



Mark Nelsen, senior, and two-year Cross Country letterman, runs one of the last races of his high school career.

PHOTO Bob Christensen

Granse, Harriers finish third in State Cross Country meet

by Dave Black
Blueprint Staff Writer

The cross country team failed in its goal of a second straight state title, finishing third behind Minneapolis Southwest and Edina. But when one considers where the club was at the start of the season, third is certainly nothing to be ashamed of.

On the rain-drenched, hilly University Golf Course two weeks ago, the Southwest team, consisting of seven underclassmen, racked up 54 points to clobber the Hornets (122) the Rams (128) and seventeen other teams. Craig Granse led with a 3rd place (2nd among team members), followed by Tom Flaherty (11th), Brad Elleveld (19th), Mark Nelsen (25th) and Guy Johnson (71st).

The team ran extremely well, but several incidences that could happen only in a meet of this size (165 runners) prevented the Rams from possibly capturing the runner-up spot.

Granse led the race for more than a mile, but later felt that he had set too fast an early pace. He charged out early to pass several boys who started too fast, and ran a blistering 4:46 for the first mile.

Ellevold slipped and fell on the hilly second mile, and ten harriers passed him before he could scramble to his feet. Brad was the Rams' #2 man throughout the season.

The Suburban Conference again proved to be the finest in Minnesota cross country. White Bear Lake finished fifth, ahead of six regional champions. Mounds View's Jim Wilson, who finished second in the district and region, was also runner-up in the state, edging Granse for the first time in their five meetings this year.

Improvement is the word that best described the Rams' 1969 season. The team had to work harder to get into shape, because of the change to three miles.

Two months ago, the team was undecided whether to even compete in the St. Olaf meet, because the runners weren't ready for three miles. But they ran anyway, coming in a surprising, yet poor, sixth place.

Later in September, Ramsey

was beaten by North St. Paul and White Bear Lake in practice meets at Como. Heading into the conference meet, they were underdogs to both the Polars and the Bears.

But the team won the conference, and continued its progress to take the district and region titles. No team in the state had to beat anyone the caliber of White Bear Lake four times, but the Rams did it, and the consistent competition undoubtedly helped in the end.

Paul Busch, who had been head cross country coach ever since this school opened 16 years ago, said that he got more satisfaction out of coaching this year than any other. "This team has improved more than any other I've coached," he commented earlier.

"They worked hard, but they also had a lot of fun. Too many boys are scared by the work involved, and never find out what they can do."

Next year, summer training may determine the chances for a successful season. Lettermen Tom Heing, Len Sonterre, and Byrdean Haataja will lead the team, but the remaining spots must be filled by "B" squaders.

Next year will have to be another year of improvement.

Second time in two years

Kickers cop Conference

by Dave Black
Blueprint Staff Writer

Ramsey's soccer team "wanted it" a little more, and got it, downing White Bear Lake 2-1, two weeks ago to gain a tie for the conference championship with the Bears. Both teams finished with 8-2 records, splitting their two meetings, and both losing late season games to South St. Paul.

A penalty kick by Paul Tegenfeldt gave the Rams a 1-0 lead midway through the first half on the drenched, muddy WBL field.

Then, about five minutes later, Teg's direct kick was deflected into the nets by Tim Carlin, to the delight of the 40-50 Ram fans who braved the elements who watch this important clash.

Meanwhile the defense, led by goalie Dave Bonestroo, fullbacks Dale Ahrens and Bill Gor-ton, and halfback Henry Blake were turning back countless Bear threats. Blake was assigned to cover Ricardo Polomi, the Bear's ace center forward, who controls the entire offense. Henry effectively stopped him all night.

Ricardo's penalty kick in the second half cut the margin, but by then the game was out of reach, as the Rams went home with their second straight title.

The Ramsey performance was somewhat surprising, considering their 2-0 loss to South St. Paul only a day before. Head Coach Marc Brottem had several afterthoughts about the game.

"We just had a bad game. There was too much individual play. South St. Paul was out of the race; they had nothing to lose, and they played aggressively." The Packers, who finished with a surprising 6-4 record, had the distinction of being the only club to beat both champs.

The Rams placed three on the Suburban all-conference team. Seniors Tegenfeldt and Ahrens, and junior Bonestroo made the first team, with forwards Tim Carlin and Chris Olson and halfbacks Bob Strommen and Mark Fitzsimmons (all seniors) receiving honorable mention.

Ramsey scored more times than any other league team,

kicking in 25. They also led in defense, allowing only eight scores in ten games. Tegenfeldt led the conference in scoring for the second straight year with 13 goals.

The Blue and White should

have another good year in 1970, returning seven lettermen, including Bonestroo and semi-regular Terry Carlin. But the league has shown greater balance this year, and next year should be even tougher.



Mark Fitzsimmons, senior, and a Kellogg player battle for the ball in the second Ram - Charger clash of the season.

PHOTO Bruce Christofferson

Fall Sports Capsule

RAMSEY TAKES TWO OUT OF THREE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Harriers win third in State

Mpls. Southwest 54, Edina 122, Ramsey 128

Soccer team wins tie for Conference crown

Ramsey 2, White Bear 0

Gridders beat the Champs

Ramsey 14, White Bear 0

Ramsey 24, Kellogg 20

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