CROCKETT TRACKSTERS SHINE AT USJ MEET- SEVERAL SCHOOL AND PERSONAL RECORDS SET



Above: Addie Davidson now holds six different school records in Crockett track & field. (Photo by Ron Barry)

From Field of Dreams (and frequently misquoted): "If you build it [a baseball field], he will come."

From Coach Julie Nass (and never misquoted, since she just said it): "If you build it [a track facility], they will go – to Sectionals!"

Nass, Crockett County's track & field coach – and in the first season in which her team has its own track for actual practice – watched the dividends pay off again Thursday night when her girls won a meet at University School of Jackson for the second time this spring and her boys placed a season-high third. Even better, several individuals and relay teams produced performances that qualified them for advancement into the West Sectionals at season's end, the only way to obtain a TSSAA State Championship berth.

Official results weren't posted until Friday, so Nass and company had to wait a while to officially celebrate their achievements. But that didn't dampen the veteran coach's enthusiasm.

"There were so many of our team members who had PRs (personal records) in their events, it's hard to pick an outstanding performer from the night," Nass said. "I promise there was not a tail wind or any other advantage. All of these accomplishments were achieved by their hard work the last two weeks, grit, and sheer determination to qualify. Three seniors – Cortland (Reddick), Aidan (Klonowski), and Claire (Evans) – all had a massive night."

Reddick, in the boys 200M, broke his PR by an entire second, posting a 23.49 that qualified him for the Sectionals. He also helped three different relay teams earn PRs.

Klonowski won the boys 1600M race and then ran 11:00 in the 3200M for a huge PR, before ending the night anchoring a relay team to victory in a race he had never run before.

Evans ran a 1:07.44 in the girls 400M, a new PR and a time good enough to qualify for Sectionals. She joins Addie Davidson and Avery Thornton as Lady Cavaliers who have now qualified for more than four Sectionals events, forcing each to have to choose something to drop. Athletes are only allowed to compete in four Sectionals events.

Davidson set two new CCHS records at the USJ meet with a long jump of 15-9 and a run of 17.57 in the 100M hurdles. She now holds six standards in the Cavalier track & field record book. "Addie is becoming quite prolific in our program," Nass said.

Shotputter Grant Smallwood earned a Sectionals berth with a toss of 37-5, a huge PR for him. Zamaria Edwards gained Sectionals berths in two girls sprints, the 100M and 200M. Her times of 13.68 and 28.60 were both PRs.

Caroline Scruggs, despite falling and getting skinned up on the second lap of the girls 1600M, jumped back up, kept competing, and not only posted a new PR of 6:39.94 but qualified for Sectionals. Four relay teams – girls 4x100, boys 4x100, boys 4x200, and boys 4x400 – all established new PRs.

Nass said the best race of the night was the last event, the boys 4x400. It epitomizes the type of team she has this year, now that there is a track on campus to prepare for meets.

"We've had a different combination of runners in this event every time," Nass said, "and the best time we've posted is a 4:00.40. The Sectionals qualifying standard is 4:00 flat. The 4x400 is the bane of the track world. It's last, it's hard, and by then everyone is spent from their other events. No one ever wants to do it, a very few can.

"So I told the boys, 'I need four men to step up and get that qualifier!' Cortland steps up: he has never done this race, but he asked for a crash course on how to run it and said he knew he could deliver – even after getting a PR in three previous events. Khilan (Thomas) steps up: assures me he'll run sub-60 seconds. Hutsen (Stephens) steps up – luckily the soccer team didn't have a game Thursday night and he was available. He wants to get to Sectionals and he knows he can help us do it. Aidan steps up: and I say okay, but the 3200 is right before it and you need to get your Sectionals qualifier. So I advise him to just run under the standard (12:30) but don't worry about getting a PR. But that's not Aidan – he still goes out and gets a 3200 PR and even though he'd run a 4:52 1600M plus 11:00 3200M, he knew he still had a sub-60 400 in him somewhere. So we had our four guys…

"Cortland starts the race out the blocks blazing just like he had done 30 minutes before in his 200, and when he comes around he's leading the race. He hands off to Khilan; I yell 'keep the lead' and Khilan delivers, but it's close. Next comes Hutsen and he manages to keep the lead by just a step too. Then it's all up to Aidan; I'm looking at the clock and I know the Sectionals qualifier is already in the bag, but now I want them to win! And Aidan, with just eight minutes of recovery time since his 3200, pulls out a 57-second split to secure the qualifier AND the win! It was EPIC!"

