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Liggins, Lytle, Opelt Qualify For State Track & Field Meet

By MARK CARLSON
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BOWLING GREEN—A participant's ticket to the 65th Annual Ohio High School State Track Meet was easier for Tom Liggins, Rob Lytle and Jeff Opelt to obtain than the Ross High School records in their specialties Saturday.

Liggins, Lytle and Opelt will represent Ross at Ohio State University after superb showings in the Class AAA District Meet at Bowling Green State University Friday and Saturday.

Liggins will go to Columbus for the second straight year as a shot-put contestant. Lytle will participate in the 100-yard dash

for the second consecutive spring while Opelt, a sophomore, makes his maiden appearance in the pole vault.

All three will be shooting for first places, but they'll also be after new Ross High records. That was their goal in the district competition but they fell short.

Liggins, who will close a brilliant high school athletic career Saturday morning, placed second in the district with a put of 55-1 1/4, the best performance of his career.

Liggins needs a put of better than 55-10 in the state competition next week to erase the Ross school record held since 1969 by Dave Rhodes.

"That's my goal — to get the school record," Liggins said.

"Coach Armstrong (Tom, who's in charge of the Ross weight competitors) has been working me extra hard the last couple of weeks.

"We've been working a lot with weights and it's starting to pay off. We'll probably only throw two days next week and work on weights the rest of the time.

"I was going all-out on my last throw today for the record, but the shot slipped down into the palm of my hand as I was letting it go."

Ron Soviar of Toledo St. Francis won the shot for the second consecutive spring with an amazing heave of 60-6 1/2, a new district record. The old mark was 59-2 1/2 set in 1967 by Marty Huff, also of St. Francis.

Lytle, a junior, also had a second place finish. He trailed Toledo Libbey's outstanding sprinter, Bobby Lawson, to the finish line in the century, marking the second time in two years the blond-haired Ross speedster has taken second to the Libbey whiz.

Lytle also qualified for the district meet in the 220, but finished third in the finals behind Lawson and Tim Deuble of Toledo Whitmer.

In the 100, Lawson was clocked in 9.8 which tied the district record held by him and three others, Willard's Chuck Barrison (1968 and 1969) and Sandusky's Lavon Jackson (1969) and Elmer Lippert (1970). Lawson also ran a 9.8 in 1971.

Lytle had a 10.1 clocking against a strong cross wind during the 100 and received a 22.5 for his 220 showing compared to Lawson's 21.7 and 22.1 for Deuble.

"My goal in the 100 was to get a 9.6 — that's what I figured would

beat Lawson," Lytle said. "It's pretty frustrating finishing second to him two straight years, I haven't improved.

"I still don't know what's wrong with me in the 220. I was stuck out in that far lane and didn't really see those two guys (Lawson and Deuble) come up on me, but that's no excuse for losing.

"Ever since we ran in the Marion Night Relays I haven't felt good running the 220. First, I had trouble with my back and now my leg's bothering me. And, I can't figure out why but I don't seem to have any strength left for the final 50 yards.

"I know this — I've got a lot of work to do before we go to Columbus."

If Lytle is to get the record in the 100 this spring, he has to do better than 9.8 on the all weather surface at Ohio State. Steve Parker (1968) and Jim Tiller (1957) share the record.

Opelt already has his name in the record book. He's in a three-way tie at 13-6 with Mike Tooman

(1971) and Dan Linder (1969) for the pole vault standard.

"Coach Brant told me today he wants just one name up there (on the Ross record board) after next week," Opelt said after winning Saturday's only district crown Saturday. "Coach says there isn't enough room on the board for three names."

Opelt had very little competition for his district ticket. There were only two other competitors in the competition. Opelt won at 13-0. One competitor, Bill Bernheuser of Toledo Rogers went out at 11-6 while Mansfield Malabar's Dan Willard couldn't get past 12-0.

The excellent showings by Liggins, Lytle and Opelt pushed Ross into a third place finish in the team race. Ross totaled 32 points while powerful Sandusky, which qualified seven individuals and a relay team for the state meet, blitzed the field with 94. Libbey was second with 70.

