

# Indoor title in long jump goes to Hononegah's Kimberly

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BLOOMINGTON —

Josh Kimberly bested a stellar field in the long jump Saturday and became the second Hononegah track athlete to win a title in the past three Illinois Prep Top Times Indoor Classics.

Kimberly's leap of 22-feet-10 at Illinois Wesleyan's Shirk Center earned him the distinction of unofficial Class AA indoor state champion. Ryan Jacobs won an indoor title for Hononegah two years ago.

"It was a beautiful attempt. And then he went about 23-feet on his last one but just barely scratched," Hononegah coach Tom Polaski said. When asked if Kimberly can keep it up all season long, Polaski added: "I would think so, and hope so. His discipline and work ethic are certainly there."

The Indians' Nic Haab took eighth in the 55-meter high hurdles, and Hononegah's distance medley relay team placed fourth.

## **Class A**

It was a mix of happiness and disappointment for three area second-place finishers.

Winnebago's Brian Benning was excited to set a school record of 52-10 in the shot put, but took second only to a monster heave of 58-4 by Matt Eader of Frankfort.

"I spent all last year in the weightroom and have my technique worked out," said Benning, who is already 3 1/2 feet over his personal best of last year. "I'd like to get 55 outside."

Winnebago's Sean Smith settled for second to Fieldcrest's Brian Peterson (9:41-10:04) in the 3,200 run. Smith did hold off a hard-charging Trace Carlson (10:07) of Oregon and 'Bago teammate Nic Newcomer (10:14).

In the pole vault, Brittany Knodle of Byron lost the pole vault title in a jump-off. Christian Life had a pair of medalists, also in the pole vault. Holly Wiersema was fourth at 9-0 for the girls and Andrew Nice was fifth at 13-0 in the boys competition. Wiersema added a fifth on the high jump.

Jordan Thomas (boys 55 meters), Abigail Peterson (girls 3,200) and Lynea Axelson (girls 800) gave Oregon three 5th-place finishes. **Courtney McKibben was sixth in the 55 hurdles for Rockford Christian.**