

TRACK & FIELD: Sierra Gold shines at USATF Masters Indoor Championships

The Union staff

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Four members of the Nevada County Sierra Gold Masters' Track and Field team made the trek to Albuquerque, New Mexico over the President's Day Weekend to compete with some of the best Masters athletes in the nation at the USATF 2017 Masters Indoor Championships.

The team from Nevada County produced three national champions and scored 63 points during the three-day event to place 22nd out of 76 teams competing.

Winning gold in the throwing events was Kathy Slouber and Dick Hotchkiss, who earned two gold medals each. Hotchkiss competed in the 75-79 age group and won the weight and super weight events. Slouber, competing in the 65-69 age group, won both the shot put and weight throw.

On the track, Drue Mathies ran in the 70-74 age group and placed second in the 3,000 meter race, took second in the mile, fifth in the 800 and was a member of the gold medal winning 4x800 relay team. Inka Mims, running in the 55-59 age group, placed third in the 3,000, fourth in the mile and fifth in the 800.

"I'm proud of each and every one of them," said Sierra Gold coach Clyde Lehman, who added it was inspiring to see so many Masters athletes competing at such a high level. "There were more than 700 athletes from all over the nation and Canada. We saw a lot of amazing athletes."

Sierra Gold will be hosting the second annual Masters' Track and Field Festival May 20, at the Nevada Union track.

Lehman said he and the Sierra Gold team members handed out hundreds of flyers for the May 20 meet and expects a large increase in participants for this year's event.

Coaches may submit game reports by email at sports@theunion.com (mailto:sports@theunion.com) or by phone at 530-477-4232.