The Little Giants finished third behind the same two teams in 1971.

News-Messenger SPORTS

Class AA Harriers Going To Columbus

BOWLING GREEN — Margaretta High School's head track and field coach Bob Spence figured he would have two competitors at this week's Class AA state championships in Columbus.

That was if everything went right in the district meet. But, Spence admitted that getting three athletes to the state competition was too much to hope for.

Thus, the four-year Polar Bear head coach who is giving up his post at the conclusion of the state

pole vaulters, especially at the height of 12-6.

"The breaks just seemed to fall our way. But that is the way things have been going for us all year."

Miller finished in second position at 13-0 behind Upper Sandusky's Paul Treadway, who went 14-0. Stark was third at 12-6 and earned his trip to the state based on number of misses. Oak Harbor's Paul Druckenmiller and Leon Thornton of Riverdale also went 12-6.

Wright established a new Polar

Harman, a junior, put his name into the record book with a second place leap of 21-6 1/2. Ottawa Glandorf's Jeff Huggins, who totaled three first places and a second during the day-long competition, won with a leap of 21-11 1/2.

"John had that one coming," said Woodmore head coach Jim Smithy. "He has had trouble getting his steps right all year. Today, it finally came and it couldn't have been at a better time."

The old Woodmore long jump



TOM LIGGINS



ROB LYTLE



JEFF OPELT

District Track Times, Distances

Class AAA

At Bowling Green First Two To State Team Scoring		
Sandusky	94	Man. Malabar 11
Libbey	70	Start 10
Ross	32	Findlay 10
Lima Shawnee	28	Rogers 10
Woodward	28	Man. Madison 10
Bowling Green	22	Marion Harding 9
DeVilbiss	20	St. John's 6
St. Francis	20	Sylvania 4
Scott	17	Tiffin Columbian 4
Whitmer	17	Wapakoneta 4
Lima Sr.	12	Central 2
Man. Sr.	12	Bowsher 1

Field Events

SHOT PUT—1. Ron Soviar, St. Francis, 60-4½ (meet record breaks mark of 59-2½ set by Marty Huff, St. Francis, 1967); TOM LIGGINS, ROSS, 55-1½; 3. Gary Huggs, Scott, 52-4; 4. Terry Ames, DeVilbiss, 52-4; 5. Mike Watson, Mansfield Malabar, 51-6; 6. Stan Johnson, Sandusky, 51-2½.

LONG JUMP—1. Tyrone Coleman, Mansfield Senior, 22-7½; 2. Velma Evans, Sandusky, 22-4; 3. Willie Smith, Scott, 21-4; 4. Scott May, Sandusky, 21-0; 5. Hans Anderson, St. Francis, 21-0.

POLE VAULT—1. JEFF OPELT, ROSS, 13-0; 2. Dan Willard, Mansfield Malabar, 12-0; 3. Bill Bernheuser, Rogers, 11-4.

HIGH JUMP—1. John Kornowa, Start, 6-5½ (meet record breaks mark of 6-3½ set by Chris Cowie, Lorain Senior, 1968); 2. John Harper, Woodward, 6-4; 3. John Jacobs, Lima Shawnee, 6-4; 4. Rennie Tyson, Lima Senior, 6-2; 5. Mike Baker, Bowling Green, 6-0; 6. Scott May, Sandusky, 6-0.

DISCUS—1. Scott May, Sandusky, 170-1; Mike Murray, Bowling Green, 152-7; 3. John Marth, Mansfield Madison, 150-2½; 3. Jeff Nobil, Tiffin Columbian, 143-8; 5. Ron Soviar, St. Francis, 142-1; 6. Bill Ziegler, Whitmer, 141-1.

Track Events

120 HIGH HURDLES—1. Jim Fantoze, Sandusky, 14:2; 2. Jerry O'Neal, Libbey, 14:6; 3. Joe Quatman, Lima Shawnee, 14:7; 4. Greg Norton, Lima Sr.; 5. Jacob Jones, Libbey; 6. Eddie Banks, Scott.

