

Big Area Day In Cross-Country

Sandusky Solid Buckeye Choice

Sandusky's cross-country squad has taken one giant step in its bid to capture a state championship. The Blue Streak harriers breezed to honors in the Class AAA sectional at Toledo Saturday with all seven runners placing in the top 12. Wes Hartsook's talented squad compiled just 21 points, the lowest total produced in any Northwest sectional meet counting all three classes — A, AA and AAA.

"I HOPE WE don't do what we did last year. We have taken a different approach this year and I am confident the kids are ready for sharp performances in the next three big races for us," Hartsook said. SHS was runnerup in the sectional last year, but faltered in the district to rank fifth and failed to gain a berth in the state. The Streaks also had problems in the Buckeye Conference meet, and wound up second. The Streaks are an overwhelming favorite in the Buckeye this year, however, which will be contested at Mills Creek Tuesday afternoon. All eight Buckeye teams are entered. Sandusky, the only BC squad to qualify for a district meet, would have all seven of its runners in the top 10 in the conference meet, according to Hartsook.

"WE WANT REVENGE and I don't think we will have much trouble. Our kids are dedicated and have been running ever since school ended. In fact, they ran 10 miles yesterday (Sunday) at an easy pace of about one mile every seven minutes.

As for the district, Hartsook said, "we've been shooting for the state ever since practice began and I think the kids are primed for fine efforts. We have been working on getting all of them under 10:30. We don't have far to go, but I feel we must have everyone do that if we are to get to the state," added the popular coach.

In the sectional, Bob Fair was first in Sandusky's division in 10:08, while Osmond Pearson ranked third in 10:16. Paul Leslie was fourth in 10:21, followed by Tom Hanlon in sixth at 10:31. Ed Organ was next with 10:33, Jim Rosino ninth in 10:35, and Tim Wilk 12th in 10:42.

"A year ago Frank Koch was fourth in the sectional in 10:42. Tim was 12th overall and seventh on our team alone in 10:42 Saturday, Hartsook concluded. The Buckeye meet is scheduled for 4:30.

Sandusky, Vermilion and Plymouth nabbed sectional cross-country crowns Saturday morning and have excellent chances of making trips to the state championships in Columbus Nov. 6.

The Blue Streaks captured honors in one of the two divisions of the Toledo Class AAA meet on the Ottawa Park two-mile course with ease.

Coach Wes Hartsook's squad posted 21 points to finish well ahead of Toledo St. John (91) and Maumee (100) in the 11-school division.

AS A RESULT, Sandusky will now go against eight other schools this coming Saturday morning on the same course in district competition. The top three teams earn berths in the state meet to be held on the Ohio State University Golf Course.

In addition to St. John and Maumee, the Blue Streaks will also be matched against Sylvania, Toledo DeVilbiss and Bowling Green from the other Toledo group, and Tiffin Columbian, Gallion and Mansfield Madison from the Upper Sandusky field.

DeVilbiss is the defending state "AAA" champion, but lost the sectional crown to Sylvania, 42-48. Bowling Green had 82 points. Tiffin waltzed to honors at Upper Sandusky, followed by Gallion with 73 and Madison 76.

Bellevue placed seventh in the meet won by Sylvania with 174 points, and Port Clinton was 11th with 278 points.

VERMILION breezed to the Class AA sectional title at Clyde, and smothered

1970 state champion Lakota in the process. The Sailors corralled 66 points, compared to 100 for the Raiders and 112 for Ashland Crestview.

Willard was sixth in the 16-team field with 163 points, followed by Norwalk with 179 and Rossford 193. Woodmore ranked 10th with 216, while Oak Harbor and Huron had 236, Clyde 260, Margaretta 306, Moawk 352, Perkins 368 and Genoa 378.

The Sailors will be joined by Lakota, Crestview, Anthony Wayne, Perrysburg, Napoleon, Ontario, Bucyrus and Wynford in this Saturday's district test which will be staged on the Findlay-Sycamore Springs course. The top three teams qualify for the state meet.

Ontario won hands down in the Findlay sectional with 29 points, while Bucyrus had 63 and Wynford 116 in a field of 16 schools. Anthony Wayne also had an easy time in the Napoleon sectional with 47 points. Perrysburgh added 89 and the host Wildcats 107. There were also 16 teams in the Napoleon field.

PLYMOUTH registered the most lopsided triumph in the various sectionals held. The Big Red produced just 32 points in the Tiffin-Class A meet. 84 points ahead of runnerup Elmwood and 86 less than Fostoria St. Wendelin.

Coach Bob James' squad was paced by senior veteran Tim Nesbitt who cracked the two-mile course record at Hedges Boyer Park with a 10:27 mark.

