

LIONS *from B1*

Krokus tried to push that jump out of his head while trying to not focus on anyone else jumping. No one was able to get close to any of his top marks on the day as he won the competition by 14 inches.

Before being able to soak in the victory, Krokus was already focused on getting back to next year's state meet. And beyond.

"This is going to encourage me to jump even farther next year. I know I PR'd by almost four feet this season and that just encourages me, let's go another four," said Krokus. "I want to get high up there, I want to compete in college as well and start looking into that because I really want to do that. I'm a junior in high school so I'll be here next year."

Krokus is the first Cottage Grove athlete to win the triple jump at state but is fifth all-time on the school record list.

On Saturday, Krokus competed in the long jump where he finished ninth.

The other Cottage Grove boy competing at state was junior Jimmy Talley who ran in the 1500 and 3000.

Talley, who was the Sky-Em district champion in the 3000, went into Friday's race with the second fastest time in 4A. Early on Talley found himself near the back of a pack of about 11 runners. Halfway through the race a pack of leaders pushed the pace and spread out the field. Talley, who looked in pain, rallied back for an eighth place finish.

Talley also took eighth in Saturday's 1500.



Left: Krokus soars through the air during triple jump. Right: Jimmy Talley leads a group of runners during the 3000 on Friday. PHOTOS BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL

COTTAGE GROVE *from B1*

"Coming in I wasn't so focused on how I did and what I placed, it was just the experience of being here. I made it to state, I've got nothing to lose. That was my mindset pretty much," said Arnold.

Not the only successful underclassmen in high jump, Cascade freshman Emma Gates won the event with a clearance of 5-05.

"Looking at the competition we're going OK, 'she's a senior, she's a senior, she won't be here next year,'" said Arnold as her and Ladd plan for the future.

"We're setting goals already – next year fifth or higher and we'll be back at it."

Earlier in the day on Friday Arnold competed in javelin where she took 12th with a throw of 101-02.

"Jav I didn't do as well as I would have liked but I'm still OK with how I finished. And I'm willing to put more work into it next year. And high jump I'm pretty happy about it and I'm excited for it," she said.



Freshman Gracie Arnold attempts a height during the high jump final on Friday. PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL

Speedway gears up for Memorial Day Weekend races

By Ben Deatherage
Cottage Speedway

After a disappointing rain out the weekend before, Cottage Grove Speedway is ready to get back to racing in a big way this Memorial Day weekend. The historical quarter-mile clay oval will host one of the biggest, and most prestigious, 360 Sprint events in the western United States, the Marvin Smith Memorial Grove Classic. Things kickoff with a pre-race party on Friday, May 24, followed by two full nights of action on Saturday and Sunday.

Both nights feature 360 Sprints and the Wicked Energy Gum Northwest Focus Midget Series presented by Cognitive Warriors.

Saturday will have the 360 Sprint winner collect \$2,500 to win while Sunday has the

big day of \$4,100 to the driver that crosses the start/finish line first. To cap off the whole entire weekend fireworks will light up the sky on Sunday at the conclusion of the final main event.

Already a heavy weight list of competitors are planning to make the trip including defending NARC/King of the West and Sprint Car Challenge Tour champion Kyle Hirst, 2018 Dirt Cup winner Seth Bergman, two-time Marvin victor and defending track champion Jason Solwold, and two-time Trophy Cup winner and former California Civil War Series champ Shane Golobic. Also scheduled on the list is 2017 Speedweek Northwest champ Justyn Cox, former Marysville Raceway and Ocean Speedway 360 title winner Justin Sanders, and three-time Civil War, one-time Gold-

en State Challenge, and six-time Silver Dollar Speedway champion Sean Becker in the famed Dan and Cindi Menne owned mount.

In five races there have been four different winners on the final night. Henry Van Dam, Jason Solwold, Roger Crockett, and Logan Forler comprise of the elite list of drivers that lay claim to have hoisted the trophy in victory lane for the Marvin Smith Memroial Grove Classic. Solwold already has two wins to his credit at CGS in 2019 when he swept the Spring Fling.

The Northwest Focus Midgets will complement the racing card for not just one, but two nights of action. Three different pilots have visited the winner's circle in only three trips to "The Grove". Chase Goetz, Garrett Thomas, and Chance Crum

all have had the pleasure to have won with the tour at the track.

Both nights the Pit Gates open at 1:00 p.m., front gates 3:30, and time trials at 5:30 with racing beginning at 6:00. Tickets for each evening are \$15.00 for adults, seniors/juniors/military \$12.00, Youths (6-12) \$5.00, and Children (5 & Under) are free. For more information and updates log on to www.cottagegrovespeedway.com or check out the official Facebook page.

Former Marvin Smith Memorial Grove Classic Winners:

- 2014- Henry Van Dam
- 2015- Jason Solwold
- 2016- Jason Solwold
- 2017- Roger Crockett
- 2018- Logan Forler

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