

## Boys dominate during first day of district meet

By Kevin Gordon - May 19th, 2017

GIBSONBURG — Eastwood's boys track and field team had plenty to be happy with Thursday night.

The Eagles dominated the first day of the Division III district meet at Gibsonburg High School.

Junior Dalton Andrews broke the district record in the shot put to highlight an impressive day by the Eagles.

Eastwood also finished first and second in the long jump and the pole vault, won the 3,200 relay and finished second and third in the high jump. The Eagles qualified 11 of their 13 individuals and all three relay teams for the finals.

The Eagles' other district champions were freshman Jaden Rayford in the long jump, senior Jacob Montag in the pole vault and the 3,200 relay team of senior Logan Baugher, junior Alex Boyer, senior Josh Bierley and sophomore Jack Chappuies. The top four finishers in each event qualified for next week's regional in Tiffin.

The Eagles totaled 73 points Thursday, while Woodmore was second with 16.

The district concludes Saturday with the discus at 9 a.m., followed by the running finals at 10 a.m. The other four field events were held Thursday.

"It was a very solid day," said Eastwood head coach Brian Sabo, who team is seeking is fourth straight district championship and 11th district title in the last 13 seasons. "We're pretty happy. We've set ourselves up pretty well for Saturday."

The Eagles won the district title at Gibsonburg last season with 132 points, their first district championship in Division III. Their other district titles came in Division II where they're expected to return next season. The divisions are based on boys enrollment.

Eastwood has performed consistently well this season. Its most-recent outing was a 221-point performance Saturday when it won the Northern Buckeye Conference, its 17th straight conference title.

On Thursday, the athletes battled a strong cross wind during most of the meet, although the wind decreased after about an hour delay for lightning.

"Your job is to put yourself in position to get out," Sabo said. "The kids came in today and really went after it and did their job. Everything is pretty much what we expected roughly."

Andrews threw 54-2 to win the shot and break the district record of 52-6 set in 2009. Sophomore teammate Erik Fertig was sixth at 46-8<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. The top eight finishers in each event scored points for the team.

Justin Welch set the Eastwood record of 63-4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in 2010.

“I felt like it was a pretty good day,” said Andrews, whose best this season is 54-9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> at the Eastwood Relays April 22. “Going into the finals, I knew it wasn’t my best, and I had to get a good mark in there. I prepared myself for that because I knew had to throw a little bit farther to get out. I was able to do that.”

Andrews was fourth entering the finals after throwing 46-9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> during the prelims. He won by just 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch. The second- and third-place finishers also bettered the old district record.

“It’s good to see him go back in the 54s because it gives him some confidence. I was very happy with him,” Sabo said.

Andrews’ winning throw was the sixth-best in Division III this season.

“I know there’s still more left in me,” Andrews said. “I can throw a lot farther.”

Rayford went 20-2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in the long jump to edge senior teammate Ryan Reiter by three-quarters of an inch. The long jump was held with the athletes jumping into the strong wind.

Reiter’s season-best of 22-3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> this season is third-best in Division III, while Rayford is seventh at 21-8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

“Those guys came in and competed right away,” Sabo said. “That’s the nice thing, they compete against and push each other to improve.”

Senior Jacob Montag cleared 14-0 to win the pole vault, and senior classmate Tyler Brenot was second at 13-0.

Montag was competing for the first time since injuring his hand in practice last week. He was held out of the NBC meet for precautionary reasons. His season-best of 15-0 is good for a two-way tie for second in the state in Division III.

In the high jump, Brenot was second and Rayford was third. Both cleared 6-0.

“It was a good day in the pole vault and high jump,” Sabo said. “Again, those guys competed.”

The 3,200 relay team won in 8:30.17.

“The time really wasn’t much slower when there was no wind (at the NBC),” Sabo said. Eastwood had a time of 8:27.51 in the conference meet. “Even they didn’t feel like they ran well which is good which it means there’s more in the tank.”

#### DISTRICT TRACK AND FIELD

#### DIVISION III

#### AT GIBSNBURG

#### THURSDAY

#### BOYS

#### TOP 5 TEAMS

1) Eastwood, 73; 2) Woodmore, 16; 3) tie, Sandusky St. Mary, Toledo Christian 13;  
5) Elmwood, 11½.

#### FINALS

(Top four finishers in each event qualified for next week’s regional in Tiffin)

Shot put — 1) Dalton Andrews, 54-2 (breaks district record of 52-6 set in 2009); 6) Erik Fertig, 46-8¾.

High jump — 2) Tyler Brenot, 6-0; 3) Jaden Rayford, 6-0.

Long jump — 1) Jaden Rayford, 20-2¼; 3) Ryan Reiter, 20-1½.

Pole vault — 1) Jacob Montag, 14-0; 2) Tyler Brenot, 13-0.

3,200 relay — 1) Logan Baugher, Alex Boyer, Josh Bierley and Jack Chappuies,  
8:30.17.

#### PRELIMINARIES

(Eight-fastest times qualified for Saturday’s finals in all events except the 1,600 and the 800 where the top 16 times qualified for the finals)

110 hurdles — 1) Kenneth Cassaubon, 15.78; 2) Logan Wendt, 16.38.

100 — 2) Landon Zura, 11.53; 10) Josh McCauley, 12.07.

800 relay — 3) Ryan Reiter, Isaac Emahiser, Brenot and Cooper Comes, 1:33.54.

1,600 — 11) Bierley, 4:54.96; 13) Luke Coffman, 4:55.43.

400 relay — 1) Zura, Emahiser, Reiter and Brenot, 43.92.

400 — 3) Alex Boyer, 52.77.

300 hurdles — 4) Wendt, 43.04; 6) Ceyleon Damron, 44.56.

800 — 4) Logan Baugher, 2:13.01.

200 — 3) Emahiser, 23.44; 8) Nate McCauley-Benner, 24.21.

1,600 relay — 3) Baugher, Jacob Hahn, Reiter and Emahiser, 3:38.34.