100—1. Bob Lawson, Libbey, 9.8 (ties record set by Chuck Barrison, Willard, 1968 and 1969; Lavon Jackson, Sandusky, 1969 (preliminaries); Elmer Lippert, Sandusky, 1970; Bob Lawson, Libbey, 1971); 2. ROB LYTTLE, ROSS, 10:1; 3. Velma Evans, Sandusky, 10:2; 4. Lionel Lawson, Libbey; 5. Tim Deuble, Whitmer.

MILE—1. Jan Eikum, Bowling Green, 4:20.3; 2. Osmond Pearson, Sandusky, 4:25.1; 3. Jim Thielens, DeVilbiss, 4:28.3; 4. Reece Barlow, Mansfield Madison; 5. Jeff Hochstetler, Findlay; 6. Tom Fauble, Bowsher.

880 RELAY—1. Libbey (Lionel Lawson, Jerry Mance, Jerry O'Neal and Bob Lawson), 1:30.6; 2. Marion Harding, 1:32.2; 3. St. Francis, 1:32.8; 4. Sandusky, 1:33; 4. Mansfield Senior, 1:33.5; 6. Toledo Central Catholic, 1:34.

440—1. Carl Conner, Woodward, 50.5; 2. Leo Ferguson, Sandusky, 50.9; 3. Hank DeVoe, Lima, 51.3; 4. Art Simmons, Libbey; 5. Bob Sherman, Sandusky; 6. Clint Longenecker, Toledo Central Catholic.

180 LOW HURDLES—1. Joe Quatman, Lima Shawnee, 19.2 (ties record set by Larry Stark, Berea, 1968); 2. Jim Fantoze, Sandusky, 19.7; 3. Jerry O'Neal, Libbey, 19.8; 3. Eddie Banks, Scott; 5. Jacob Jones, Scott; 6. Terry Haycox, Marion Harding.

880—1. Curtis Foster, Libbey, 1:58.3; 2. Jerry Meredith, Woodward, 1:59; 3. Osmond Pearson, Sandusky, 1:59.1; 4. Brian Hoch, Rogers; 5. John Henderson, Lima Senior; 6. Andy Johnson, Mansfield Malabar.

220—1. Bob Lawson, Libbey, 21.7; 2. Tim Deuble, Whitmer, 22.1; 3. ROB LYTTLE, ROSS, 22.5; 4. Tony Chatman, Libbey.

TWO MILE—1. Jeff Schnell, DeVilbiss, 9:19.3 (meet record breaks mark of 9:23.1 set by Dan McCrone, Cleveland St. Ignatius, 1969); 2. Bob Fair, Sandusky, 9:20.7; 3. Mike Irmen, St. John's, 9:42.1; 4. Dan Glague, Sylvania; 5. Al Kingsberry, Lima Senior.

MILE RELAY—1. Sandusky (Bob Sherman, Chuck Miller, Bob Jackson and Leo Ferguson), 3:27.1; 2. Findlay, 3:28.0; 3. Whitmer; 4. Wapakoneta; 5. Bowling Green.

Win National Title

UNION, N.J. (AP) — The Elizabeth, N.J., Sport Club defeated the San Pedro, Calif., Yugoslav-American Team 1-0 here Sunday to win the national finals of the U.S. Soccer Football Association.

Class AA

At Bowling Green First Three To State Team Scoring		
Ottawa-Glandorf	48	Lakota 8
Upper Sandusky	32	Rosford 8
Huron	30	Genoa 8
Bryan	30	Paulding 7
Napoleon	20	Perkins 6
Margaretta	26	Lake 6
Ontario	22	Coldwater 6
Wauseon	21	Vermilion 6
Fostoria	20	Patrick Henry 6
Woodmore	19	Oak Harbor 4
Willard	18	Lima Bath 4
Perrysburg	16	Elida 3
Kenton	15	Springfield 3
Riverdale	14	Mohawk 2
Wynford	12½	Card. Stritch 2
Allen East	10	Edison 2
Bucyrus	9	Lexington 1
Col. Crawford	8	Eastwood 1½

Field Events

SHOT PUT—1. Harold Denhart, Ottawa-Glandorf, 56-6; 2. Jeff Apel, Genoa, 54-7½; 3. Don Allshouse, Paulding, 54-½; 4. Mike Clark, Kenton, 51-5½; 5. Mike Burton, Fostoria, 49-8½; 6. John Frederick, Upper Sandusky, 48-4½.