Other notable achievements by Cav tracksters were Alivia Hale's 3200M run, in which she shaved a remarkable 14 seconds off her previous PR; Thornton, who finally broke 2:40 in the 800M with a time of 2:39.88; and Zinayah Donald, who set new PRs in both the 100M (13.80) and 200M (29.41).

Following are the team scores, the top three placements in the individual events, and the placements for all additional Crockett team members who participated.

GIRLS TEAM SCORES: (1) Crockett County 104; (2) USJ 93.5; (3) TCA 79; (4) McKenzie 75; (5) Chester County 56; (6) Jackson South Side 54.5; (7) South Gibson County 54; (Liberty Tech 34; (9) Hardin County 27; (10) Lexington 21; (11) Huntingdon 19.
Girls High Jump: (1) Alexis Rivers, Chester Co 5-0; (2) Kaylen Cary, Huntingdon 4-2; (3) Caroline Scruggs, Crockett 4-0.
Girls Long Jump: (1) Addie Davidson, Crockett 15-9 [PR, new CCHS record]; (2) Kaylen Cary, Huntingdon 15-4.25; (3) Ivy Burns, So Gibson 14-7; (10) Claire Evans, Crockett 13-4.
Girls Triple Jump: (1) Addie Davidson, Crockett 30-7; (2) Alexis Rivers, Chester Co 30-3.5; (3) Kaydance Barksdale, McKenzie 29-3; (4) Avery Thornton, Crockett 27-11.5.
Girls Discus Throw: (1) Jade Reed, So Gibson 73-3; (2) Julia Finley, Crockett 72-11; (3) Katelynn Essary, McKenzie 68-11; (10) Hannah Wede, Crockett 47-7.
Girls Shot Put: (1) Jade Reed, South Gibson 34-1.5; (2) Jasmine Storms, Hardin Co 30-1; (3) Julia Finley, Crockett 26-6.
Girls 100-M Run: (1) Dallas Talley, Chester Co 12.67; (2) Aydison Dilworth, South Side 12.83; (3) Eliza Taylor, TCA 13.26; (T-11) Zamaria Edwards, Crockett 13.68 [PR]; (17) Zinayah Donald, Crockett 13.80 [PR]; (23) Gabby Yarberry, Crockett 15.76 [PR].
Girls 200-M Run: (1) Aydison Dilworth, South Side 26.68; (2) Dallas Talley, Chester Co 27.24; (3Sanaa Hines, South Side 28.10; (5) Zamaria Edwards, Crockett 28.60 [PR]; (7) Zinayah Donald, Crockett 29.41 [PR]; (19) Cesia Sanchez, Crockett 32.76 [PR].
Girls 400-M Run: (1) Lilly Teague, USJ 1:03.53; (2) Bella Sass, McKenzie 1:05.28; (3) Ava Ingle, TCA 1:06.61; (4) Claire Evans, Crockett 1:07.44[PR – Sectional Qualifier]; (7) Marley Thornton, Crockett 1:10.47.
Girls 800-M Run: (1) Abigail Wallace, McKenzie 2:24.56; (2) Hadley Haltom, USJ 2:29.15: (3) Neela Wilson, TCA 2:38.88; (4) Avery Thornton, Crockett 2:39.88 [PR]; (6) Ruth Gourley, Crockett 2:48.37.
Girls 1600-M Run: (1) Hadley Haltom, USJ 5:38.62; (2) Farrah Carson, TCA 5:41.39; (3) Bella Lamb, Chester Co 5:50.27; (Caroline Scruggs, Crockett 6:39.94 [PR – Sectional Qualifier]; (9) Marley Thornton, Crockett 6:55.04 [PR]; (10) Catherine Scruggs, Crockett 7:32.39.
Girls 3200-M Run: (1) Abigail Wallace, McKenzie 11:45.37; (2) Lauren Carpenter, Hardin Co 13:24.28; (3) Addyson Kirkland, USJ 13:33.29; (4) Alivia Hale, Crockett 13:38.66 [PR].
Girls 100-M Hurdles: (1) Addie Davidson, Crockett 17.57 [PR, new CCHS record]; (2) Holland Johnson, So Gibson 17.61; (3) Lila Duncan, So Gibson 17.64.
Girls 300-M Hurdles: (1) Jamayla Harris, Liberty Tech 50.28; (2) Brianna Smith, TCA 50.49; (3) Mary Hise, USJ 54.22; (4) Addie Davidson, Crockett 55.68.
Girls 4x100-M Relay: (1) Liberty Tech 52.28; (2) South Side 52.89; (3) TCA 53.90; (7) Crockett County 58.48 [PR].
Girls 4x200-M Relay: (1) TCA 1:53.30; (2) South Gibson 1:54.59; (3) South Side 1:54.74; (6) Crockett County 2:02.22. Girls 4x400-M Relay: (1) TCA 4:35.54; (2) USJ 4:41.07; (3) Crockett 4:44.43.
Girls 4x800-M Relay: (1) McKenzie 10:36.77; (2) USJ 10:43.27; (3) Crockett County 11:11.44.

