

Class C

Continued from Page B4

“It was sort of on our radar but not really,” said Butterfield, the lone senior in the tandem. “At PVCs last week we ran 12 seconds slower than we did today so we were really hoping just to come out on top this week. We had no idea the state record was really a possibility.”

The Orono girls set three new Class C marks.

Tia Tardy clocked 2:13.03 to pace a 1-2-3 Red Riots’ finish in the 800 with classmates Hannah Steelman and Becky Lopez-Anido.

Allison Pickering, Stoops, Camille Kohtala and Katie O’Brien combined to win the 4x100 in a Class C-best 50.18 seconds, and Tardy, Lopez-Anido, Kassidy Dill and Stoops cut more than three seconds off the previous state mark in the 4x400 with a time of 4:05.00.

“I’m used to running the first leg so I have the gun to tell me to go, go, go like (Orono head coach Chris) Libby does,” said Stoops, who also won the 100 dash (12.72) and 300 hurdles (45.71). “Today I ran fourth leg because Mr. Libby wanted a senior to finish it off, and it’s a little more nerve-wracking because you see your teammates pour their hearts out and you have to stand up to that level.”

Pickering, a senior, also successfully defended her state title in the pole vault with a best of 10 feet, while other individual wins for the Orono girls came from Steelman in the 1,600 (5:23.92), Kylie Gray in the 1,600 race walk (8:43.93) and the 4x800 relay team of Olivia Fandel, Steelman, Dill and Lopez-Anido.

Sacopee Valley was paced by double-event winner Mor-



ERNIE CLARK | BDN
Allison Pickering of the Orono Red Riots clears 10 feet to win the pole vault at the Class C state track and field championships Saturday at Dover-Foxcroft.

gan Carpenter in the high jump (5-0) and triple jump (33-7½), while third-place George Stevens Academy of Blue Hill (43.5) got a first from Morgan Dauk in the javelin (116-5).

Telstar of Bethel’s Kaity Killam won the 200 (26.69) and long jump (16-5¼), while other girls event winners were Lauren Sterling of Mountain Valley of Rumford in the 100 hurdles (16.06), Bree Sautter of Lisbon in the 400 (1:01.30), Anne McKee of Kents Hill in the 3,200 (11:45.23), Shenciaray Black of Carrabec of North Anson in the discus (108-6) and Mavis Taungatua of Bucksport in the shot put 36-6.

The Orono boys won two other events, both involving Butterfield who anchored teammates Keenan Collett, Stephen Nelson and Jacob Fandel to victory in the 4x400 (3:32.95) and led Fandel to a 1-2 finish in the 800 (1:58.62).

“That’s absolutely huge,” said Butterfield. “I won the

(800) last year and just to be back on top again is the greatest feeling I’ve ever had.”

The Washington Academy boys remained within striking distance of Orono throughout the meet thanks to juniors Michaiah Robinson and Oneko Lowe, who combined for 52 individual points and led a championship-winning 4x100 relay team that also featured D’Nye-Jha Hayward and Phillipp Schunicht (45.15).

Robinson and Lowe finished 1-2 in the 200 with Robinson winning in 22.65, while Robinson won the 400 (50.13) and finished second in the 100 while Lowe won the long jump (20-9¼) and placed third in the 100.

“Coming into this meet I knew we’d do well with Michaiah and Oneko and our 4x100 team,” said WA coach Stephen Richard. “Pointwise we did the best we could have done. We really could not have done any better as far as

everyone doing what they were supposed to do. It was incredible.”

Evan Porter from Traip Academy in Kittery set the other new Class C state record among his three victories. The junior snapped an 8-year-old record in the 300 hurdles with a time of 39.57 and also won the 100 dash (11.23) and 100 hurdles (15.21).

Other boys champions were Jovanni Tavares of Washburn in the javelin (153-2), Curtis McLeod of Maine Central Institute of Pittsfield in the shot put (52-10¼), Caden Spencer-Thompson of Mattanawcook Academy of Lincoln in the triple jump (43-2), Johann Bradley of Bucksport in the pole vault (13-0), John Hassett of George Stevens in the 1,600 (4:35.75), Erik Taylor-Lash of GSA in the race walk (7:09.06), Nicholas Harriman of Lisbon in the 3,200 (10:16.26) and Jon Whitcomb of Hall-Dale of Farmingdale in the high jump (6-0).

Class B

Continued from Page B4

The Foxcroft boys had contributions from eight competitors to win the championship. Smith set the tone, but fellow senior Zach Caron placed third in the triple jump and the pole vault and was seventh in the high jump.

Senior Nate Church was third in the 100 and 200 and was part of a fifth-place 4x100 relay, while classmate Cooper Nelson took fourth in the 1,600 and sixth in the 800.