LONG JUMP—Jeff Huggins, Ottawa-Glandorf, 21-11½; 2. John Harman, Woodmore, 21-6½; 3. Tony Wade, Fostoria, 21-1½; 4. Clark Maddocks, Willard, 20-8½; 5. Dan Pratt, Edison, 20-8; 6. Paul Treadway, Upper Sandusky, 19-10½.

POLE VAULT—1. Paul Treadway, Upper Sandusky, 14-0 (ties record set by Mike Pensinger, Bucyrus, 1971); 2. Rich Miller, Margaretta, 13-0; 3. Gary Stark, Margaretta, 12-6; 4. Paul Druckenmiller, Oak Harbor, 12-6; 5. Leon Thornton, Riverdale, 12-6; 6. Rod Staker, Lexington, 12-0.

HIGH JUMP—1. Steve Schertzer, Upper Sandusky, 6-5½ (meet record breaks mark of 6-2 set by Randy Kegler, Wauseon, 1971); 2. Ron Lauck, Riverdale, 6-3½; 3. Jim Brenner, Perkins, 6-3½; 4. Keith Wechters, Napoleon, 6-2; 5. Dan Hipsher, Fostoria, 6-0; 6. (tie) Tom Kalb, Wynford, and Doug Snyder, Eastwood, 5-10.

DISCUS—1. John Steinman, Kenton, 159-5; 2. Scott Thompson, Napoleon, 139-10½; 3. Tom Hammer, Lakota, 138-5½; 4. Tim Lovett, Lima Bath, 137-4½; 5. John Buer, Springfield, 134-2; 6. Don Allshouse, Paulding, 132-2½.

Track Events

120 HIGH HURDLES—1. Kim Wegman, Woodmore, 14:6 (ties record set by Ron Weber, Rosford, 1971); 2. Dave Coe, Willard, 15:0; 3. Jack Hawley, Lake, 15:1; 4. Craig Williams, Napoleon; 5. Dennis Cain, Riverdale; 6. Scott McBeth, Elida.

100—1. Gil Clark, Allen East, 10.1 (meet record breaks mark of 10.3 set by Jeff Huggins, Ottawa-Glandorf, 1971); 2. Jeff Huggins, Ottawa-Glandorf, 10.2; 3. Marv Holman, Coldwater, 10.3; 4. Denny Zimmerman, Wauseon; 5. Kevin Hunter, Wauseon; 6. Mark Grau, Colonel Crawford.

880 RELAY—1. Wauseon (Brad Hathaway, Phil Roth, Kevin Hunter and Denny Zimmerman), 1:31.9 (meet record breaks mark of 1:39.0 set by Huron, 1971); 2. Huron, 1:32.0; 3. Napoleon, 1:32.4; 4. Ontario, 1:32.6; 5. Upper Sandusky, 1:33.3; 6. Bucyrus, 1:34.6.

440—1. Jeff Huggins, Ottawa-Glandorf, 49.6 (meet record breaks mark of 50.9 set by Don Gonya, Lakota, 1971); 2. Chuck Gerhart, Wynford, 50.2; 3. John Rosebrock, Napoleon, 50.2; 4. Mark Barker, Huron; 5. Steve Walton, Mohawk; 6. David Agin, Colonel Crawford.

180 LOW HURDLES—1. Tony Wade, Fostoria, 20.0 (ties record set by Ron Weber, Rosford, 1971); 2. Paul Valevro, Perrysburg, 20.2; 3. Tim Borsick, Margaretta; 5. Scott McBeth, Elida; 6. Bob Shaffer, Ontario.

