



P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Collins High School, Shelbyville, KY
Track & Field 3-24-25

SHELBYVILLE HEXAGONAL MEET

Collins H.S. hosted the Shelbyville Hexagonal (6-way) meet on March 22nd. The boys scored 64 points and finished sixth while the girls finished fourth with 52 points. On the boys' side, junior Jaquan McNeal got the only Titan sprint points, placing fourth in the 200 with 25.17. The 4 X 800 relay quartet of juniors Ethan Kuzman and Casey Vaughn, teamed up with the Delaney brothers (sophomore Reece and senior Chase) to lead from the gun to win in 9:03.96. Kuzman came back later to score (fifth) in the 1600.

In the field events, the Titans picked up 15 points in the throws and nine in the jumps. In the throws, senior DaVaughn Wilson was third in the shot put (40-2.5) and second in the discus (108-8). Senior first time thrower, Shia Gazaway got a point in the discus as he finished sixth with a personal best throw of 90-1. Senior Nathan Janes vaulted 12-6 to place second in the pole vault. Freshman Liam Royce triple jumped for the first time and went 29-11.5 to place sixth.



Jaquan McNeal (R) passes a Fairdale sprinter in the 200 at the Shelbyville Hexagonal meet.

The place where Collins excelled was the 2,000-meter steeplechase where they got 24 (38%) of their points. There the Titans claimed first, second, and third as Nathan Janes led from the gun,



winning in 6:47.54. His time was good for KY number 1 and US number 21. Janes was followed by Chase Delaney in 6:46.38 (KY # 2 and US # 34) and Reece Delaney in 7:06.23 (KY # 3 and US # 47). This was a great christening for Collins' new steeplechase set up.



(Photo: M. Burgess)

Boys hit the water jump for the first lap of the 2K steeplechase. (L to R) Sean Dreher of County High, Chase Delaney, Reece Delaney, and Nathan Janes, all of Collins. Janes is one of three current Collins athletes who are high school All-Americans in the event.

On the girls' side the Titans did well in the sprints as juniors Sofia Leon (13.45) and Maleah Wilson (13.86) placed fourth and fifth, respectively. Senior Emma Kendall won the 400 in 1:01.02. Wilson placed second in the long jump with a 13-3.5 leap. Senior Luci Renda placed second in the high jump (4-2).

In the endurance events, the Titan girls got points in the 1600 and steeplechase. Junior Sophie Bolin placed third (5:57.07) in the 1600, while senior teammate Michele Burgess placed fifth (6:04.15). Kendall tried her annual "barbell" double whereby she does a sprint event and an endurance event. After winning the 400 sprint, she came back to lead the steeple from the gun and win in a swift 7:42.32 which is KY number one and ninth on the US high school charts.



(Photo: M. Burgess)

Emma Kendall was the first athlete to christen Collins' new 2K steeplechase water jump as she led from gun to tape to win the event. Kendall is a high school All-American in the event.

Director of Track and Cross Country George Sanderlin said, "We had a few athletes out with injuries, so our point totals weren't where they should be. It was great to christen our steeplechase set up with dual (boys and girls) wins. I'm fortunate to be the only coach in the country in either the high school or college ranks to have three all-Americans in one event (2K steeplechase). We showed our steeple strength today with four US top 50 times, one (Kendall's) of which was top 10. That's why I put in the steeplechase set up. I know that the steeple setup will continue to prove its value."

The Titans' next meet is the Shelby County Pre-Break Invitational at County High on March 27th.

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