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BENGALS TAKE LAST EVENT TO CONQUER BEARS

Locals Win Biggest Share Of First Place Honors

The St. Joseph high school track team came within three feet of upsetting all dope and winning the triangular meet held between the Bears, the Benton Harbor Tigers, and the Niles Vikings. The Bears succumbed by the three foot margin on the final and deciding event, the 880-yard relay, to place second in the three-way meet behind the Benton Harbor thinclads.

The Bears put up a great battle all of the way, taking first places in the first three races run, and capturing five of the eight first places in the running events, but their comfortable lead was shaved down by the overpowering strength, shown by the Tigers and Vikings in the field events.

Coach Arnold Kurstein's squad trailed the Benton Harbor team by a point and a half going into the final event, and after enjoying a slight lead for two laps in the relay, dropped behind in the third lap after some poor baton handling, and Ken Martz running the anchor lap failed by three feet to overtake the Tigers' Pete. The Benton Harbor squad won the meet with 40½ points, with the Bears second with 40 points, and the Niles thinclads bringing up the rear with 40½ points.

Held under ideal conditions the times in all events were remarkably fast, and all three squads put on stellar exhibitions.

Martz Pleas Bears

Ken Martz, Bear sprint and jump star, again paced the local thinclads, capturing a first in the 100 yard dash in 10.5 seconds, and took another first in the 220 yard sprint in the brilliant time of 24 seconds flat. Martz picked up two more points in the broad jump, placing third with a jump of 20 feet 3½ inches, for a 12 point total.

Pressing the Bear sprinter was Marvin Bickerell, Coach Kurstein's pride and joy in the hurdle events. Bickerell won both the high and low hurdle events, turning in brilliant times in both races.

Vern Pearson and Russ Jacobson placed one-two in the mile run, Pearson turning on the steam in the last lap to lead his team mate across the finish line by ten yards in the terrific time of 4:17.

Coming up with a dark horse in the 440 yard dash, Kirsten sent Willard Merchant to the starting line, and the basketball ace stepped out to take second place, dropping back after a sketch battle with the Tigers' Newman. The race was run in 56.7 seconds, with Merchant being clocked in 57 seconds flat.

High Jump Thriller

The greatest contest of the afternoon was held in the high jump, with between Bill Dudas of Benton Harbor and Henry Mirwick of Niles. Both contestants easily outjumped their rivals, and hoisted the bar to 5 feet 11 inches. Dudas missed in his three trial jumps, but Mirwick cleared the bar by fully an inch on his last trial.

Ed Hrodel of Niles upset the dope in the broad jump, hoisting out the Tigers' McPike on his last try with a jump of 20 feet and eight inches. McPike was three and a half inches back, and Martz trailed by four inches.

The Bears will get their next competition in the Big Six conference meet to be held at Dowagiac on Friday, May 7. The local thinclads now loose as definite threats in the conference meet after their shoreline yesterday.

Hi-Hi Dash—Hurdles—Won by Bickerell (SJ); Rosier (BH) second; Mirwick (N) third; Robinson (BH) fourth. Time—17.3.

Hi-Hi Dash—Won by Bickerell (SJ); Rosier (N) second; McPike (BH) third; Mirwick (SJ) fourth. Time 16.5.

Mile Run—Won by Pearson (SJ); Jacobson (SJ) second; Hrodel (N) third; Dreger (N) fourth. Time 4.25.

Mile Run—Won by Newman (BH); Merchant (SJ) second; Pearson (N) third; Hendrick (N) fourth. Time 4.7.

Mile Run—Won by Merchant (SJ); Rosier (SJ); Fisher (N) second; Baker (BH) third; Fisher (SJ) fourth. Time 54.4.

Hi-Hi Dash—Won by Martz (SJ); Bickerell (N) second; Kurstein (SJ) third; Pearson (BH) fourth. Time 24.

Hi-Hi Dash—Won by Arnold (N); Gilbert (BH) second; Bickerell (SJ) third; Hodgell and Dodell (N) tied for fourth. Time 5.11.

Pole Vault—Schwarzer (BH) and Dudas (BH) tied for first; Kuhn (BH) and Hrodel (N) tied for second. Height 8 ft. 10 in.

Shot Put—Won by Pearson (SJ); Mirwick (BH) second; Hrodel (N) third; Hendrick (SJ) fourth. Distance 40 feet.

High Jump—Won by Mirwick (N); Dudas (BH) second; Hrodel (N) third; Schwarzer (BH) fourth. Height 5 ft. 11 in.

Broad Jump—Won by Hrodel (N); McPike (BH) second; Martz (SJ) third; Mirwick (N) fourth. Distance 20 ft. 8 in.

Mile Run—Won by Benton Harbor (Wood, Newman, McPike, Fisher); Hi-Hi Dash second (Harvey, Merchant, Beckman, Martz).

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