880 RUN—1. Rob Bostater, Bryan, 1:59.9; 2. Tom Wright, Margaretta, 2:00.4; 3. Kent Harris, Patrick Henry, 2:00.5; 4. Steve Burkholder, Ontario, 2:01.6; 5. Rich Pfeiffer, Riverdale, 2:02.7; 6. Bruce Ralston, Springfield, 2:05.4.

220—1. Jeff Huggins, Ottawa-Glandorf, 22.1; 2. Bill Scott, Huron, 22.5; 3. Tom Lodo, Perrysburg, 22.6; 4. Kevin Hunter, Wauseon; 5. Dick Warriner, Lakota; 6. Denny Zimmerman, Wauseon.

TWO MILE RUN—1. Mike Mitchell, Ontario, 9:44.1; 2. Jerry Smithers, Rosford, 10:10.0; 3. Terry Bowman, Bryan, 10:10.4; 4. Fred Swartz, Anthony Wayne; 5. P. Metzger, Riverdale; 6. Doug Roby, Kenton.

MILE RELAY—1. Huron (Dick Garton, Jim Blodgett, Bill Scott and Mark Barker), 3:28.2; 2. Upper Sandusky, 3:30.5; 3. Colonel Crawford, 3:32.5; 4. Wynford, 3:33.3; 5. Cardinal Stritch, 3:34.1; 6. Ontario, 3:34.6.

MILE RUN—1. Rob Bostater, Bryan, 4:29.7; 2. Dave Vance, Bucyrus, 4:31.8; 3. Glen Angney, Vermilion, 4:32; 4. Rob Chapman, Bryan; 5. Mick Stoffer, Ontario; 6. Wayne Fegley, Woodmore.

Class A

At Ada First Five To State Team Scoring		
Montpelier	49	Fayette 10
Columbus Grove	49	Fort Jennings 10
Spencerville	34	Ottawa Hills 7
Liberty Center	31	St. Wendelin 7
Marion Local	26	Elmwood 6
Ada	26	New Bremen 5
Ridgemont	22	Arcadia 4
Buckeye Central	21	Lima Perry 4
Hardin Northern	18	Upper Scioto 4
McCumb	18	Valley 4
Plymouth	16	Hilltop 4
Cory-Rawson	15	Pandora-Gilboa 4
Liberty Benton	14	Ayersville 2
Waynesfield	12	Holgate 1
Goshen	12	Northwood 1
Minster	10	Seneca East 1
New London	10	

Field Events

SHOT PUT—1. Tim Bockman, Marion Local, 49-9½; 2. Dan Harris, Ada, 48-3½; 3. Don Bergman, Minster, 48-½; 4. Jim Cameron, Montpelier, 47-8½; 5. Larry Dwenger, Marion Local, 47-7; 6. Kevin Aukerman, McComb, 47-3.

HIGH JUMP—1. Tim Whetsel, Ridgemont, 6-1½; 2. Dave Saums, Liberty Benton, 6-½; 3. Walter Boyd, Montpelier, 6-½; 4. Brad Hausfeld, Minster, 6-½; 5. Tim Bihler, Liberty Benton, 5-11½; 6. Steve Roberts, Columbus Grove, 5-10½.

POLE VAULT—1. Jim Palte, Columbus Grove, 20-7½; 2. Mike Gardner, Ridgemont, 20-6½; 3. Dan Shafer, Cory-Rawson, 20-3; 4. Greg Powell, Liberty Benton, 20-3; 5. Randy Dicke, New Bremen, 20-2½; 6. John Wechter, Buckeye Central, 19-9½.

DISCUS—1. James Cameron, Montpelier, 146-8; 2. Larry Dwenger, Marion Local, 146-2; 3. Tim Bockman, Marion Local, 144-10; 4. Barry Campbell, Upper Scioto Valley, 139-10; 5. Walter Boyd, Montpelier, 139-5½; 6. Gregory Dennis, McComb, 136-4.

