## Plymouth Runs in District

By FRANK H. VALK PLYMOUTH — The Plymouth High School cross country team is but two steps away from defending their State high school Class A championship with the second rung on the ladder this weekend.

The Big Red, which won its sectional, will be out to improve on their district finish from last year this weekend when they travel to Toledo Ottawa Hills.

"Last year we finished fourth in the district," Coach Bob James said. "It was partially my fault that

By JOHN GRAY

SHELBY — The Shelby Whippets (4-2-1) will try to

upset the Galion Tigers (6-

1) on the road Friday night in a top Northern Ohio League football game.

The two high school football elevens will be meeting

for the 72nd time since the long rivalry started in 1900.

Shelby has won 48 games in

the series with Galion, in-

cluding the last seven-straight contests; lost only 16 and tied seven.

The Whippets' biggest margin was 58-8 piled up in

1959. Galion's largest score

was 38-0 in 1958. The Tigers'

last victory over the Whip-

The Tigers have a chance

to win their first NOL foot-

ball title since 1959. Galion

has won only two other foot-

ball trophies in the NOL in-

cluding a tie with Bellevue in 1944 and undisputed in 1957. Since the NOL was or-

ganized in 1944. Galion has only been able to defeat the Whippets in five games, tied one game and lost 22.

Galion has the top individ-

ual scorer in the eight school league in Chip Durt-

schi, who has scored five

touchdowns and two extra

points for 32 markers. Close

behind are Tiffin Columbi-

an's Bill Focht with four

touchdowns for 24 points in

four league starts and Shelby's Rich Steele with four

touchdowns in five games

top scorers are Galion's

Mitch Webber with 20

for 24 points.

pets was 20-14 in 1964.

## Six Veterans on Squad

we didn't do better. I figured after we won the sectional by 86 points we wouldn't have any trouble in the district so we relaxed a

"I've learned my lesson, though, and we'll take each meet as they come.'

With six returners from last year's championship squad, James is still optimistic about the district meet, although he hasn't

**Shelby High Invades Galion** 

points, Alan Ortlip with 18

points and Heinz Krummen-

acher with 14. Shelby's oth-

er top scorer is Kris Leonhardt with 12,

The two top defensive teams in the loop will be

battling at the Heise Park

Field. Shelby has held its

league opponents to 23

points for an average of 4.6,

best in the loop, while Gal-

ion is next allowing its oppo-sition only 28 points for an

ONTARIO COACH - Roger

Copeland will lead his Ontario team into action to-

morrow night against Fredericktown. Both teams are

io leads the JAC with a 5-0

Also among the league's 6-0-1 on the year and Ontar-

average of 5.6.

met up with any of the competition this year.

The top Plymouth time this year has been posted by Senior Ken Lucas at 9:56. He finished eighth in the state meet last year. He is followed by Mike Adams at 10:03, Ralph Noble, a junior, 10:18; and another Junior Brad Buzard, 10:19 and Sophomore Mike Courtright with a best clocking of

For Northern Ohio Conflict The Tigers have the top offensive record in the league, rolling up 102 points with an average of 20.4 points per NOL start. Shel-

> Galion's lone loss was to Bellevue, 21-15, the team that tied Shelby, 3-3. Galion's NOL wins were over Tiffin Columbian, 21-7; Norwalk, 16-0; Willard, 29-0; and Upper Sandusky. 21-0. The independent victories were over Clear Fork, 22-13,

independent opener.								
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by's offense is the third best in the loop, rolling up 55 points for an average of 11.

and Crestline, 12-8.

Shelby's two losses were to Tiffin Columbian, 14-3, in the loop and Ashland, 33-0, outside of the circuit. The Whippets defeated Upper Sandusky, 20-6; Bucyrus. 23-0, and Norwalk 6-0, in the NOL, while shellacking Sandusky Perkins, 39-0, in the

independent opener.										
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"Our times are improved considerably over last year, but I would hesitate to say anything about the district. I just don't know who they have back."

New Bremen, Bluffton and Columbus Grove finished one, two and three respectively in the district Competition in 1971.

Preparation for the defense of their state championship came early. It began with summer workouts starting the third week of June. The runners practiced on a specific number of miles each day except Wednesday throughout the summer. On Wednesday they were timed over the Plymouth course.

"The times have improved on the average about 30 seconds per man since we began our summer session." James noted. "This is a very highly motivated and dedicated group of boys."

James is concentrating on building up speed before the district competition. In practice they are now pouring on the speed in the middle and at the end of the two - mile run along with doing some long sprints. James figures they have run 800 or 900 miles since the start of practice.

James, in his third year as track coach here, has made considerable improvements on the program. In his first year the cross country team finished with a 4 -7 mark, but it jumped to 11 -3 'n 1971. This year they have suffered only one duel meet loss, that was 25 - 32 by Colonel Crawford.

Only two members of last year's team were lost through graduation — Tim Nesbitt and Jim Sutter. Nesbitt and Sutter ran to a 6 - 7 rinish in the state meet.

## Runner Dies From Seizure

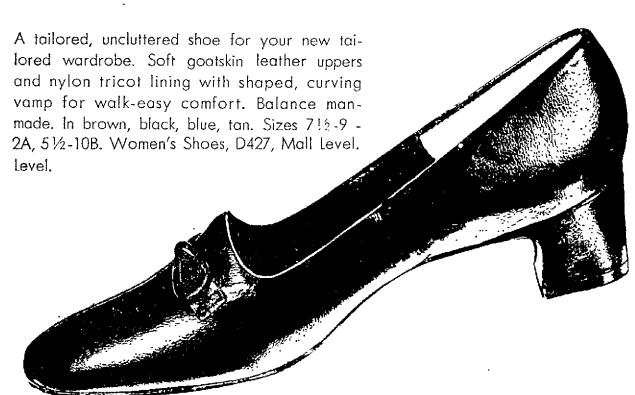
OBERLIN, Ohio (AP) -Lorain County Coroner James B. McMillan says preliminary findings indicate that an Oberlin High School student who collapsed and died during a cross country race suffered a card ac arrest.

Stephen Tobias, 15, collapsed near the finish line during the Lakeland Conference high school cross country meet here. He was the son of Edward S. Tobias, a member of the Oberlin



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