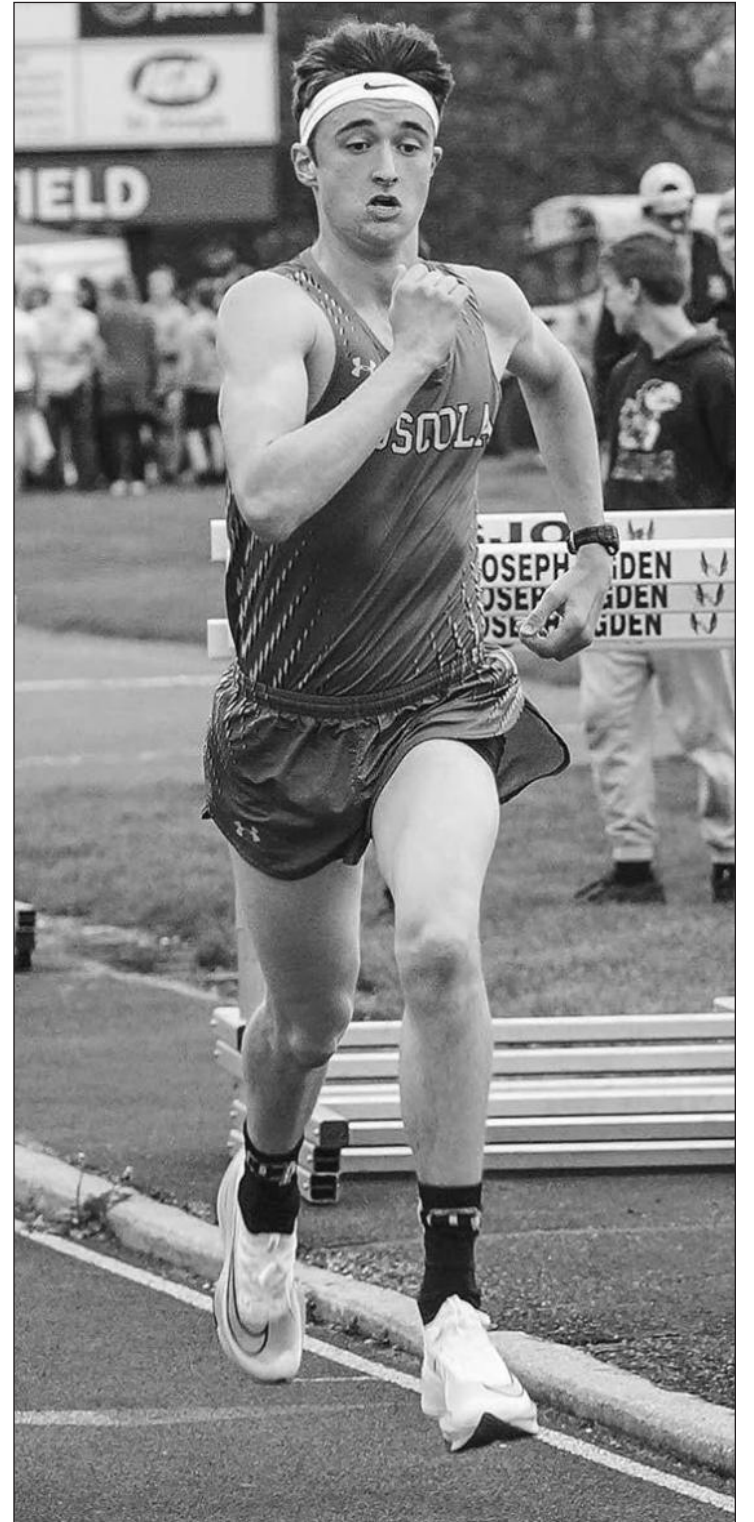


# Black & Gold



LOGAN WALLACE DASHES to the finish line in the 3,200-meter relay. The senior helped the Warriors win the relay title in 8 minutes, 31.73 seconds. Wallace anchored the relay. Photo by Minore "Moto" Johnson.



RILEY NOLAN COMPETES in the 3,200-meter run at the Spartan Classic. The senior distance runner placed in the top 12 in both the 3,200-meter run and the 1,600-meter run. His higher finish was in the 3,200-meter run as he took eighth. Photo by Minore "Moto" Johnson.

## 3,200-m relay team and Boyd win titles at Spartan Classic

By Daniel L. Chamness

In Tuscola distance running, they (Josiah Hortin, Jackson Barrett and Will Foltz) are simply the "super sophs."

In short order, they, along with Logan Wallace, may be state qualifiers. The foursome finished the race in 8 minutes, 31.73 seconds and won the 3,200-meter relay at the St. Joseph Ogden-hosted Spartan Classic. They were victorious by over two seconds. The host school finished in 8:33.86.

