vaughn (Coach Horstman) has been getting us pumped up for this for some time."

Ottoville's Natasha Kaufman won three events Friday night as she won the 100 hurdles (17.28), 300 hurdles (48.91) and high jump (5'2"). Molly Maag won the 800 in 2:27.78.

The key difference for the Big Green was in the field events as Brittany Beining and Lauren Kramer came through with valuable points in the shot put and discus.

"We needed points from the field events, other wise we'd be so far behind we wouldn't be able to catch anyone until the 3200," Horstman said. "Brittany Beining and Lauren Kramer both had PR's in the shot and disc and Nikki Kimmet had a PR in the high jump. They scored which helped us overcome some injuries. April Horstman was big in the hurdles as we had to sit Jamie Rieger with a concussion she suffered earlier in the week at Van Wert."

Columbus Grove won six events as Kimberly Selhorst took the 100 (12.96), long jump (16'0") and teamed with Paige Heffner, Brooke Brubaker and Ella Diller to win the 800 relay (1:47.65). She also teamed with Diller, Emily Stephens and Heffner to win the 400 relay (53.06). Heffner won the 200 (26.43) and Alex Miller the discus (119'0").

P-G had a pair of wins as Ashley Sprunger won the 3200 meter run (12:09.92) and Ellie Braidic the pole vault (10'6").

Leipsic recorded a win as Kendra Aversch won the shot put (36'3").

SUMMARY

Ottoville 173, Pandora-Gilboa 116.5, Columbus Grove 108.5, Leipsic 59, Fort Jennings 36 and Continental 23.

SHOT PUT - Kendra Aversch (Leipsic) 36'3"

DISCUS - Alex Miller (CG) 119'0"

HIGH JUMP - Natasha Kaufman (Ottoville) 5'2"

LONG JUMP - Kimberly Selhorst (CG) 16'0"

POLE VAULT - Ellie Braidic (PG) 10'6"

100 METER INTERMEDIATE HURDLES - Natasha Kaufman (Ottoville) 17.28

300 METER LOW HURDLES - Natasha Kaufman (Ottoville) 48.91

100 METER DASH - Kimberly Selhorst (CG) 12.96

*NR 200 METER DASH - Paige Heffner (CG) 26.5

*NR 400 M. DASH - Shayla Siefker (Ottoville) 59.72

800 METER RUN - Molly Maag (Ottoville) 2:27.78

1600 METER RUN - Shayla Siefker (Ottoville) 5:12.75

3200 METER RUN - Ashley Sprunger (PG) 12:09.92

400 METER RELAY - Kimberly Selhorst, Ella Diller, Emily Stephens and Paige Heffner (CG) 53.06

800 METER RELAY - Kimberly Selhorst, Paige Heffner, Brooke Brubaker and Ella Diller (CG) 1:47.65

1600 M. RELAY - Shayla Siefker, Molly Maag, Holly Heitmeyer & Kari Beining (Otto) 4:09.81

3200 METER RELAY - Shayla Siefker, Molly Maag, Holly Heitmeyer & Kari Beining (Otto) 9:56.90