The Ponies also received points from Evan Chadbourne, Blaine Robinson, Paul Birtwistle and Brandon Brock.

“Last week was an emotional win for us and I was worried it would take a lot out of us,” Weber said.

“As terrific as our top guys are, they guys that are grinding out those seconds and third really mattered a lot this year,” he added.

Joining Smith and Nealey as double winners were senior Trevor Gray of Waterville, sophomore Luke Laverdiere of Yarmouth and senior Zachery Haskell of Gray-New Gloucester.

Gray defended his titles in the discus (163-8) and the shot put (49-6¼) and Laverdiere won the 800 (2:01.34) and the 1,600 (4:21.94). Haskell led the field in the 100 (11.25) and the 200 (22.60).

Other event winners were: Winslow’s Jake Warn (triple jump, 41-3¼), Leavitt’s Billy Bedard, who claimed his second straight long jump crown (20-11¼), Trevor Judd of Spruce Mountain in Jay (1,600 racewalk, 7:07.74), York’s Cailleb Stanley (javelin, 161-10), Yarmouth’s Tahj Garvey (400, 50.64) and Chandler Vincent of Freeport (3,200, 9:36.98).

Gardiner’s Robert Sullivan won the wheelchair shot put (12-3¼) and the wheelchair 100 (33.68).

The York girls thwarted Belfast’s bid for a championship with a well-balanced effort. The Wildcats put it away in the 4x400 behind the team of senior Charlotte Reilly, freshman Audrey Grimes, sophomore Laura Kenealy and sophomore Morgan Smith. They ran a season-best 4:11.70.

“It was super scary, but we’re really good under

pressure,” Reilly said. “I can’t believe we finally did it. It’s amazing. I’m so proud of our entire team,” she said.

Bullock added a fourth in the triple jump, while junior Reilly Smedley placed second in the javelin. Kenealy (fourth in the 800), teamed up with Smith, junior Malia Cryan and sophomore Kathryn Miller to win the 4x800 relay (9:51.62).

York benefitted from freshman Mary Freeman’s third place in the shot put. Also scoring were Grimes (4th, 300 hurdles), Kenealy (4th, 800), Cryan (5th, 3,200), and junior Maddie Amidon (5th, triple jump).

Belfast made a strong push, but came up short. Coach Dale Nealey’s Lions suffered a blow when senior sprinter and jumper Cassidy Hill tweaked her left hamstring running the 200.

Hill took the 100 in 12.56 seconds and anchored Belfast’s victorious 4x100 relay (50.78) that included Faith Beaulieu, Kylie Nelson and Kelsey Mehuren. Hill was fourth in the 200, then finished 13th in the triple jump, in which she was the top seed.

“It’s sad it had to end that way,” Kylie Nelson said of the injury.

“It just stinks that it’s her senior year, her last track (meet), and she ended up pulling it (the hamstring).”

Nelson, a junior, soared to a win in the pole vault (9-6) and was the runner-up in the long jump.

Double winners included sophomore Tahlia Mullin of Lincoln Academy in Newcastle, the champion in the 200 (26.11) and the 400 (58.94).

Sophomore Oliviah Damboise of Old Town won the triple jump (3-48¼) and was second in the pole vault.

Other girls who won events were: Jenni Nadeau of Mount View in Thorndike (javelin, 113-3), Foxcroft’s Emily Mikoud (discus, 118-9), Kaylee Porter of Erskine Academy in South China (800, 2:18.11) and Siana Emery of Greely (1,600 racewalk, 7:59.80).

Annika Murrin of Yarmouth (1,600, 5:12.59) who was second in the 800, Emma Egan of Yarmouth (high jump, 5-4), Clara Phillips of Gray-New Gloucester (shot put, 36-11¼) and Abby Hamilton of Yarmouth (3,200, 11:12.14) also won events.

Class A

Continued from Page B4

second in the javelin (110-10) and a fourth in the 100 meter hurdles (16.03).

The shot put and discus were personal bests.

Lewiston was second with 62 points and completing the top 10 were Cheverus of Portland (60), Bonny Eagle of Buxton (53), Edward Little (50), Scarborough (37), defending two-time state champ Thornton Academy of Saco (34), Skowhegan (33), South Portland (27) and Hampden Academy (26).

The top performer in the girls meet was Emily Turner of Cheverus who won the 100 (12.70), the 400 (56.57) and the 200 (25.92) before running the anchor leg for the winning 4-by-400 relay team (4:09.51).

Scarborough coach Derek Veilleux said Rusak was phenomenal in the meet.

“And he (set personal records) in three out of the four events — all but the high jump,” he added.