BOYS TEAM SCORES: (1) South Gibson 90.5; (2)USJ 82; (3) Crockett County 70; (4) TCA 66.5; (5) Lexington 58; (6) Hardin County 51; (7) Jackson South Side 49; (McKenzie 33.5; (9) Liberty Tech 31; (10) Huntingdon 25.5; (11) JCS 24; (12) Chester County 20; (13) Bolivar Central 6.
Boys High Jump: (1) Caysen Moore, TCA 5-10; (2) Bradley Stamper, USJ 5-8; (T-3) Nate Pagoaga, TCA; Shane Kovacs, McKenzie 5-6.
Boys Long Jump: (1) Keagan Chappel, Lexington 20-9; (2) Jacob Snider, USJ 19-7.5; (3) Tyland Richmond, South Side 19-7; (4) Khalan Thomas, Crockett 19-6 [PR]; (11) Khilan Thomas, Crockett 18-6.
Boys Triple Jump: (1) Drey Scott, South Gibson 38-10; (2) Owen Franks, TCA 38-1; (3) Carter Chow, McKenzie 35-11.25; (5) Aaron Morgan, Crockett 33-0; (6) Jeremiah Grant, Crockett 25-4.5.
Boys Discus Throw: (1) Brady Whittington, South Gibson 125-4; (2) Robert Durrenberger, Lexington 110-9; (3) Tripp Johnson, Huntingdon 107-4; (5) Ittai Fry, Crockett 96-4 [PR]; (9) Sebastian Garduno, Crockett 89-4.5.
Boys Shot Put: (1) Nate Pagoaga, TCA 41-2; (2) Tripp Johnson, Huntingdon 40-9.5; (3) Lawson Simmons, South Gibson 40-7; (6) Grant Smallwood, Crockett 37-5 [PR – Sectional Qualifier]; (12) Carson Bridger, Crockett 33-2 [PR].
Boys 100-M Run: (1) Amarion Arnold, Lexington 11.24; (2) Bradley Stamper, USJ 11.25; (3Carter McMillion, South Gibson 11.27; (10) Khalan Thomas, Crockett 11.64; (22) DK Woods, Crockett 12.41.
Boys 200-M Run: (1) Landon Browder, Hardin County 23.17; (2) Yadiel Gonzalez, South Gibson 23.43; (3) Cortland Reddick, Crockett 23.49 [PR- Sectionals Qualifier].
Boys 400-M Run: (1) Carlos Roberson, JCS 52.39; (2) Gabe Lee, TCA 53.69; (3) Jadein Toler, Huntingdon 56.50; (10) Christian Buchannan, Crockett 1:00.60.
Boys 800-M Run: (1) Hudson Little, JCS 2:01.59; (2) Jonathan Lewis, South Gibson 2:02.05; (3) Kobe Chatman, South Side 2:14.77; (9) Hutsen Stephens, Crockett 2:33.77.
Boys 1600-M Run: (1) Aidan Klonowski, Crockett 4:53.20; (2) Ben Alvey, USJ 5:08.43; (3) Cal Fawcett, McKenzie 5:12.73; (13) Mase Utley, Crockett 6:04.06.
Boys 3200-M Run: (1) Silas McManus, Chester County 9:56.08; (2) Aidan Klonowski, Crockett 11:00.84; (3) Jack Howard, USJ 11:52.87.

