

Rocket Girls Claim PCL Track Title

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Pandora-Gilboa girls track team ended Columbus Grove's hold on the Putnam County League track title Friday as the Rockets outscored the Bulldogs 157-128. The Bulldogs entered the meet having won the last four league titles.

The Continentals girls finished third with 63 points, Leipsic had 59 points, Miller City 54.5 and Ottoville had 30.5 points.

The Rockets not only ended the Bulldogs string of PCL titles, but also broke their own drought of years without a title. The last time P-G won, the PCL title was back in the mid 80's.

"It's been a long time since we've won the title," said P-G Coach Steve Miller. "The last time Pandora-Gilboa won a PCL title was either in 1986 or 1987. This is quite a thrill for the girls. We have only 15 girls on the team and I think all of them scored. We knew Columbus Grove would score their points, we just had to go out and do the best we could."

The Rockets run to the title started in the field events as they won two of the four events. P-G then added to their lead as they won three of four relay events and won all three distance events as they doubled up in each event.

"Our field events got us started," Miller said. "We had a girl go 20 feet longer in the discus than she ever had and we had a good showing in the long jump. Our distance runners placed one-two (mile), one-three (two-mile) and one-three (800) in the distance events and we won the 3200 relay. We also won two of the other three relay events. This was a total team effort today."

The Rocket's Stacy Smith won the discus with a throw of 112'4", 20 feet better than her previous best. Jessie Arthur then placed third in the long jump with a leap of 15'10³/₄", also her best. Kara Heitmeyer continues to shine in the high jump as she won clearing a new league record height of 5'4¹/₄", a quarter inch over the record of 5'4" by Columbus Grove's Melissa Selhorst.

Pandora-Gilboa started their winning ways in the relays as they won the 3200 meter relay with a time of 10:41.3. P-G then won the 800 relay in 1:57.2 and finished the night by winning the 1600 relay in 4:30.7.

In the 1600 meter run Kinsey Miller won with a time of 5:35.8 and Sarah Eubank was second in 5:38.1. Both times were better than the previous record of 5:41.8 set by Kelley Irwin of Columbus Grove in 1991.

In the 800 meter run Miller won with a time of 2:30.9 and Jenny Lee was second in 2:37.8. In the 3200 meter run Eubank broke another record as she finished first with a time of 12:27.0 breaking the 1991 record of 12:36.9 by Irwin.

Teammate Karen Schroeder was third with a time of 13:07.9.

Columbus Grove's Shara Ridenour also finished ahead of Irwin's record time as she finished second in 12:28.8 in the 3200 meter run. Ridenour led nearly the entire race until Eubank out sprinted her the last 150 meters for the win.

Kara Heitmeyer also gave the Rockets a win in the 400 meter dash as she won with a time of 1:04.4.

Columbus Grove won the 400 meter relay with a time of 54.8. The Bulldogs Aimee Gertsen won the 100 meter hurdles with a time of 16.5 and was second in the 100 dash with a time of 13.6. The Bulldogs Angie Schreiber won the 100 meter dash with a time of 13.5.

Miller City's Tifani Schnipke won the shot put with a throw of 32'11" and was second in the discus with a throw of 103'4". The Wildcats Jill Schumaker won the 300 meter hurdles with a time of 48.6.

Continental's Raquel Valdez won the 200 meter dash with a time of 28.3. Valdez also won the long jump with an effort of 16' ³/₄", a quarter inch better than teammate Kristen Smith, who finished second with a leap of 16' ¹/₂".

SUMMARY

Pandora-Gilboa 157, Columbus Grove 128, Continental 63, Leipsic 59, Miller City 54.5 and Ottoville 30.5.

SHOT PUT - Tifani Schnipke (MC) 32'11"

DISCUS - Stacy Smith (PG) 112'4"

*NR HIGH JUMP - Kara Heitmeyer (PG) 5'4¹/₄"

LONG JUMP - Raquel Valdez (Continental) 16' ³/₄"

100 METER INTERMEDIATE HURDLES – Aimee Gertsen (CG) 16.5

300 METER LOW HURDLES - Jill Schumaker (MC) 48.6

100 METER DASH - Angie Schreiber (CG) 13.5

200 METER DASH - Raquel Valdez (Continental) 28.3

400 METER DASH - Kara Heitmeyer (PG) 1:04.4

800 METER RUN - Kinsey Miller (PG) 2:30.9

*NR 1600 METER RUN - Kinsey Miller (PG) 5:35.8

*NR 3200 METER RUN - Sarah Eubank (PG) 12:27

400 METER RELAY – (CG) 54.8

800 METER RELAY - Brook Diller, Jenny Lee, Melissa Siefer and Kara Heitmeyer (PG) 1:57.2

1600 METER RELAY - Melissa Siefer, Kara Heitmeyer, Melanie Siefer and Kinsey Miller (PG) 4:30.7

3200 METER RELAY - Sarah Eubank, Melanie Siefer, Jenny Lee and Kinsey Miller (PG) 10:41.3