

Lady Cats Edge Lady Bulldogs for PCL Title

Putnam County Sentinel – Charlie Warnimont – May 10, 2023

OTTOVILLE – Columbus Grove and Kalida took the chase for the Putnam County League girls track and field championship right down to the final race.

And despite the Lady Bulldogs winning the final race, the Lady Cats were right on their heels to hold off Grove by one point 163-162 to repeat as PCL champions for the third straight year Friday night.

The Kalida girls took a three-point lead into the final race, the 4x400 relay and just needed to win or finish one spot behind the Lady Bulldogs to win the title. They were able to accomplish that finishing second in 4:22.6 as the Bulldogs won the race in 4:14.31.

“All season long I knew it was going to be this way,” Kalida coach Scott Miller said. “I ran the points 30 different ways and it was two-three points this way for them and back the other for us. I knew every little battle was going to count, every little switch of points. I told them all week every point mattered. I just asked them to compete like crazy. They did.”

“We knew we were going to have some bumps, but they kept fighting. We had people step up all over the place. They were amazing.”

Kalida won five events at Ottoville as senior Camille Hovest was a double winner in the field events winning the discus with a throw of 144-0 and the shot put with a toss of 41-7.

Lauren Laudick won the 400-meter run for Kalida in 1:01.47 and teamed with Kaylyn Bockrath, Kendal Krouse and Avrie Unverferth to win the 4x200 relay in 1:50.57. Allie Kuhlman, Ady Miller, Katie Bendele and Andrea Burgei won the 4x800 relay in 10:36.92.

“We dropped some times tonight,” Miller said. “Freshman Lauren Laudick, her best was a 64 flat in the open (400) and she ran a 61 and won it after coming in as the fourth or fifth seed. Then she came back and ran another 61 (in the 4x400 relay). We had times like that all over the place. It was unbelievable for all the girls.”

“Camille Hovest, senior, winning both of those (discus and shot), Allie Stechschulte, senior, getting second in the hurdles. Jordyn Vandemark tore her ACL in soccer and out here helping the 4x100 to second place. We have a great group of seniors that are helping the young girls pull through. And there was Andrea Burgei doing what she needed to do in the distance races.”

Columbus Grove won five events as Jade Roeder, Brynn Fortman, Allison Thompson and Kendal Palte combined to win the 4x400 relay in 4:14.31. Lauryn Auchmuty won the 200-dash (27:09 along with the pole vault (9-6), while

Fortman, Thompson, Ruth Myers and Palte won the 4x100 relay in 52.94. Fortman won the 100-dash in 13.19.

Ottoville’s Jessa Burgei won both hurdle races winning the 100 hurdles in 16.91 and the 300 hurdles in 48.26. Teammate Eryn Kemper won the 800 in 2:28.79 and Danielle Swint won the high jump clearing 5-0.

Miller City’s Andrea Pfau was a two-time winner in her first PCL meet running a 1600-meter run in 5:34.0 then later won the 3200-meter run in 11:49.47. Pfau is a sophomore as she did not compete in track as a freshman.

Continental’s Rhaegan marshal won the long jump with a leap of 16-7½.

SUMMARY

(1) Kalida 163 (2) Columbus Grove 162 (3) Ottoville 89 (4) Continental 28.66 (5) Pandora-Gilboa 28.33 (6) Miller City 23 (7) Fort Jennings 16 (8) Leipsic 12

SHOT PUT – Camille Hovest (K) 41’7”

DISCUS – Camille Hovest (K) 144’0”

HIGH JUMP – Danielle Swint (O) 5’0”

LONG JUMP – Rhaegan Marshall (C) 16’7½”

POLE VAULT – Lauryn Auchmuty (CG) 9’6”

100 M. HURDLES – Jessa Burgei (O) 16.91

300 M. HURDLES – Jessa Burgei (O) 48.26

100 METER DASH – Brynn Fortman (CG) 13.19

200 METER DASH – Lauryn Auchmuty (CG) 27:09

400 METER DASH – Lauren Laudick (K) 1:01.47

800 METER RUN – Eryn Kemper (O) 2:28.79

1600 METER RUN – Andrea Pfau (MC) 5:34.0

3200 METER RUN – Andrea Pfau (MC) 11:49.47

4x100 METER RELAY – Brynn Fortman, Ruth Myers

Allison Thompson and Kendal Palte (CG) 52.94

4x200 METER RELAY – Kaylyn Bockrath, Kendal

Krouse, Lauren Laudick and Avrie Unverferth

(K) 1:50.57

4x400 METER RELAY – Jade Roeder, Brynn Fortman,

Allison Thomson and Kendal Palte (CG)

4:14.31

4x800 METER RELAY – Allie Kuhlman, Ady Miller,

Katie Bendele and Andrea Burgei (K) 10:36.92