

Columbus Grove Girls Rule Own Track

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The Putnam County League track meet moved to Columbus Grove this spring and the Bulldogs took advantage of the friendly surroundings.

Columbus Grove captured both the boys and girls titles. It was the second straight league win for the Bulldog girls, while the boys were able to unseat three time defending champion Continental.

The Grove girls racked up 170 points to outdistance Leipsic, who had 119.5 points. Third was Miller City with 84, Ottoville had 52, Pandora-Gilboa 43 and Continental 22.5. The 170 points, by far, is a new Putnam County record.

Balance was the key for the Grove girls as they won nine events, placed two people in ten events, while overall placing in 15 of the 16 events. The only event they didn't place in was the shot put.

"We knew we would score a lot of points," Grove Coach Emma Pleiman said. "On a stone track and in 90 degree temperatures we had some of our best times of the year. Our seniors have given us some good leadership. They have worked very hard and done what we have asked with very few complaints."

What may have solidified the Grove girls were two freshmen. Saturday freshman distance runner Kelley Irwin and sprinter Mary Maglinte each won two individual events and had a hand on a winning relay team.

"Kelley has done a nice job for us this season," Pleiman said. "We took her out of two relays Saturday to give her a shot at the records in the 1600 and 3200 runs. Mary was hampered by a leg injury early in the season. She is still improving at this point in the season."

Irwin set records in the 1600 and 3200 runs and helped the 3200 meter relay team to an easy win. In the 1600 Irwin ran a 5:41.8 to surpass the record of 5:46.7 set in 1981 by Cindy Dalrymple of P-G, then in the 300 she ran a 12:36.9 to better the 1984 mark of 13:27.5 by Angie Rayle of Leipsic.

In the 3200 relay the team of Stephanie Sturgis, Anne Hilty, Molly Allen and Irwin ran a 10:46 to easily beat Leipsic.

Maglinte took first in the 100 meter hurdles (16.6), 100 meter dash (13.0) and teamed with Amy Schubert, Chris Schumacher and Amber Gertsen to win the 400 meter relay in 54.6.

Other firsts for the Bulldogs came in the long jump where Carrie Hartman took first with a leap of 15'0". Gertsen won the high jump on the basis of fewer misses as three competitors cleared 4'10", but missed the next height.

Gertsen, Schumacher, Kari King and Anne Hilty closed out the Bulldogs day with a win in the 1600 meter relay. Their time was 4:26.4.

"Irwin has really helped their depth," said second place Coach Gary Kreinbrink of Leipsic. "They always have had the good sprinters, but Irwin has put them over the top. I figured we would score around 100 points and have to settle for second. I'm pleased with the results; we did about as well as expected."

Leipsic took three first places as the team of Emily Boyer, Joy Kneueven, Ann Recker and Sarah Shoemaker won the 800 relay in 1:59.1. The Bulldogs were clocked in the same time, but the Vikings just edged them out at the wire. Grove was fortunate to be that close after dropping their baton on the first exchange.

Freshman Beth McDaniel won the 800 meter run in 2:41.2, followed by teammate Crystal Place in second at 2:44.9. Junior Sue Niese then won the 200 in a time of 28.4, just edging out Ottoville's Michelle Heitmeyer as once again both were clocked with the same time.

Ottoville had a pair of first place finishes as Heitmeyer won the 400 meter dash with a time of 1:03.5 and Valarie Devitt took the 300 meter hurdles in a time of 49.6.

Jenny Michel of Miller City won the discus with a toss of 102'11" which was followed by teammate Beth Inkrott, who tossed the disc 89'3". Michel also had a second in the shot put.

In the shot Continental's Tamara Clementz continued to have a fine season as she put the shot 38'0" for the win.

SUMMARY

Columbus Grove 170, Leipsic 119.5, Miller City 84, Ottoville 52, Pandora-Gilboa 43 and Continental 22.5.

SHOT PUT - Tamara Clementz (Continental) 38'0"

DISCUS - Jenny Michel (MC) 102'11"

HIGH JUMP - Amber Gertsen (CG) 4'10"

LONG JUMP - Carrie Hartman (CG) 15'0"

100 M. INTERMEDIATE HURDLES - Mary Maglinte (CG) 16.6

300 METER LOW HURDLES - Valarie Devitt (Ottoville) 49.6

100 METER DASH - Mary Maglinte (CG) 13.0

200 METER DASH - Sue Niese (Leipsic) 28.4

400 METER DASH - Shelly Heitmeyer (Ottoville) 1:03.5

800 METER RUN - Beth McDaniel (Leipsic) 2:41.2

*NR 1600 METER RUN - Kelley Irwin (CG) 5:41.8

*NR 3200 METER RUN - Kelley Irwin (CG) 12:36.9

400 METER RELAY - Amy Schubert, Chris Schumacher, Amber Gertsen and Mary Maglinte (CG) 54.6

800 METER RELAY - Emily Boyer, Joy Kneueven, Ann Recker and Sarah Shoemaker (Leipsic) 1:59.1

1600 METER RELAY - Amber Gertsen, Chris Schumacher, Kari King and Anne Hilty (CG) 4:26.4

3200 METER RELAY - Stephanie Sturgis, Anne Hilty, Molly Allen and Kelley Irwin (CG) 10:46.0