http://highschoolsports.nj.com/news/article/-3057613366783792823/did-you-hear-this-current-rivals-future-teammates-at-penn-take-1st-3rd-at-arcardia-in-300h/



Did you hear this?! Current rivals, future teammates take 1st & 2nd in 300H at Arcardia

Ridgewood's Katherine Muccio (left) and Ramapo's Grace O'Shea (right) put on a show out west at the Arcadia Invitational. (File photos | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com))

By JJ Conrad | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com

on April 07, 2019 8:00 AM, updated April 07, 2019 12:22 PM

As the 2019 spring outdoor season really kicked off Saturday all throughout New Jersey, a pair of Bergen County hurdlers were making plenty of noise 3,000 miles away.

<u>Ridgewood's Katherine Muccio</u> won the 300-meter hurdles at the Arcadia Invitational in California in 43.13, setting a new Bergen County record and moving into No. 4 all-time in state history. Former Union Catholic superstar and 2016 Olympian **Sydney McLaughlin** owns the state and national record (38.90).

In the same heat, <u>Ramapo's Grace O'Shea</u> clocked in at 44.05 and finished second in a matchup featuring two expected Meet of Champions title contenders in the 400-meter hurdles later this season.

O'Shea's time set a new school record and was sixth-best in state history, as both competitors broke the former county mark of 44.34, set by former Westwood star Alex Cimino.

Adding to the story line out west, the pair of seniors who are current rivals in North Jersey will be future teammates at Penn next year. As a sophomore in 2017, Muccio placed seventh at the Meet of Champions in the 400-meter hurdles (1:01.87) before missing the event last season due to a foot injury. She was a sectional champion this winter in the 400-meter dash, qualified for the MOC in 200 (took 11th overall) and took second in the 55-meter dash at the group championships, helping lead Ridgewood to an indoor Group 4 state title.

O'Shea, an indoor state champion in the 55-meter hurdles in 2018, is coming off a breakout junior year in which she took third at the outdoor Meet of Champions in the 100-meter hurdles. O'Shea also took third in Group 3 last spring in the 400-meter hurdles in 1:01.91.

Also competing in the 300H Saturday at Arcadia was **Ridgewood's** <u>Victoria Purritano</u>, who clocked in at 46.68 in the first heat, and finished in 23rd place.

Both Muccio and Purritano were part of Ridgewood's 4x100 shuttle hurdle team, too, coming in at 1:01.71, good for third best in Bergen County history and fifth overall at Arcardia.

O'Shea wasn't done either, turning in a 14.11 in the 100-meter hurdle invitational on Saturday to take sixth place in the event and set an early NJ#1.