Boys 110-M Hurdles: (1) Isaiah Bingham, Hardin County 17.85; (2) Landon Browder, Hardin County 18.88; (3) Mictavis Robinson, Liberty Tech 19:13; (5) Aaron Morgan, Crockett 21.29.
Boys 300-M Hurdles: (1) Isaiah Bingham, Hardin County 44.44; (2) Tyland Richmond, South Side 45.28; (3) Simeon Graham, South Side 46.10; (4) Aaron Morgan, Crockett 47.42.
Boys 4x100-M Relay: (1) South Gibson 44.65; (2) Lexington 44.73; (3) Liberty Tech 45.24; (4) Crockett County 45.77 [PR].
Boys 4x200-M Relay: (1) South Side 1:33.90; (2) TCA 1:34.24; (3) South Gibson 1:35.28; (6) Crockett County 1:37.21 [PR].
Boys 4x400-M Relay: (1) Crockett County 3:54.23 [PR – Sectional Qualifier]; (2) Liberty Tech 3:56.74; (3) TCA 4:01.75.
Boys 4x800-M Relay: (1) USJ 9:20.78.

Right: Aidan Klonowski -- winning this race in Dyersburg a couple of weeks ago -- had a big day Thursday night at USJ's meet. (Photo by Ron Barry)

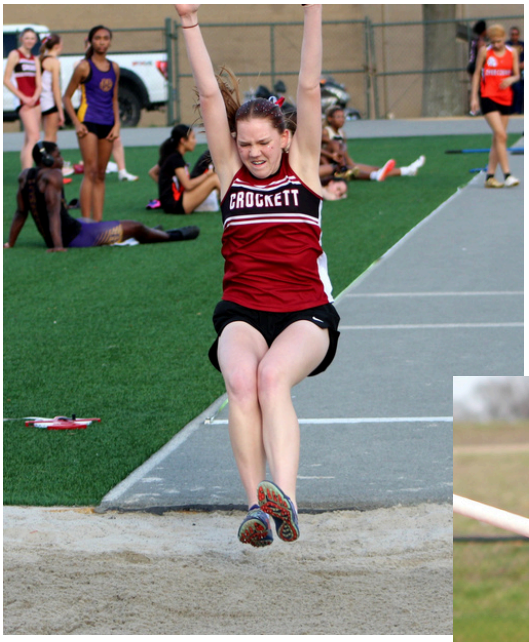


Left: Claire Evans added the long jump to the list of events for which she's qualified for Sectionals. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Above: Alivia Hale shaved an amazing 14 seconds off her PR in the 3200M run Thursday night. (Photo by Ron Barry)

Below: Avery Thornton finally broke the 2:40 barrier in the 800M run. (Photo by Ron Barry)



Below: Khilan Thomas -- shown here practicing the pole vault -- helped several relay teams establish PRs Thursday at USJ. (Photo by Ron Barry)





Below: Caroline Scruggs (left) and Marley Thornton (right) both recorded PRs in the 1600M run. (Photo by Ron Barry)

