



River Trails

SCHOOL DISTRICT 26

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

River Trails Middle School Excels at Track and Field State Meet, Seventh Grader Lucas Pfoutz Wins Two State Championships

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MOUNT PROSPECT, IL – The River Trails Middle School Track & Field team capped off a phenomenal season with an outstanding performance at the Illinois Middle School State Meet held this past Friday and Saturday. Athletes across all grade levels competed fiercely, showcasing their talent, dedication, and team spirit on the biggest stage of the season.

Lucas Pfoutz led the way with a historic performance, becoming a double State Champion in the 7th Grade Boys 1600 meter run (4:45.78) and the 800 meter run (2:07.37). His dominance on the track earned him top honors and helped set the tone for a strong team showing.

"We couldn't be more proud of Lucas Pfoutz. Winning two state championships is an incredible accomplishment that reflects his talent, grit, and relentless work ethic" Coach Jim Kuperman said. "Our entire team had an incredible showing at the state level. Every athlete contributed and made this a successful state meet for us. I'm proud of the way our athletes competed, supported one another, and represented our program with pride."

Other state meet highlights include:

- **7th Grade Girls:** Maggie Mau (14th in High Jump), Amelia Smakowski (14th in Long Jump)
- **7th Grade Boys:** Tyler Macpherson (11th in High Jump), Declan Georgacakis (15th in Shot Put), 4x200 Relay (11th place)
- **8th Grade Girls:** Jordan Patterson (7th in 400m), 4x400 Relay (20th place)
- **8th Grade Boys:** Johan Gonzalez (6th in 1600m), Evan Marshall (10th in 400m), Santiago Arroyo (18th in 1600M, 20th in 800M), multiple relays placed in the top 20

In addition to these impressive state finishes, **seven school records** were broken this season, demonstrating the continued growth and excellence of the River Trails program.

In addition to Kuperman, the team is coached by River Trails teachers Kyle Farley, Scott Kaminsky, Amy Polenzani and Cristy Tracz. The state meet is organized and hosted by the Illinois Elementary School Association.

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