"We are really excited about the direction on the 3,200-meter relay team," said Tuscola's head coach Ryan Hornaday. "They are reminding me of the 2018 group that finished fourth in the state. The times will continue to drop as we enter the peak phase of our training."

The Warriors had one other champion at the Spartan Classic in the form of Chris Boyd. The

junior thrower won the shot put with a put of 17.50 meters.

"Since 1993, we have had two throwers throw over 60 feet," said Hornaday. "Chris is poised to become the third. He has state championship potential. He is so powerful and extremely blessed with physical gifts. All three throwers have been under the tutelage of Coach Stan Wienke. Coach has great talents and abilities to teach these athletes the right technique and how to succeed."

The relay and Boyd helped Tuscola take fourth with 38 points. Colfax Ridgeview also scored 38 points. Mt. Zion finished first with 76 points. Arthur-Lovington-Atwood-Hammond took second with 61 points. Catlin-Salt Fork took third with 60 points. A total of 23 teams posted a team score.

"We did not arrange entries to maximize points at the Spar-

tan Classic," said Hornaday. "It is purely coincidental that we placed as high as we did as a team. There were a ton of 2A schools and some of the best 1A schools from the area. We lightened the event load across the board to focus on individual performances as opposed to maxing team points. Most of our athletes only competed in two events unlike four each, when we try to score as many team points as possible."

Boyd and Foltz would place in the top five in two other events as did Haven Hatfield. Boyd took second in the discus, recording a throw of 50.92 meters. Foltz was fourth in the vault leaping 3.79 meters. Hatfield was the third place finisher in the shot put with a put of 14.22 meters.

Riley Nolan ran the two longest distance events, the 3,200-meter run and the 1,600-meter run, and finished in the

top 12 in both events. In the 3,200-meter, he finished eighth with an effort of 10:37.52. He took 12th in the 1,600-meter run, finishing the four-lap race in 4:54.98.

"Riley and Will have been so solid for us in their respective events since we have been in the invite portion of the season schedule," said Hornaday. "Both have been at their best and are producing top marks and points."

Hunter Branca, Connor Lewis, Krish Patel and Ben Hornaday teamed to finish seventh in the 800-meter relay. The foursome, who also ran the 400-meter relay, finished in 1:36.34. They finished the 400-meter relay in :45.88, which was good for 10th.

Wallace took ninth in the 400-meter dash, breaking the tape in :56.98.

## Girls take third at Monticello

By Daniel L. Chamness

At Monticello, the Tuscola cream rose to the top.

Out of the 10 relays or individuals or relays that finished in the top 10, six were championships. The Lady Warriors would finish third with 136 points. A total of 18 teams scored points. The outing was won by Mt. Zion, who is a Class 2A school. They scored 172 points. Seneca took second with 136 points.

"The Monticello Lady Sage Invitational features the best of the best," said Drew Sterkel, the Tuscola girl's head coach. "Seneca is a great program and one that we try to keep track of. I am sure that we will see them on the Blue Oval at Eastern Illinois University in about three weeks."

Alyssa Williams and Lia Patterson accounted for the five individual championships and were also members of the triumphant 800-meter relay. The

pair combined with Mia Hausmann and Jillian Alexander, who ran the second and third legs of the relay respectively. The foursome finished in 1 minute, 49.97 seconds.

Williams started her day with a victory in the 100-meter dash. In the field, she would win the long jump. In the 100-meter dash, she would run a time of :12.16, which is the new meet record at Monticello. She recorded a leap of 5.40 meters in the long jump.

The senior would end her day with a :25.58 running of the 200-meter dash to win that event. Ironically, the second best 200-meter runner at Monticello was Patterson, who finished in :26.83.

Patterson would continue to prove her prowess in the hurdle races, winning both the 100-meter hurdles and the 300-meter hurdles. She would run respective times of :15.27

and :46.17.

"Alyssa and Lia were tremendous as usual," said Sterkel. "Alyssa's run in the 100-meter dash was so good. "Lia's devotion to get better is unmatched."

Only two other athletes that would place in the top 10 were Natalie Hasting and Harley Woodard. Hasting would finish seventh in both the shot put (9.21 meters) and discus (31.94 meters). Woodard was ninth in the high jump with a leap of 1.37 meters.

The Tuscola fans will have an opportunity to see the Lady Warriors run this weekend. The Lady Warriors will host the Central Illinois Conference Meet on Thursday night. The field events are scheduled to start at 4:30 p.m. Tonight, the Lady Warriors are headed to Sullivan for the Sullivan Relays, which start at 4:00 p.m.



TUSCOLA SOPHOMORE WILL FOLTZ runs stride for stride with a Gibson City Melvin Sibley runner in the 3,200-meter relay. The Warriors won the relay at the St. Joseph Ogden Spartan Relays. Photo by Minore "Moto" Johnson.

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