

This is the first report of Thursday's opening session of the Iowa High School Track & Field Championships from Drake Stadium.

Weather: Temperature reached a high of 73 degrees under partly cloudy skies with winds from south at 12 mph forcing a strong headwind to run into at the finish line. Humidity reached a high of 96 percent at 10:30 a.m.

For live results <https://results.wayzatatiming.com/meets/9825>

Team Scoring is Completed for Thursday in Classes 2A & 3A

Girls Class 2A Scoring-Thru 5 Events

1. Mid-Prairie, Wellman	21
2. Van Meter	14
3. Sibley-Ocheyedan	13
4. Hudson	12
5. Waukon	11
6. West Lyon, Inwood	10
7. Williamsburg	9
8. Union, LaPorte City	8
KPWC	8
Southeast Valley	8

Girls Class 3A Scoring-Thru 5 Events

1. Ballard	19
2. Charles City	16
3. Oskaloosa	13
4. Epworth, Western Dubuque	12
Dubuque Wahlert Catholic	12
6. Wavery-Shell Rock	11
Davenport Assumption	11
8. Solon	10
Keokuk	10
10. Bondurant-Farrar	8
Carlisle	8

GIRLS NOTES

REPEAT CHAMPIONS

- Kylee Sallee of Hudson won the Class 2A long jump after winning in 1A in 2019.
- Miracle Ailes of Keokuk won the Class 3A high jump for the second straight time.

LUCKY 13 FOR THE HOSTETLERS

Freshman Danielle Hostetler gave her family a 13th state championship and fourth in the 3000 with a decisive victory in the Class 2A race, the first completed final of the 2021 meet. Hostetler allowed Ellie Rathe of LaPorte City Union to set the early pace, passed her with 3 1/2 laps to go and won going away, finishing in 10:25.26. Her older sisters, Anna and Marie, combined for 12 state championships. Anna was a seven-time champion, including one in the 3000. Marie's five state titles included two in the 3000. Danielle also won the 2A cross country championship last fall and came into the state meet as the favorite. Rathe finished second in 10:39.06 and Ellie Meyer of Iowa Falls-Alden was third in 10:43.30.

BALLARD'S SUPER SOPH

Ballard's Shewaye Johnson is having quite a sophomore year. Johnson won the Class 3A cross country championships last fall, raced to a victory in the 3000 at the Drake Relays last month and is now the 3A state champion in the 3000. Johnson raced to the front at the start, opened a wide lead and was never challenged, winning in 9:57.21 and missing the meet record by less than 2 seconds. Davenport Assumption's Joy Ripslinger set that

record, 9:55.37, in 2017. Charles City's Kiki Connell took second in 10:03.88 and Emma Hoins of Waverly-Shell Rock was third in 10:04.48.

IT'S BEEN AWHILE, OSKY

Class 3A discus winner Faith DeRonde of Oskaloosa became the fourth field event champion from her school and the first in the discus in quite some time. DeRonde, a junior, threw 140-1 to win the event by nearly 5 feet. Oskaloosa's only other discus champion was Sarah Wellings back in 1997. Katelyn Lappe of Bondurant-Farrar was second at 135-06.

BIG WIN FOR WAUKON THROWER

Waukon's Annika Headington gave her school a memorable victory. Headington threw 42-6 to win the Class 2A shot put and become just the third state track champion from the northeast Iowa school. She took the lead with her first throw, stayed in front throughout the competition and posted her best mark on her final attempt. Williamsburg's Lauren Pope was second at 40-5 1/2.

BULLDOGS WITH A BITE

It's a banner day to be a Van Meter Bulldog. With its victory in the Class 2A 4x800 relay, Van Meter has its first state championship in track. The Bulldogs came in as the 2A season leader in the event and looked the part, getting consistent carries throughout to win in 9:42.03. Sibley-Ocheyedan closed fast with Madison Brouwer running a 2:14.8 anchor, but she had too much ground to make up. The Generals finished second in 9:45.11.

A FIRST FOR SOLON

When Emma Bock got the stick with her team in the lead, that's all Solon needed to claim its first state title in the 4x800 relay. Bock, third in the Drake Relays 800 last month, kept the Lady Spartans safely in front with her 2:18.8 anchor and they finished in 9:21.84 to easily hold off perennial contender Wahlert Catholic. Wahlert, which had been seeking its sixth title in the event in 12 years, settled for second in 9:34.99.

KYLEE KEEPS HER TITLE

She moved up a class, but it didn't matter. Hudson's Kylee Sallee won another long jump title. Sallee went 17-11 3/4 to win the Class 2A championship after capturing the 1A crown in 2019. Kiersten Fisher of Southeast Valley was a close second in 17-10 1/4. Sallee led from the start and hit her big jump on her third attempt. Fisher came close on her fourth jump but couldn't close the gap on her final two tries.

BIERMANN WITH THE UPSET

Western Dubuque's Audrey Biermann outran Carlisle star Ainsly Erzen for an upset victory in the Class 3A 400, capping an outstanding day for the junior sprinter. Biermann finished in 55.80, which puts her at No. 21 on the state's all-time list. Erzen came in as the state leader in the event and last month became the first girl to win the 400 and 800 at the Drake Relays. She was strong coming out of the curve, but Biermann pulled away in the final 50 meters. The big victory came after Biermann ran the fastest preliminary times in the 100 and the 200. She is just the second Western Dubuque athlete to win a running event at a state.

A WEST LYON FIRST

West Lyon has its first state champion in a running event. Senior Kennedy Kramer came in with the best 400 time in Class 2A and ran even faster to claim the title, winning in 56.25. Erika Kuntz of KPWC took second in 56.86.

ANOTHER HIGH JUMP MIRACLE

Keokuk's Miracle Ailes is back on the victory stand in the high jump. Ailes cleared 5-7 to win her second consecutive Class 3A championship. She's also a two-time Drake Relays champion in the event and was the state runner-up in 2018. It was a busy opening session for Ailes, who stepped aside from the high jump competition to qualify for Saturday's finals in the 100 and 200.