

Black & Gold

Tuscola finishes second at Sectional

By Daniel L. Chamness
Gold is the color of winners. So is blue. If you are peering at your old first place ribbons from various elementary school contests, they are blue, written in gold.

This weekend the Tuscola Lady Warriors will have a chance to not only grab some gold, they will do it on a blue oval, while dressed in gold.

"We have to earn that," said Drew Sterkel, Tuscola's head coach, of any hardware, either teamwise or individually. "Right now, we are simply proud of every girl that has an opportunity to run on the Blue Oval at Eastern Illinois University's O'Brien Field on Thursday. We hope to get everyone of them to Saturday and the finals."

A total of six Lady Warriors have qualified for state in six individual events, not to mention two relays. The Warriors earned those state qualifications from the Illinois High School Association Class 1A Sullivan Sectional. The Lady Warriors took second as a team with 84 points. Shelbyville won the team sectional title with 116 points.

Alyssa Williams, a Tuscola Lady Warrior senior, qualified, for the second year in a row, in four events. She was joined as a Lady Warrior-four event qualifier by Lia Patterson, who is only a freshman.

The pair grabbed the top two spots in the 200-meter dash.

Williams dashed to victory in :25.41 seconds. Less than 25/100ths of a second behind her was Patterson in second with a time of :25.65. Not only are they the best 200-meter dash athletes in the Sullivan Sectional, they are the best in the state. Only three females in the state have broken :26.00 in

the event and Williams and Patterson are two of those athletes.

Williams also won the 100-meter dash at the Sullivan Sectional. Williams ran a time of :12.41. And that is right, it is the top time in the state as well.

Patterson won both the 100-meter hurdles and the 300-meter hurdles at Sullivan. She ran respective times of :15.65 and :45.98. Both times are ranked in the top five in the state at the 1A level.

She ran the third fastest time in the state at the sectional in the 300-meter hurdles and the fifth fastest 100-meter hurdles.

Williams took third in the long jump in the Sullivan Sectional. She earned an invitation to state by meeting the qualifying distance in the event. She recorded a leap of 5.15 meters.

Other than the individual spots, the Lady Warriors also qualified in the 800-meter relay and the 400-meter relay. Williams is the opening leg of the 800-meter relay, while Patterson is the anchor leg of the relay. The other members of the relay, which won the Sullivan Sectional in 1:47.01, are Mia Hausmann and Jillian Alexander. They enter the state prelims on Thursday with the third fastest time.

The Lady Warriors finished second in the Sullivan Sectional. Hausmann and Alexander joined forces with Kenna Clodfelder and Harley Woodard. They ran a time of :52.93.

While Natalie Hasting and Clodfelder did not qualify for the state prelims, they both finished fourth in their respective events. Hasting recorded a throw of 9.95 meters in the shot put. Clodfelder jumped 9.69 meters in the triple jump.



WILL FOLTZ PREPARES to advance down the runway in the pole vault on Monday night. On Tuesday night, the sophomore helped the Warriors win the 3,200-meter relay at the Central Illinois Conference. Photo by Minore "Moto" Johnson.

Boyd wins two conference titles; 3,200-meter relay also victorious

By Daniel L. Chamness
Chris Boyd, a Tuscola junior, is not normally a hard man to find.

Last Tuesday at the Central Illinois Conference, the Warrior thrower, could probably easily be found picking up his pair of first place medals, one in the shot put and one in the discus.

Boyd would win both events, convincingly. He would help the Warriors score 93 points and take fourth in the conference. Shelbyville (148 points), Decatur St. Teresa (143) and Clinton (94) earned the top three spots at the sectional.

Boyd had Warrior backup in both events. Boyd would record a throw of 17.87 meters in the shot put. The second

place thrower, Clinton junior Isaac Webb, threw 14.92 meters. Haven Hatfield, a Tuscola senior, grabbed third place points with a put of 13.65 meters. Boyd won the competition by over nine feet.

In the discus, Boyd threw 45.33 meters. He won by over 15 feet as Clinton's Seth Varble threw 40.52 meters. Hatfield was fifth with a throw of 35.49 meters.

"We are just looking for consistent performances," said Ryan Hornaday, Tuscola's head coach.

The Warriors also won the 3,200-meter relay in 8 minutes, 30.18 seconds. Logan Wallace and Riley Nolan, who are both seniors, combined talents with sophomores Will Foltz and Josiah Hortin. De-

cat St. Teresa took second in 8:35.28.

Overall, the Warriors had two athletes finish in the top eight in three other events. Tristan Gadomski and David Hornaday scored points in both hurdle races. Gadomski took fourth in the 110-meter hurdles (:18.82) and 300-meter hurdles (:47.44). Hornaday was right behind Gadomski in the 300-meter hurdles, taking fifth in :48.08. He was seventh in the 110-meter hurdles (:20.42).

Hortin and Nolan placed fifth and seventh respectively in the 800-meter run. Hortin ran a time of 2:10.63 and Nolan ran a 2:12.40.

Others in the top eight, indi-

vidually, were Krish Patel (fifth, triple jump) Ben Hornaday (seventh, 100-meter dash) and Thomas Brown (eighth, 3,200-meter run). Patel recorded a leap of 11.59 meters, Hornaday ran a time of :12.13, while Brown finished in 13:09.75.

The 800-meter relay was second place in 1:36.63. Hunter Branca, Conner Lewis, Logan Wallace and Ben Hornaday accomplished the feat.

Branca, Lewis and Hornaday were also on the 400-meter relay, which took third with a :46.47. Patel was the other team member. Ben Hornaday, Foltz, Branca and Wallace also took third in the 1,600-meter relay. They ran a time of 3:42.33.

Kate Foltz wins state in pole vault



IT WAS A GREAT WEEKEND for the Tuscola 7th and 8th grade girls track and field teams. All of the girls came up to the state track and field meet ready to compete. They all gave it their best effort, Coach Beth Pugh said.

Kate Foltz (above) made history being the first girl from Tuscola to compete in the pole vault at the state level. Foltz placed 1st in the 8th grade girls 2A pole vault. She is the class 2A 8th grade pole vault champion for 2022. Foltz also placed 4th in the 1600 meters and she ran a personal record in the 800 with a time of 2:37.70 and placed 10th.

Reese Davis placed 15th with a time of 1:10.97. The 8th grade 4x200 relay placed 11th with a time of 2:00.82. The 8th grade were not able to run the 4x400 relay because of illness. The 7th grade 4x200 placed 12th and ran a personal record of 2:02.27. Abbie Meyer competed in the 7th grade discus and placed 13th with a throw of 61 feet, 2 inches.

"I am very proud of all of the girls. It was a very hot weekend," Pugh said. "They gave 100% and made Tuscola very proud."



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