“Our distance runners had won the state in cross country and indoor track and I wanted to push as hard as I could for them so they would be able to win all three (state titles),” said Rusak.

Rusak was seeded first in three events but was seeded third in the 200.

“I thought I was better than third but I didn’t think I’d win it. That was the biggest surprise, hands-down. To come out with four wins was amazing,” said Rusak.

Senior Colin Tardiff complemented Rusak with seconds in the 1,600 and 3,200 behind Lewiston’s Osman Doorow. He also ran legs for the second-place 4-by-800 relay team and the sixth-place 4-by-400 relay.

Brewer’s fifth-place finish featured firsts by senior Erick Seekins in the long jump (21-5 1/4) and junior Austin Lufkin in the discus (168-4).

“I hadn’t been jumping well. I had been thinking too much,” said Seekins, who was also third in the 100 and ran a leg for the sixth-place 4 by 100 relay team. “So I figured ‘Go hard or go home.’ I was pretty happy with it.”

Lufkin was fifth in the state with a toss of 132 in the discus last season but set a personal record by five feet.

“I had a good week of practice and I felt good coming into the meet. I had four throws over 160 so I was pretty happy with the way I threw today,” said Lufkin.

Brunswick senior Keenan Welzel won the 400-meter dash despite getting home at 3:30 in the morning Saturday after attending a Beyonce concert at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, Mass.

“My sister, Farren, got tick-



LINDA COAN O’KRESIK | BDN
Lewiston’s Adela Kalilwa won first place in the girls long jump with a distance of 18 feet, 3.75 inches, a new Class A state record, during the Class A state track and field championships Saturday at Hampden.

ets, so I got pillows and blankets and slept on the way down and the way back,” said Welzel. “I got in my car at 9 or 9:30 this morning and drove up. It was a very crazy turn of events.”

The other boys winners were Edward Little’s Spencer Dunn (1,600 race walk), Deer- ing of Portland’s Paolo DeMarco (300 hurdles), Messalons- kee’s Owen Concaugh (800), South Portland’s Ruay Bol (triple jump) and Dan Guiliani (shot put), EL’s Cole Butler (javelin) and Windham’s Ernie Ruby (100). Guiliani set a meet record (67-03 ¾).

In the girls meet, Cook said she was determined to regain the discus championship she failed to capture a year ago after winning it as a freshman. She was third last year.

“That was my main goal. It was a good day. I just came in with a positive attitude. I figured I’d do my best and that’s what I did,” said Cook who was elated with the team’s title.

“It was a good effort. We all came together and everyone had good performances. Depth won it for us,” said Cook.

“We did what we were sup-

posed to do and Adelaide had a remarkable day,” said Falmouth coach Danny Paul. “At the beginning, the 4 by 800 relay won after being seeded sixth and we carried that momentum. With a few exceptions, everyone did what they were supposed to do or did slightly better.”

Freshman Malaika Pasch ran a leg for the winning relay team, was second in the 800 and ran a leg for the third-place 4 by 400 relay team.

Cheverus’ Turner said “not in a million years” did she expect to take home four first-place finishes, including three individual wins.

“I was amazing. I was surprised how well the meet went. I was just hoping to PR in the 400 and move up in the 200,” said Turner, who had never run the 100 until coach Steve Virgilio suggested she try it this season.

“I didn’t think (the 100) would work out like it did,” said Turner.

Turner edged out Bonny Eagle senior Elisabeth Redwood in the 100, 200 and 400 including a photo finish in the 200. They each broke the state Class A record in the 400 at 56.57 and 56.77, respectively.

“They were all really good races,” said Redwood.

“She is great competition. I’m going to miss racing her next year,” said Turner.

Bangor High junior Rihan Smallwood, who won the indoor state A title in the pole vault earlier this year, captured the pole vault with a personal best of 10-6.

“I was a little bit nervous but I was more excited than nervous,” said Smallwood who was pleased with her vault.

The other girls winners were Lewiston’s Adela Kalilwa, with a state meet record long jump of 18-3¼, Kayla Allen (1,600 meter walk) and Jennifer Martin (300 hurdles); South Portland’s Juliana Sels- er (800), Scarborough’s Bethany Sholl (3,200), Massabesic of Waterboro’s Moriah Biener (high jump), Noble of North Berwick’s Nina Tasker (100 hurdles), Skowhegan’s Maddy price (triple jump), EL’s Brita-

nee Nouchanthav (javelin) and Bonny Eagle’s Kayla Raymond (1,600).

Inspirational Cony High of Augusta junior Matt MacGregor competed in all four wheelchair events by himself: the 100, the 400, the shot put and discus.

“This has been fantastic,” said MacGregor who was encouraged to join the team by coach Shawn Totman.



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