

Beecher's Taron Burgess couldn't clear 7-0 this time but won the high jump with a leap of 6-8 that tied the league record.

Beecher levels Big 9 for track titles

By PHIL PIERSON
Journal sports writer

Beecher High carried home the heavy envelopes after Thursday's Big Nine Conference track meet at Clio.

The Bucs collected most of the medals while dominating in both the boys' and the girls' meets.

About the only thing Beecher didn't get was a complete results package, showing all of the details of its impressive performances.

No one else did, either, as a malfunctioning computer program left some details incomplete late Thursday night.

The missing facts won't change the outcome, however.

Beecher made certain of that by rolling up huge margins in both meets.

Coach Marty Crane's boys' team won by 85½ points and Coach Joe Wilkerson's girls' squad enjoyed a 65-point cushion.

Beecher scored 198½ points in the boys' meet to earn a share of their 11th Big Nine title in 13 years, and the girls' team earned 144. Kearsley was second in both meets, with 113 points from its boys' team and 79 in the girls' competition.

The second-place finish in the boys' meet was enough to give Coach Don Marsh's Hornets a share of the league's overall championship which also involves the dual meet portion of the schedule. Kearsley defeated Beecher in a dual meet early in the season.

There was no split in the girls' meet. The Lady Bucs won it all after going undefeated against Big Nine teams in dual meets.

Beecher scored in 16 of the 17 events in the boys' meet, missing only in the 1,600-meter run.

The Bucs won seven events including finishes of at least 1-2 in three. Their best event was the long jump where the Bucs ended in the top four positions led by winner Marcus Tipton.

"That was kind of a pleasant surprise," Crane said. "We had five kids in it, but I didn't expect to finish like that."

Beecher high jumper Taron Burgess, the area's first to clear seven feet, accounted for the only dent in the record book. Burgess won his specialty by matching

the league record with a jump of 6-8.

The Bucs' triumphs included victories in all three sprint relays: the 1,600, 800 and 400. Reggie Allen in the 300 hurdles, and Garth Spight in the 400 accounted for Beecher's other individual triumphs.

"We had so many personal bests tonight, this is a night to remember," Crane said.

Kearsley nearly matched Beecher in first places with six, but Coach Don Marsh said his Hornets couldn't compete with the Bucs' depth.

"Most of our people performed very well," Marsh said.

Marsh said Gary Kinnee ran his best races of the season in winning the 1,600 and 3,200 runs for the Hornets with times of 4:23.2 and 9:39, respectively.

Sprinter Greg Thompson reached 22 seconds for the first time in winning the 200, and Janairo Brown turned in his best clocking in taking the 800 run in 1:54.8. Brown ran the leadoff leg on Kearsley's winning 3,200 relay team.

Thompson also won the 100 to join Kinnee among three double winners of individual events.

The other was Carman-Ainsworth's Jon Runyan who defended his titles in the shot put and discus.

Paced by Runyan's 20 points and Amen Miller's victory in the 110 hurdles, the Cavaliers finished a solid third in the boys' scoring with 91 points. No other team had more than 38 points.

Owosso's Jarrod Hoose was the other winner in the pole vault.

Wilkerson's Lady Bucs won 10 events including all four relays and scored in 13 of 16.

"They stayed focused and they ran hard," Wilkerson said. Niketa Williams and sprinter Carmia Marshall ran in two winning relays and also won two individual events as the meet's top scorers with 25 points each.

Williams won the 300 and 110 hurdles races in addition to helping in the 1,600 and 800 relays. Marshall won the 100 and 200 sprints while running in the 800 and 400 relays.

Chantella Byrd won the 400 in addition to running in two relays for Beecher.

Rhoda Read, Renona Childress, Rhoda Russell and Sheketa Peterson also were part of two winning relays.

Denise Rubin accounted for Beecher's other triumph in the shot put.

"They're starting to jell now at the right time," Wilkerson said, looking ahead to the state meet in Grand Rapids May 30. "If a couple of our kids had run like that in the regional we'd have placed even more people for the state meet."

The winners of the other six events were spread among six teams.

Janelle Sheppard led second-place Kearsley by winning the 1,600, while fourth-place Owosso got a victory from Tressa Rowell in the 3,200.

Clio's Darcie Brasier captured the high jump, Jill Dolphin won the long jump for Powers Catholic, Stacey Seely took the discus for Carman-Ainsworth and Erin Hughes won the 800 for Davison.

