

SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1971

THE NEWS - PALLADIUM, BENTO

St. Joseph Stars Steal Show

By JIM DeLAND
Sports Editor

A big hand from St. Joseph featuring two star soloists and a groovy quartet from Niles turned out to be the top acts in Berrien county's final track and field show of the season Friday night at Filstrup Field.

Faced by record-setters Lyle Ray and John Sullivan, coach Ron Waldvogel's Bears made the 14th annual Twin City Rotary Club meet almost their personal showcase by winning exactly half of the 14 varsity events and carting off a haul of 24 medals despite the absence of three top runners.

Ray, who already had established himself as the greatest pole vaulter in southwestern Michigan history, added an inch to his own all-time area record by soaring 13 feet, seven inches to easily surpass the Rotary record of 13-1; he set last year.

Sullivan, who has been dogged by illness and injury throughout the past school year, ended his high school career in storybook fashion by striding through two miles in 9:39.4 to chop more than 11 seconds off the Rotary record of 9:51.9 set by teammate Steve Norris a year earlier.

Norris, the state mile champion, was withheld from the meet along with fellow distance star Tim Tobin, hurdler Dave Selmer and standouts from Coloma and Niles so that they would be eligible to participate in the Champion of Champions meet today at Kalamazoo.

Even without these three, St. Joe won every individual event over 220 yards and captured both hurdles races. Niles got into the act with a foursome of Mike Armstrong, Carl Dungey, Mike Tyler and Craig Riley that established a new mile relay record of 3:29.4 and the same unit also won the 800-yard relay with sprinter Andy Knoll replacing Dungey.

The only other running events — the 100 and 220-yard dashes — both were won by Benton Harbor's Willie Lacy, who emerged as the only double winner of the meet.

Undoubtedly the most amazing performance was that of Ray, who literally vaulted beyond the capabilities of the

Filstrup Field pole vault facilities. Since the vertical standards could be extended only to 13 feet, additional height was improvised by taping wooden boards to each one. Ray then soared over the measured 13-7 for a new meet and area record before finally going out at 13-10.

Sullivan dueted with teammate Jim Lorah for a mile and a quarter and then pulled away to establish the Rotary record with a time that stands as the fourth best of the

season in this area. Lorah, who ran 9:35.9 while placing seventh in the Class A state finals last Saturday, also broke the old record with a clocking of 9:48.

St. Joseph got another one-two finish in the mile from Brian Hudson and Pat Tobin plus victories from Mark Nisbet in the 800, Bruce Marschke in the 400, Kyle Laukus in the high hurdles and Bob Basselman in the low hurdles.

Neither hurdles race had a full field, nor did the 100-yard dash — the result of the long

delay following Monday's rainout, the upcoming holiday weekend and competition from the Champions meet in Kalamazoo.

Missing from the hurdles competition in addition to Selmer were Lewis Garner of Niles and Dana Carlson of Coloma, who had been held out of Monday's preliminaries in preparation for Wednesday's Blossomland conference meet. Coloma's Stan Zech, the Rotary record-holder in the 400, also was withheld for the Kalamazoo meet.

Other winners were Garry Culvahouse of Bridgman in the long jump, Henry Foster of Brandywine in the high jump and Tom Kanger of New Buffalo in the shot put.

Single out for special honors at the meet was Cecil L. Wismer of St. Joseph, a longtime track and field booster in this area who was at his normal stand running the pole vault last night.

Shot Put — 1. Kanger (New Buffalo), 2. Coran (Niles), 3. Wines (St. J.), 4. Ruff (Bridgman), 5. Johnson (BH), 49' 0".

High Jump — 1. Foster (Brandywine), 2. Rittman (Bridgman), 3. Garner (Niles), 4. Cooper (Niles), 5. Pierce (Benton Harbor), 39' 5".

Pole Vault — 1. Ray (St. Joseph), 2. Kowalski (Niles), 3. Knapley (Berrien Springs), 4. Kopyuk (St. Joseph), 5. Marschal (Niles) 17' 0" (Meet record).

800 Relay — 1. Niles (Knoll, Armstrong, A. Tyler, Dungey), 2. Benton Harbor, 3. St. Joseph, 4. Coloma, 5. Lakeshore, 1:39.

800 Freestyle Relay — 1. Benton Harbor (Lacey, Coffey, Brown, Aster, Duffy), 2. Lakeshore, 3. Tri: Eau Claire and Brandywine, 4. Bridgman, 1:38.4.

100 Dash — 1. Nisbet (St. Joseph), 2. Arter (Lakeshore), 3. Dungey (Niles), 4. Schuman (Lakeshore), 5. Ford (Brandywine), 12.4.

100 High Hurdles — 1. Laukus (St. Joseph), 2. O'Toole (Niles), 3. Dusley (Benton Harbor), 15.8.

Mile Run — 1. Hudson (St. Joseph), 2. P. Tobin (St. Joseph), 3. Woodard (Waterford), 4. Smith (Niles), 5. Lawver (Lakeshore), 4:03.1.

100 Dash — 1. Lacy (Benton Harbor), 2. Patzer (St. Joseph), 3. Knoll (St. Joseph), 4. Rittman (Bridgman), 12.4.

400 Dash — 1. Marschke (St. Joseph), 2. Culvahouse (Bridgman), 3. SS OR Free (Eau Claire), 4. Smith (Benton Harbor), 5. Etzorn (Niles), 59.9.

100 Low Hurdles — 1. Basselman (St. Joseph), 2. Boyd (Benton Harbor), 3. Mocc (Lakeshore), 4. Dusley (Benton Harbor), 21.4.

Two Mile — 1. Sullivan (St. Joseph), 2. Lorah (St. Joseph), 3. Toms (Benton Harbor), 4. Goodner (Lakeshore), 5. Meier (Lake Michigan Catholic), 9:39.4 (Meet record).

220 Dash — 1. Lacy (Benton Harbor), 2. Knoll (Niles), 3. Beckitt (St. Joseph), 4. Busch (St. Joseph), 5. Jones (Benton Harbor), 12.1.

Mile Relay — 1. Niles (Armstrong, Dungey, M. Tyler, Riley), 2. Benton Harbor, 3. Lakeshore, 4. St. Joseph, 5. Brandywine, 3:29.4 (Meet record).



RECORD RUN: John Sullivan of St. Joseph charges home with two-mile record of 9:39.4 during Twin City Rotary Club's annual all-county track meet Friday night. (Staff photo)

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jeffhollobaugh
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