POLE VAULT—1. Dan Finley, Western Reserve, 12-6; 2. John Conley, Plymouth, 12-3; 3. Tim Wireman, Waynesfield Goshen, 12-0; 4. Kyle Dickinson, Ridgemont, 12-0; 5. Doug Henderson, Columbus Grove, 12-0; 6. Curt Dicke, New Bremen, 11-9.

Track Events

120 HIGH HURDLES—1. Randy Bindel, Spencerville, 14:9; 2. Kevin Aukerman, McComb, 15:2; 3. Bob Kelly, Ottawa Hills, 15:4; 4. Ron Conner, Arcadia, 15:5; 5. Randy McDonald, Leipsic, 16:1; 6. Ken Feasel, Seneca East, 17:0.

100—1. Mike Johnston, Montpelier, 10:1; 2. Phil Trask, Columbus Grove, 10:15; 3. Ned Tate, McComb, 10:2; 4. Curt King, Hardin Northern, 10:3; 5. Tom Everetts, Edgerton, 10:4; 6. Brad Brown, Liberty Center, 10:5.

MILE—1. Ken Paison, Fayette, 4:36.2; 2. Dennis Tavenner, Columbus Grove, 4:38.9; 3. Mike Robinson, Ada, 4:41.6; 4. Phil Stota, Hilltop, 4:44.1; 5. Mike Friemering, New Bremen, 4:46.0; 6. Luie Garcia, Northwood, 4:46.7.

880 RELAY—1. Hardin Northern (Martin DeLong, Brian Neal, Rex Essinger and Curt King), 1:34.6; 2. Cory Rawson, 1:34.9; 3. Montpelier, 1:35.2; 4. Pandora-Gilboa, 1:35.5; 5. Ada, 1:36.0; 6. Ottawa Hills, 1:36.25.

440—1. Phil Trask, Columbus Grove, 51.75; 2. Tim Mohler, Spencerville, 51.9; 3. Joe Siles, Waynesfield Goshen, 52.6; 4. Terry Craig, Hardin Northern, 53.1; 5. Kevin Roush, Buckeye Central, 53.2; 6. Steve Hagenmaier, St. Wendelin, 53.3.

880—1. Bill Glang, Liberty Center, 2:00.9; 2. Dennis Tavenner, Columbus Grove, 2:03.2; 3. Bob Chandler, New London, 2:03.4; 4. Greg Hines, Ada, 2:03.4; 5. Jim Satter, Plymouth, 2:04.0; 6. Kevin Latham, Cory Rawson, 2:04.9.

180 LOW HURDLES—1. Tom Everetts, Edgerton, 20:4; 2. Randy Bindel, Spencerville, 20:9; 3. Gene Frankart, St. Wendelin, 20:95; 4. John Conley, Plymouth, 21:0; 5. Doug Herr, Ayersville, 21:3; 6. Bruce Griteman, Liberty Center, 21:6.

220—1. Mike Johnston, Montpelier, 23.3; 2. Tim Mohler, Spencerville, 23.5; 3. John Wechter, Buckeye Central, 23.55; 4. Mark Mullins, New London, 23:6; 5. Ned Tate, McComb, 23:7; 6. Brad Brown, Liberty Center, 23.8.

TWO MILE—1. Bill Menke, Ft. Jennings, 10:03.7; 2. Mike Wechtman, Liberty Center, 10:03.9; 3. Ken Tyson, Elmwood, 10:09.4; 4. Mike Kempf, Buckeye Central, 10:13.5; 5. Tim Nesbitt, Plymouth, 10:23.8; 6. Mike Homier, Holgate, 10:29.0.

MILE RELAY—1. Liberty Center (Rick Miles, Mike Mann, Mike Snow and Bill Glanz), 3:31.6; 2. Buckeye Central, 3:32.6; 3. Ada, 3:33.4; 4. Lima Perry, 3:37.3; 5. Columbus Grove, 3:37.5; 6. Montpelier, 3:38.0.