Big Nine track

Boys

Team scoring and legend — Beecher (B) 198 1/2, Kearsley (K) 113, Carman-Ainsworth (CA) 91, Swartz Creek (SC) 38, Owosso (O) 38, Flushing (F) 16, Grand Blanc (GB) 15, Clio (C) 10 1/2, Davison (D) 4, Powers Catholic (P) 3

100 yard — 1. Taron Burgess (B) 2. Mike Jackson (CA) 3. Justin Harris (D) 4. Jon Bullock (B) 5. Daniel Ziegler (K) 6. Scott Cameron (C) H-6-8 (ties meet record)

200 yard — 1. Marcus Tipton (B) 2. McKinley Tipton (B) 3. Bullock (B) 4. Chris Webb (B) 5. Jason Dover (K) 6. Mike Henson (SC) D-21-1

400 yard — 1. Jon Runyan (CA) 2. Kareem Vaughn (B) 3. Darnell Bryant (B) 4. Matt Peterson (D) 5. Adrian Cook (SC) 6. Mike Larson (C) D-169-3

800 yard — 1. Jarrod Hoose (O) 2. Tony Fuhr (K) 3. T.J. Stanley (O) 4. Joe Asperger (O) 5. Duane Shortt (SC) 6. Issac Miller (B) H-1-4

1,600 yard — 1. Gary Kinnee (CA) 2. Mike Banker (C) 3. Todd Cronkright (K) 4. Mike Larson (K) 5. Vaughn (B) 6. Rafael Jackson (CA) D-56-8

3,200 yard — 1. Marcus Tipton (B) 2. Ben Nardor (K) 4. Earl Chatman (CA) 5. Felix Onowu (GB) 6. (tie) Tom Nichols (C), Marcus Brown (B) 4-8-8

100 hurdles — 1. Reggie Allen (B) 2. Ramsey Watkins (B) 3. Steve Butz (CA) 4. Mike Spaulding (CA) 5. Joe Hudkins (F) 6. Jim Coakine (SC)

300 hurdles — 1. Janairo Brown (K) 2. McK Tipton (B) 3. Ronald Allen (B) 4. Mark Guivatsch (SC) 5. Matt McKone (F) 6. Kalby Hurr (GB)

400 hurdles — 1. Greg Thompson (B) 2. Spight (B) 3. Jimmy Lacy (B) 4. Obie Perry (B) 5. Anthony Williams (B) 6. Chris Abey (CA)

800 hurdles — 1. Gary Kinnee (K) 2. Rick McDowell (SC) 3. Bob Dickie (GB) 4. Jeremy Hulbert (CA) 5. Kent Young (F) 6. Ben Hunsutt (SC)

1,600 hurdles — 1. Beecher (Lacy, McK Tipton, Spight, Ma Tipton) 2. Kearsley (Ben Nardor, Thompson, Scott Groub, Brown) 3. Carman-Ainsworth (Earl Chatman, Jackson, Butz, Spaulding) 4. Swartz Creek (Andy Brasosky, Alan Green, Guivatsch, Coakine) 5. Owosso (Paul Schultz, Randy Elder, Ryan Francis, Eric Ochnodnick) 6. Clio (Chad Montague, Tom Odom, Cameron, Jason TanBusch) T-3 19 4

3,200 hurdles — 1. Kearsley (Brown, Nardor, Ryan Loiseau, Kinnee) 2. Beecher (Ma Tipton, McK Tipton, Ron, Allen, Marcus Brown) 3. Swartz Creek (McDowell, Coakine, Garratt Ireland, Guivatsch) 4. Flushing (Young, Todd Meradith, Steve Tunnidiff,

McKone) 5. Grand Blanc (Dickie, Keith Jackson, Scott Marrell, Hurr) 6. Owosso (Brad Braining, Schultz, Nathan Hemenway, Ross Beamish) T-7 50-5

110 hurdles — 1. Amen Miller (CA) 2. Perry (B) 3. Watkins (B) 4. Spaulding (CA) 5. Reg Allen (B) 6. Ron, Allen (B) T-14-6

200 hurdles — 1. Thompson (K) 2. A Williams (B) 3. Chris Williams (B) 4. Cadric Masley (CA) 5. Jarron Masley (CA) 6. Andy Kelso (O) T-10-9

400 hurdles — 1. Beecher 2. Kearsley 3. Owosso 4. Flushing 5. Swartz Creek 6. Powers Catholic. T-1 28-5

800 hurdles — 1. Kinnee (K) 2. Hulbert (CA) 3. McDowell (SC) 4. Dickie (GB) 5. Young (F) 6. Brent Bushy (CA) T-4 23 2

1,600 hurdles — 1. Beecher 2. Carman-Ainsworth 3. Owosso 4. Kearsley 5. Powers Catholic 6. Swartz Creek T-4 30

Girls

Team scoring and legend — Beecher (B) 144, Kearsley (K) 79, Grand Blanc (GB) 59, Owosso (O) 58, Clio (C) 28, Davison (D) 26, Carman-Ainsworth (CA) 29, Flushing (F) 23, Swartz Creek (SC) 16, Powers Catholic (P) 15

