



By Jan Schultz

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Only nine Lady Longhorn track athletes competed at the rescheduled Ogallala Invitational Friday, but the small crew still scored in seven events.

And, as far as individual performances, the Chase County girls also recorded seven personal bests.

Coach Al Zuege said the nine who were able to make the trip represented about a third of his team, so they weren't able to compete in all of the events.

"All the teams were short," Zuege said, "but, we seemed to be hit the most."

The meet was originally scheduled for Saturday, but Ogallala staff moved it to Friday due to the wintry forecasts for the weekend, which did hold true.

But, it meant CCS athletes at the FFA and FBLA state conventions, which ran into Friday, would miss the meet. There were also some Lady Longhorns who were ill.

Despite the low numbers, Zuege said he saw some good things come out of the meet.

Included were his team's performances in the weights.

Sophomore Lexee Reichert finished fourth in the shot put, behind three strong throwers from Cozad and Gothenburg who competed at state last year.

Cozad's Carlie Pinkleman, who won the event, placed second in Class B at state last year, while Carly Henry, who was second last week, finished seventh at state in 2008, also in Class B.

Reichert is "getting on track" with her throws, Zuege said.

Zuege also noted the personal best discus throw from freshman Shannon Liewer. While she was out of the medals, Liewer's 87'6" throw was nine and a half feet further from the week before.

Dee Dee Pursley's 51.6 second time in the 300 meter hurdles was good enough for fifth place.

The team also scored three medals in the sprints, all run with personal best times. Karlee Palmer won the 200 and finished third in the 100, while Rebecca Martin took sixth in the 200.

Shanna Carter also brought home an individual medal in the 800 with a fifth place finish.

The Lady Longhorns also picked up fourths in both the 400 and 1600 meter relays.

Also turning in personal bests at Ogallala were Jilanne German and Shayla Dinnel.



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