

White (hot) Star: Chown, Susavilla, others shine at H-DNC track championships

Ray Aspuria/The Times-Standard

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Editor's note: The Times-Standard fax machine went out of commission Friday night, and full results from the meet are not available. Detailed results will be available on Tuesday after Monday's make-up runs.

McKINLEYVILLE -- Other than a hiccup during its first two races, the Humboldt-Del Norte Conference Track and Field Championships went smooth and fast as the numerous athletes on Friday.

The boys and girls 4x100 relay results were thrown out due to incorrect positioning of runners and the event is set to be made up on Monday at McKinleyville High at 5 p.m.

The rest of the meet, however, went without a hitch and showcased the talents of H-DNC prep stars.

From McKinleyville's Brittainy Chown, Eureka's Matt Susavilla, and Del Norte's Cody Hoffman to Arcata's Anya Ritter and Tichelle Daggs, each athlete was not only eyeing the coveted White Star, but the postseason as well.

Chown, an accomplished jumper for the Panthers, pulled off a sweep for a total of four White Stars.

Taking the long and triple jump, Chown also flashed her talents as a sprinter taking the 100 and 200-meter races.

While the long jump is her favorite event, Chown doesn't discount the fact sprints help her in jumping events.

"The more speed I can get, the more spring I can get moving forward," Chown said.

Susavilla, a fantastic leaper himself, had to dig deep in the long jump before winning the events. His final jump of the day put him in the No. 1 slot, repeating his White Star performance from last year.

Yet, the Logger doesn't know exactly where his leaping ability comes from.

"I have no idea," Susavilla said. "It doesn't come from my parents. Its probably from someone way back that had hops."

Susavilla also took first in the high jump and triple jump.

The BYU-bound Hoffman showed off his speed in the 4x100, 100 and 200 meter races. The Warrior senior burned the field in all three, even though his anchor dash in the 4x100 wasn't official.

"It makes it a lot easier when you know people have to run fast to catch you," Hoffman said.

In the 200, the race he considers his favorite, Hoffman found himself all by his lonesome as he crossed the finish line.

Fellow Warrior Joseph Alexandre also had an eventful day.

Finishing behind Skylar Rice in many past meetings in the 300-meter hurdles, Alexandre finally prevailed, beating the Fortuna stalwart.

"I always wanted to win the 300 hurdles," an out of

breath Alexandre said with a laugh. "Beginning this year, I was really afraid of (Rice) and to win is awesome."

Over in the girls' 300-meter hurdles, there was no surprise as to whom crossed the line first. Daggs, who has consistently finished at the top or near it in the 300, once again took first on Friday.

"I like a challenge," Daggs said. "It's a complete rush and you feel dead afterwards. When we go to sections and I have people pushing me, it's on."