

High school girls track: Richmond-Burton captures surprise title at BNC East meet

Published: Thursday, May 7, 2015 9:39 p.m. CDT

MARENGO - Keith Forth had done the math, and it was not encouraging. Based on seeding, his Richmond-Burton girls track and field team was projected to finish 35 points behind Burlington Central in Thursday's Big Northern Conference East Division meet.

But when the races were actually run, the Rockets flipped the script. Thanks to a deep team and a few surprise finishes, R-B finished with 140 points, good for a 12-point margin of victory in Forth's 26th and final year coaching.

"They had some things that didn't go the way they wanted to, and we had some surprises," Forth said.

Perhaps the most exciting of those came in the miniscule form of sophomore K.C. Davids. She collected some expected points early, winning the long jump with a jump of 16 feet, 9.5 inches and finishing third in the 100-meter dash (13.39).

Then she got some unexpected points in the 200, the day's penultimate event. Davids made a late push to beat the favorite, Harvard's Sophie Stricker, by one one-hundredths of a second, 27.31 seconds to 27.32.

"I just wanted to keep up with Sophie," Davids said. "I thought she had me. ... I just saw her out of the corner of my eye, and I really wanted conference."

Said Forth: "She's so tiny. She's barely five feet tall. She's got a lot of guts."

A number of the Rockets' pleasant surprises came in the field portion of the meet. Ally Zaobidny scored points with a fifth-place finish in high jump (4'06.01") and second-place finish in triple jump (30'03.00"). Courtney Cozzola had a surprise second place finish in discus (106'06.50) while also grabbing fourth in shot put (31'05.00").

On the track side, Forth was impressed by Amy Frisch, who outperformed her seed with a second-place finish in the 1600 (5:37.19) in addition to a third-place finish in the 800 (2:29.59), and Emma Langolis, who finished fourth in the 800 (2:29.65).

The Rockets' title came in spite of the fact that star sprinter Miranda Halverson scratched from the 200 and 400 after her second-place finish in the 100. R-B scored in every event except pole vault and had multiple top-six finishers in six of the 18 events.

"That's what I told them I'd kind of like to do: I'd like to go out on top," Forth said. "We managed to accomplish that."

Marengo finished third in the meet, paced by a victory in the 4x100 relay, Haley Schenk's triple jump title (30'09.00) and expected victories in the 3200 and 1600 from Kitty Allen.

Allen didn't challenge her personal bests, finishing the 3200 in 12:20.12 and the 1600 in 5:32.88, but she was pleased with the wins, particularly considering Thursday's heat.

"It was kind of rough being this hot and all, but it was nice to still be able to race fairly decent," Allen said. "I've had trouble with heat a lot in the past. I have asthma, so the heat triggers it, so racing in the

heat is going to help with sectionals and hopefully at state, if I qualify.”

Though Stricker lost in the 200, she moved closer to a state-qualifying time in the 400. Her event-winning time of 59.94 was .04 off the state cut for Class 2A.

Johnsburg finished seventh of the eight teams in the meet with 30 points.

Game ball:

K.C. Davids, so., Richmond-Burton

The 5-foot-1 sophomore scored big points for the Rockets, winning the long jump with a score of 16-09.50 before finishing third in the 100 and winning the 200.

The number: 6

Events in which Richmond-Burton had multiple top-six finishers.

The big moment:

In the day's second-to-last event, Davids made a last-second push to defeat favorite Sophie Stricker of Harvard in the 200-meter dash. Her time of 27.31 seconds edged Stricker by one one-hundredths of a second.

Big Northern Conference East Division girls meet

Teams: 1. Richmond-Burton, 140, 2. Burlington Central 128, 3. Marengo 112, 4. Rockford Christian 62, T5. Harvard, Genoa-Kingston 42, 7. Johnsburg 30, 8. North Boone 1

Pole Vault - 1. Conn (BC) 9'00.00", 2. Mueller (B) 8'06.02", 3. Nimrick (Jhn) 8'06.01", 4. Volpendesta (Mgo) 8'06.00", 5. Bousquet (Jhn) 8'00.00", 6. Scarpelli (Hvd) 6'06"00.

High Jump - 1. Chmelik (BC) 5'00.00", T2. Hale (Mgo), Janes (G-K) 4'08.01", 4. Halverson (R-B) 4'08.00", 5. Zaobidny (R-B) 4'06.01" 6. Jacobs (Hvd) 4'06.00"

Long Jump - 1. Davids (R-B) 16'09.50", 2. Spencer (BC) 15'06.25", 3. Myland (R-B) 15'01.00, 4. Janes (G-K) 15'00.50", 5. Grimes (Jhn) 13'11.50, 6. Schmidt (G-K) 13'09.25", 7. Arnold (Marengo) 13'04.50, 8. Metz (BC) 13'03.75

Shot Put - 1. Lindquist (RC) 35'08.50", 2. Curran (R-B) 33'04.00", 3. Fisher (G-K) 32'07.75", 4. Cozzola (R-B) 31'05.00", 5. Williams (BC) 31'02.00", 6. Siudak (Jhn) 30'03.00", 7. Dunn (Jhn) 29'10.00, 8. Penney (RC) 28'00.00"