However, he was shaded for individual honors by Dick DeLong of Hardin-Northern who was a step ahead in 10:26. The old course standard was 10:29.

Plymouth's Jim Sutter also bettered the mark, but finished third in 10:28. Freshman Ken Lucas ranked sixth overall at 10:48, while sophomores Brad Buzzard and Mike Adams finished 10th and 11th respectively with 11:03 and 11:06.

THERE ARE 11 "A" teams paired in the district this Saturday on the Ottawa-Killdare Country Club course with the top four qualifying for a trip to the state meet.

Columbus Groce ruled in the Lima "A" sectional with 80 points, while New Bremen added 86, Bluffton 88 and New Knoxville 136. Liberty Center was the champion in the Defiance "A" event with 82 points, compared to 85 for Tinora, 90 for Fayette and 94 for Holgate.

Seven area harriers will also be participating for individual honors — and state meet bids — this Saturday.

Tom Wright of Margaretta was third in the Clyde sectional with a fine time of 10:30. Tony Hernandez of Woodmore captured first in 10:19, and Eliyas Romo of Cardinal Stritch was caught in 10:26.

RANDY MOORE followed Wright as the Clyde runner turned in a 10:32 mark. Eubaldo Luna of Willard was next in 10:35, and Fred Chapin of Norwalk placed sixth in 10:40. Randy Moore of Willard was eighth in 10:46.

There will be 27 individuals competing in the "AA" district meet at Sycamore Springs. The top nine will advance to the state meet.

Seneca East also qualified two boys for the "A" district at Ottawa for the individual race. Dave Kessler was fifth at

Tiffin, and Jim Fries eighth. There will be 33 participants in the individual race in which the top 12 advance to the state.

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Sailor Runners Feel Effort Was Only Stepping-Stone

Vermilion High's harriers and second-year coach Jim Baker, who easily won the Class AA Sectional Cross-Country Meet at Clyde Saturday morning, all feel that even better performances could be in store for them.

The Sailors placed four runners in the top 15 at the meet, and easily gained the team championship with a total of 66 points. A distant second was last year's state champions, Lakota, with 100 points, and Ashland Crestview placed third with 112. All three teams now advance to district competition at Sycamore Hills Golf Course in Findlay on Saturday.

SENIOR SCOTT Ruetenik paced the Sailor effort by finishing fifth in the time of 10:33. Senior Leo VanderMaelen placed seventh at 10:37, sophomore Dave Carter 10th at 10:42, senior Bill Brandt 15th at 10:48 and sophomore Jerry Cooper 29th in 11:03. Woodmore's Tony Hernandez finished first with the time of 10:19.

Seniors Steve Patralja and Wayne Mosley of Vermilion ranked 37th and 47th respectively, out of 105 total runners in the event.

"We have been on a plateau the past few weeks, and have tried to maintain it," commented Baker following the win. "Now we're trying to come down with our times. The kids are ready. I couldn't ask for a better group of kids."

Baker admitted that he didn't feel his charges would finish so far ahead of perennially-tough Lakota, and related his charges are ready for even better things.

"I REALLY didn't think we'd come out so far in front. I had read some times on Lakota, and they had turned in some better times with more people. Our kids just did real well.

"But they (Vermilion harriers) aren't satisfied. In accepting the trophy, two of them said they didn't want it. They are after the big one, and just saw this as a stepping stone. This is kind of pleasing to me. They all felt the didn't have the kind of race they could have had, that they had saved too much for too late. I'm not so confident about next week, but I think we'll place well, and that we'll take a team to the state."

Panther Frosh Bag 16-8 Win

St. Mary's freshman football squad (2-1-2) rebounded from an early Huron touchdown Wednesday afternoon, to defeat the visiting Tigers 16-8.

The visitors wasted no time in scoring, taking the opening kickoff and marching 60 yards for the score. The successful conversion gave Huron an 8-0 advantage.

THE PANTHERS jumped right back into contention on their first possession, as quarterback Kevin Roth hit end Randy Glovinsky with a 70-yard pass, which moved the hosts to the H-10. On the next play, Roth passed to halfback Bill Legg for the score, and followed with another aerial to halfback Denny Guerra for the tying conversion.

The winning score came in the second period on a 60-yard drive following a Huron punt. Legg, who gained most of the yardage on the drive, capped the advance with a 15-yard pass from Roth. The same duo teamed up on a successful conversion pass.

Panther freshman football coach Ray Miller praised the offensive work of Legg, who gained over 100 yards in the contest, and Roth, who completed about 70 per cent of his passes.

MILLER WAS also extremely happy with his defense, which has allowed just four touchdowns all season, and no more than one in any contest. Cited for superior play were defensive end-middle guard-halfback Jim Smith, middle guard Joe Samstag, defensive end John Thompson and defensive tackle Steve May.

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