

WHS Track Closes on Strong Note

Written by Mike Kelly
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The Watauga High boy's and girl's track teams closed out the regular season with a splendid performance on Saturday at the High Country Classic at Jack Groce Stadium in Boone, N.C. The WHS boys won four events and posted 19 top-five finishes. Zach Styron turned in WHS' most impressive effort of the day. The WHS sophomore won the boy's 110-meter hurdles in 16.94 and the boy's 300 hurdles in 43.29, and he finished second in the long jump with an effort of 18-feet, 11.50 inches.

Matthew Hall backed up Styron's impressive showing by winning the high jump (5-06) and finishing second in the pole vault (ten feet). Bryan Brackney won the 800-meter run in 1:58.23; and the Pioneers posted second-place finishes in the 4x400 relay (3:39.49) and the 4x800 relay (9:38.68).

Justin Hall finished third in the pole vault (10 feet); he finished fourth in the triple jump (37-07.75). Zak Horine finished fourth in the high jump (5-0); Kenan Fox finished fourth in the discus (111-0).

WHS won the meet with 141 points, besting the field by 41 points. Charlotte-Vance finished a distant second with 100 points.

The WHS girls won seven events and posted 21 top-five finishes. Savanna Randle and Taylor Drummonds paced WHS on Saturday. Randle won the girl's 100-meter dash in 13.31, and finished second in the 200 (28.20). Drummonds won the pole vault with an effort of nine-feet, six inches; she won the 100-meter hurdles in 16.27; she finished fifth in the discus with a throw of 74-feet, one-inch.

Doria Kosmala won the girl's 800 in 2:25.69; Darby Middlebrook captured the 1,600 (5:17.45). The Pioneers dominated the 1,600 by capturing the top three spots in the race. Madison Harman finished second in 5:34.93, and Kathleen Mansure finished third in 5:44.63.

and WHS won the 4x100 relay (55.11) and the 4x400 relay (4:34.19). Clare Harris turned in a second-place finish in the triple jump (30-8.50) and third in the long jump (14-2.75). Savannah Drummonds finished second in the pole vault (nine feet), Grace Plyler finished third in the 200 (29.00) and Alison Seramur had a third-place showing in the pole vault (8-06).

The WHS girls bested the field with 145 points; A.C. Reynolds, which will host the Class 4A Western Regional next Saturday, finished a distant second with 86 points.

The Watauga Middle School boys won their meet with 109.5 points. They won four events. Evan Miller won the 800 (2:46.71), Grant Pilkington won the 1,600 (5:24.11), Michael Witt won the high jump (4-06), and Kenneth Gonzalez won the shot put (30-4.75).

The Watauga Middle School girls won their meet with 127 points. Alden McClure won the 100 (14.07), Hailey McDaniel won the 200 (29.47), Emma Kate Sevensky won the 400 (1:16.03), Morgan Hoyt won the 800 (2:56.82), Brielle McKinney won the 1,600 (6:25.58), and Amie White won the shot put (17-10).

The WHS boys and girls travel to ACR for regionals next Saturday, May 11. A list of WHS' regional qualifiers will be released later tonight.