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Grafton boys' run to title in Slinger includes school marks by Zahn, Tobianski

A trio of double winners and two record-setting performances carried the Grafton boys' track and field team to top honors at the Owl Invitational in Slinger on April 18.

Leading the Black Hawks were senior Jason Zahn, who placed first in the discus (a team-record 183-6-1/2) and shot put (55-4); sophomore Patrick Tobianski, who won the 400 dash (52.8) and 1,600 run (4:52.5); and sophomore Erick Huertas, who won the 200 dash (22.2) and long jump (18-1-1/2).

Zahn, a senior, shattered his own school mark in the discus, which was 177-6.

Grafton also got a record-tying win from Zach DeBuhr in the 100 dash. The junior was clocked in 10.8, equaling the school mark.

Grafton scored 75 points to top a three-team field. Slinger scored 66 points, and Thomas More had 42.

"The boys did very well," Hawks coach Kevin Kriegel said. "We had beautiful weather and some excellent performances."

Kriegel singled out the record-setters of Zahn and DeBuhr, who wasted no time distinguishing

themselves in Grafton's first outdoor meet of the season.

"They both had incredible performances," Kriegel said. "It was a great way to start the outdoor season."

Grafton's swept the relay races for its other first-place finishes. Those came from the 3,200 team of Matt Salm, Jacob Woolf, Alex Olsen and Adam Kahmann (9:00.7); 800 team of Willie McElligott, Zach Greenwood, Huertas and Marcus Hill (1:32.3); 400 team of Jack Howman, Hill, Huertas and DeBuhr (44.3); and 1,600 team of DeBuhr, McElligott, Greenwood and Kevin Wegner (3:33.9).

In their portion of the meet, the Grafton girls placed second with 72 points. Slinger was first with 90 points, and Thomas More had 21.

The Hawks' eight first-place finishes including solo wins by Cathy Brunette in the 100 hurdles (15.1), Megan Pawlak in the 800 run (2:39.5), Sara Grange in the high jump (5-2) and Rachel Schmitz in the triple jump (32-4-1/2).

Grafton's sweep of relay races included wins from the 3,200 team of Kylie Longoria, Heidi Bauer, Catherine Lundgren and Pawlak (10:33.3); 800 team of Emily Schreiner, Brunette, Katelyn Gallun and Grange (1:47.5); 400 team of Schreiner, Anya Dillahunt, Gallun and Grange (50.8); and 1,600 team of Grange, Schmitz, Hana Taylor and Dillahunt (4:22.5).

Kriegel said he juggled his regular lineup to try girls in different events, a move that limited the Hawks' point production.

"It was more important to get more people in this meet than to try and score as many points as we could," he said.

This Saturday, both Grafton teams will travel to Waukesha North High School for the Northstar Classic at 9 a.m.

The Hawks will then participate in the North Shore Conference Relays on Wednesday, May 2, in Germantown.

Image Information: THE GRAFTON boys' and girls' track and field teams had plenty of winning performances at the Owl Invitational in Slinger on April 18. Above, Adam Kahmann took the baton from Alex Olsen on the first-place 3,200-meter boys' relay team. Photos by Sam Arendt