

NEWS Thursday, May 19, 1966

Middleville Victorious; Gary VanElst Hits 58-4

By BILL FRANK
NASHVILLE — A record-shattering shot put heave of 58 feet, 4 inches, by Gary Van Elst got the Middleville Trojans off and running here yesterday and they kept going until they clinched the Expressway Conference track and field championship on 57½ points.

Coch Ray Page's Middleville club scored in all 13 events but could not afford to let up as Wayland came on strong to finish in the runnerup spot on 52 points.

Caledonia collected 41½, Maple Valley 35 and Hamilton 22. Defending champion Kenowa Hills no longer is in the league. Five conference records were broken, including the giant shot put heave. Even the record of 58-4 may not last long. Gary VanElst is only a sophomore. Although the Trojans scored in every event Wayland kept closing the gap until it came within 3½ points with only two events to go.

Tom Warner of Middleville, then, won the 220 sprint in record time and that was it. He also took the 100 to emerge a double winner.

Although the shot put record was the talk of the meet, Gary Van Elst had to share honors with Jim Kotbra of Wayland who nailed individual point honors. He took both hurdles, the lows in the new record time of :30.9, captured the long jump and ran on the winning 880 relay team.

Allen Folkert of Hamilton set a new high jump mark of 5-8 and Gary Stauffer of Middleville accounted for the other new standard in the pole vault at 11-3.

Shot put—Won by Gary VanElst (M); 2—D. VanElst (M); 3—Robbacher (M); 4—Kinsberger (W); 5—Smith (C). 58-4. (New record, old 52½) by G. VanElst, 1963.

Long jump—Won by Jim Kotbra (W); 2—Brown (C); 3—Reid (MV); 4—G. VanElst (M); 5—Matacki (W). 14-4. High jump—Won by Allen Folkert (H); 2—H. D. VanElst (M) and Talmia (C); 3—Higdon (MV); 5—Brown (C). 5-8. (New record, old 5-6½ by Lindgrin, Wrentham, 1963.)

Pole vault—Won by Gary Stauffer (M); 2—Higdon (MV); 3—Warner (M); 4—Brown (C); 5—Cribbs (C). 11-3. (New record, old 10-3 by Warner, Middleville, 1963.)

880 relay—Won by Wayland (Tom Miller, Bob King, Jay Schaffer, Katrika); 2—Maple Valley; 3—Middleville; 4—Hamilton; 5—Caledonia. 14:1.2.

100 low hurdles—Won by Kotbra (W); 2—Auer (MV); 3—Cusumano (H); 4—Eaton (MV); 5—Tembrink (H). 4:59.9.

120 high hurdles—Won by Kotbra (W); 2—Dennis (MV); 3—Norman (M); 4—Faint (C); 5—Shaffer (W). 16-5.

880—Won by Jim Chesbora (W); 3—Perritt (C); 5—Stauffer (M). 13:4. 100—Won by Tom Warner (M); 2—Benedict (C); 3—Miller (W); 4—Reid (MV); 5—Burgess (M). 1:57.7.

100 low hurdles—Won by Kotbra (W); 2—Thompson (H); 3—D. VanElst (M); 4—Shaffer (W); 5—Frost (C). 1:39.9. (New record, old 1:35 by Pepper, Wayland, 1963.)

200—Won by Warner (M); 2—Benedict (C); 3—Miller (W); 4—Reid (MV); 5—Thompson (H). 2:16. (Warner's preliminary time of 2:13 new record, old 2:41 by Wieland, Kenowa Hills, 1964.)

400 relay—Won by Caledonia (Paul Brown, Dick Frederick, Ron Perritt, Mark Talmia); 2—Maple Valley; 3—Wayland; 4—Middleville; 5—Hamilton. 3:52.4.

Final: Middleville 57½, Wayland 8½, Caledonia 41½, Maple Valley 25, Hamilton 22.

Olivet Picks Off First Pioneer Title

Special to the Enquirer and News
COLDWATER — Olivet High made track and field history here last night by capturing the first Pioneer League track championship ever held on 135 points. This is the first year of the new Battle Creek area league.

Springport came in second with 96 points while Bellevue hit 70, Climax-Scotts 51 and Coldwater St. Charles 14. This is the first season of track ever for St. Charles.

Steve Perry of Olivet emerged the only double winner, taking the long jump at 19 feet, 4½ inches, and the 440 in :54.1. He also ran on the winning 880 relay team.

Denny Perry, Tom Riley, Chuck Powers, Sam Samson, Paul Piepkow and the Gordon Brothers all scored vital points for Olivet.

One of the most impressive times was recorded by Neil Elmer of Springport who took the mile in 4:39.5. Riley captured the 880 in the good time of 2:05.1 for Olivet.

All distances, heights and times established league records.

The summaries:
Shot put—Won by Paul Graham (R); 2—Rowe (S); 3—M. Gordon (O); 4—

Buschman (C-S); 5—Wingard (CST). 44-7¾.

Pole vault—Won by Rick Tifford (S); 2—Pickett (R); 3—Lee, Samson (O) and Wright (C-S); 5—Row (C-S). 8-4.

Long jump—Won by Steve Perry (O); 2—Merriman (R); 3—Calvorno (CST); 4—Creswell (S); 5—Post (STC). 19-4½.

High jump—Won by Dave Anderson (R); 2—Powers (O); 3—Stuck (C-S); 4—Fugate (S); 5—D. Gordon (O). 5-5.

880 relay—Won by Olivet (Chuck Powers, Steve Perry, Sam Samson, Denny Perry); 2—Bellevue; 3—Climax-Scotts. 13:2.2.

Mile—Won by Neil Elmer (S); 2—Gibbs (S); 3—Peppow (O); 4—VanDyke (O); 5—Sharpsteen (C-S). 4:38.5.

120 high hurdles—Won by Dave Lemons (S); 2—D. Gordon (O); 3—Heut (O); 4—Bailey (C-S); 5—Walkinshaw (R). 17-4.

880—Won by Tom Riley (S); 2—Jacques (O); 3—DeFazio (O); 4—Fugate (S); 5—D. Roush (R). 13:4.

440—Won by Steve Perry (O); 2—Bower (R); 3—M. Gordon (O); 4—Cale (R); 5—Calderson (STC). 1:54.1.

100—Won by Denny Perry (O); 2—Lyster (C-S); 3—Deland (R); 4—Powers (O); 5—Stuck (C-S). 1:18. (Perry established record of 1:04 in prelims.)

100 low hurdles—Won by Denny Jackson (S); 2—Bailey (C-S); 3—Anderson (R); 4—Hendrick (O); 5—Hahn (O). 1:21.1.

200—Won by Chuck Powers (O); 2—Tifford (S); 3—Stuck (C-S); 4—D. Perry (O); 5—Jadema (STC). 2:45.

Mile relay—Won by Springport (Neil Elmer, Tom Riley, Jim Fugate, Jim Gibbs); 2—Olivet; 3—Climax-Scotts. 3:52.4.

Final: Olivet 135, Springport 96, Bellevue 70, Climax-Scotts 51, St. Charles 14.

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