Discus - 1. Fischer (G-K) 110'06.00", 2. Cozzola (R-B) 106'06.50", 3. Lindquist (RC) 102'03.00", 4. Kreczmer (BC) 88'10.50", 5. Row (Mgo) 86'02.00", 6. Hennigan (Jhn) 84'02.50, 7. Abraham (NB) 76'08.00", 8. Myers (Jhn) 75'03.50"

Triple Jump - 1. Schenk (Mgo) 30'09.00", 2. Zaobidny (R-B) 30'03.00", 3. Routson (G-K) 30'00.00", 4. Chmelik (BC) 29'09.00", 5. Overmyer (BC) 29'06.00", 6. Tierney (Mgo) 29'00.00", 7. Grimes (Jhn) 28'11.00", 8. Graff (NB) 27'07.00"

4x800 Relay - 1. Harvard 10:37.69, 2. Marengo 10:45.23, 3. Richmond-Burton 10:57.96, 4. Burlington Central 11:16.93, 5. Genoa-Kingston 12:18.94

4x100 Relay - 1. Marengo 51.53, 2. Richmond-Burton 51.85, 3. Burlington Central 52.55, 4. Genoa-Kingston 56.24, 5. Johnsburg 56.25, 6. North Boone 56.37, 7. Harvard 57.92, 8. Rockford Christian 58.26

3,200-Meter - 1. Allen (Mgo) 12:20.12, 2. Shefcik (Mgo) 13:08.75, 3. Lorenz (BC) 13:58.49, 4. Christiansen (RB) 13:14.70, 5. Cork (BC) 14:41.75, 6. Wright (Hvd) 14:46.42, 7. Blaschak (R-B)

17:01.05

100-Meter Hurdles - 1. Smith (RC) 16.92, 2. Vlasak (R-B) 17.22, 3. Weinrich (BC) 17.42, 4. Castillo (BC) 18.27, 5. Drendel (G-K) 18.59, 6. Korczak (Hvd) 18.72, 7. Gorski (RC) 18.79, 8. Mercado (G-K) 19.44

800 Meters - 1. Bilyk (BC) 2:25.83, 2. Broling (Mgo) 2:28.62, 3. Frisch (R-B) 2:29.59, 4. Langolis (R-B) 2:29.65, 5. Smith (RC) 2:34.29, 6. Jacobs (Hvd) 2:38.04, 7. Conroy (Mgo) 2:40.56, 8. Zwonitzer (RC) 2:42.37

4x200 Relay - 1. Marengo 1:49.66, 2. Rockford Christian 1:52.94, 3. Richmond-Burton 1:53.66, 4. Burlington Central 1:54.50, 5. Johnsbury 2:00.60, 6. Harvard 2:01.87, 7. Genoa-Kingston 2:07.51

100 Meters - 1. Jones (RC) 13.36, 2. Halverson (R-B) 13.56, 3. Davids (R-B) 13.59, 4. Burns (Mgo) 13.66, 5. Hoffmeyer (Mgo) 13.66, 6. Goehrke (BC) 14.01, 7. Konieczny (BC) 14.33, 8. Schira (Jhn) 14.39

400 Meters - 1. Stricker (Hvd) 59.94, 2. Stefka (Jhn) 1:03.82, 3. Spencer (BC) 1:04.74, 4. Chmelik (BC) 1:05.13, 5. Halverson (R-B) 1:05.64, 6. Vasquez (G-K) 1:06.77, 7. Euker (Mgo) 1:09.28, 8. Greco (Mgo) 1:09.99

300 Meter Low Hurdles - 1. Castillo (BC) 47.51, 2. Smith (RC) 48.59, 3. Weinrich (BC) 49.51, 4. Vlasak (RB) 49.72, 5. Bolis (Mgo) 52.19, 6. Schenk (Mgo) 52.79, 7. Gorski (RC) 52.96, 8. Drendel (G-K) 56.63

800 Meters - 1. Bilyk (BC) 2:25.83, 2. Broling (Mgo) 2:28.62, 3. Frisch (R-B) 2:29.59, 4. Langolis (R-B) 2:29.65, 5. Smith (RC) 2:34.29, 6. Jacobs (Hvd) 2:38.04, 7. Conroy (Mgo) 2:40.56, 8. Zwonitzer (RC) 2:42.37

200 Meters - 1. Davids (R-B) 27.31, 2. Stricker (Hvd) 27.32, 3. Hale (Mgo) 27.96, 4. Jones (RC) 28.01, 5. Stefka (Jhn) 29.11, 6. Westergaard (BC) 29.23, 7. Euker (Mgo) 29.36, 8. Bailey (NB) 30.37

4x400 Relay - 1. Burlington Central 4:12.69, 2. Marengo 4:20.86, 3. Richmond-Burton 4:21.40, 4. Johnsbury 4:30.53, 5. Rockford Christian 4:38.68, 6. Harvard 4:40.71, 7. Genoa-Kingston 4:40.71

1600 Meters - 1. Allen (Mgo) 5:32.88, 2. Frish (R-B) 5:37.19, 3. Peterson (Hvd) 5:45.20, 4. Langolis (R-B) 6:00.19, 5. Combs (RC) 6:08.55, 6. Austin (Hvd) 6:17.36, 7. Lorenz (BC) 6:19.83, 8. Tenorio (NB) 6:25.34