100 yard — 1. Darcie Brasier (C) 2. Jennifer Nagel (F) 3. Sarah Fischer (CA) 4. Kristin McGregor (GB) 5. Misty Palmer (C) 6. Kristen Miller (SC) H-5-2

200 yard — 1. Jill Dolphin (P) 2. Katherine Donohue (GB) 3. Sheketa Peterson (B) 4. Miller (SC) 5. Rhoda Russell (B) D-16-7

400 yard — 1. Stacey Seely (CA) 2. Carrie Young (K) 3. Kelly Drummlsmith (O) 4. Renee Roblescu (SC) 5. C. Mailand (K) 6. Lydia Ford (B) D-118-3

800 yard — 1. Denise Rubin (B) 2. Drummlsmith (O) 3. Ford (B) 4. Seely (CA) 5. Young (K) 6. Hollie Racy (F) D-36-2

1,600 yard — 1. Chantella Byrd (B) 2. Renona Childress (B) 3. Tiffany Kirkland (K) 4. Lisa Demas (O) 5. Keri Czerwinski (SC) 6. Kami Hurr (GB)

3,200 yard — 1. Niketa Williams (B) 2. Becky Schultz (C) 3. Lakacia Funches (K) 4. Laura Stevenson (GB) 5. Andrea Sies (K) Makeda Myles (B)

800 - 1000 — 1. Erin Hughes (D) 2. Kim Jackson (GB) 3. Amie Wagner (SC) 4. Janelle Sheppard (K) 5. Amanda Johnson (O) 6. Angie Edgar (C)

200 - 400 — 1. Carmia Marshall (B) 2. Rhoda Read (B) 3. McGregor (GB) 4. Dolphin (P) 5. Mollie Kress (F) 6. Chandra Traylor (K)

3200 - 1000 — 1. Tressa Rowell (O) 2. Heather McLellan (D) 3. Liz Smith (D) 4. Kerry Brown (CA) 5. Lori Sturgill (K) 6. Sheppard (K)

1600 relay — 1. Beecher (Read, N. Williams, Childress, Byrd) 2. Kearsley (Robyn Krueger, Kirkland, Traylor, Sies) 3. Owosso (Mardoe Krueger, Johnson, Demis, Vanessa Timm) 4. Grand Blanc (Holly Summers, Jill Sies, Yolanda Carroll, Kim Jantz)

800 relay — 1. Swartz Creek (Wagner, Sarah Dar, Czerwinski, Miller) 6. Clio (Joni Lea, Courtney Le-Clair, Cindy Arsenault, Joya Martin) T-4 04 2

3200 relay — 1. Beecher (Read, Delana Windfar, Childress, Byrd) 2. Owosso (Rowell, Val King, Ellie Whitlock, Johnson) 3. Kearsley (Becky Green, Sturgill, Sheppard, Tina Cantu) 4. Grand Blanc (Summers, Sies, Carroll, Jackson) 5. Flushing (Jenny Oben, Sarah Lorenz, Sarah Davdick, Dana Mester) 6. Clio (Arsenault, Angie Edgar, Branda Hoyal, Schultz) T-10 09-4

100 hurdles — 1. N. Williams (B) 2. Schultz (C) 3. Funches (K) 4. Stevenson (GB) 5. Jami Arzhambault (CA) 6. Sies (K) T-15-5

300 hurdles — 1. Marshall (B) 2. Russell (B) 3. Kress (F) 4. Theresa Thomas (B) 5. Stephanie Staroba (GB) 6. Danielle Totten (C) T-12 4

400 hurdles — 1. Beecher (N. Williams, Russell, Peterson, Marshall) 2. Grand Blanc (Stevenson, Staroba, Donohue, McGregor) 3. Kearsley (Traylor, Kirkland, Kelsey, Sies) 4. Owosso (Krueger, Jordan Paradise, Demis, Timm) 5. Flushing (Amy Clodfelter, Niki Resbesch, Kja Powell, Kress) 6. Swartz Creek (Miller, Dart, Czerwinski, Stacia Taylor) T-1 48 3

800 hurdles — 1. Sheppard (K) 2. Rowell (O) 3. McLellan (D) 4. Smith (D) 5. King (O) 6. Karyn VanSledright (CA) 5 38 4

1,600 hurdles — 1. Beecher (Marshall, Thomas, Peterson, Russell) 2. Kearsley (Funches, Kirkland, Traylor, Kelsey) 3. Grand Blanc (Stevenson, Staroba, Donohue, McGregor) 4. Clio (Dan. Totton, Le-Clair, Darcie Totten, Jenny Turnbull) 5. Flushing (Holly Amore, Jamie Grambridge, Amy Clodfelter, Kress) 6. Powers Catholic (Sarah Willyerd, Denise Routhier, Shiquita Machin, Dolphin) T-51-4