Boys' team finishes fourth in Saturday's opener

By Jan Schultz
The Imperial Republican

It was windy and cold, so times and marks may not be representative of what the boys' track team has in store.

But, Head Coach Marc Mroczek said Saturday's meet in Cambridge has identified a lot of areas that need work, mostly in the area of condition.

"We have a lot of work ahead on conditioning to get into shape," Mroczek said.

He also said the team needs to develop its mental focus on competing in individual events, and make the decision "to do our best no matter what."

Technique in some of the events, especially the jumps, are also on the work schedule, he said.

Chase County finished fourth in team totals at the Don Stine Invitational, which as in most years, greeted the track athletes with more winter than spring-like conditions.

Temperatures were in the 30's when they arrived Saturday morning. It warmed up a little in the afternoon, but the wind continued.

The Longhorn boys placed in 12 events, and collected just one first place finish overall, from senior Alex Sharp in the shot put.

What was also great about that first place mark of 46'2", Mroczek said, was that it was Sharp's personal best.

Two other Longhorns also placed in the shot, making it the most fruitful of the day in points from one event. Tyler Roenfeldt was fourth and Alex Strand, fifth.

Chase County also picked up two places in the discus, second and third, from Sharp and Roenfeldt. Sharp's second was just four inches off the first place mark.

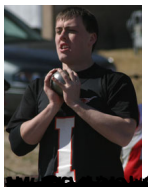
Chase County, which took 22 boys to the meet, also placed in 11 other events Saturday.

The Longhorn 3200 meter relay team collected second on the efforts of Preston Bernhardt, Kyle Bottom, Jake Burke and Tom Sullivan.

While their times were off due to the conditions and lack of outside practice time, Tyler Talbott and Bernhardt took third and fourth in the 3200.

Talbott also picked up fourth place in the 1600.

A pleasant surprise was Joel Fisher's fifth in the 300 meter hurdles, Mroczek noted.



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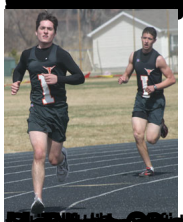

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