

SOUTH, UNION SHOW CITY TRACK POWER

Trojans' First Victory Impressive; Hessmen Beat Ottawa; Davis Tech Tops Last Year's Champs.

(By JOHN J. MCGINNIS.)

Grand Rapids track squads in general showed better performances in meets Saturday afternoon, favored by the first really warm day for competition. Three weeks remain before the city meet and several records may be in danger then if the improvement pace is maintained.

All of the seven city class A schools were in competition Saturday in four meets here. South's first appearance bore out earlier promise of an efficient and well-balanced squad, the Trojans piling up the largest margin of the afternoon in beating Catholic 87 to 17. Union showed signs of a steady improvement in its 55 to 49 win over Ottawa Hills at the Indian field. The two other meets at South field were close, each depending on the final event for a decision. Davis Tech beat Central, last year's city champion, 56 to 48, while Creston nosed out Allegan by less than two points, 52 1/2 to 51 1/2.

Good South Sprinters.

South will be a favorite in the city regional if school teams develop along the lines indicated at present, for the Trojans Saturday showed a definite advantage in the shot and high jump, as well as possibility of points in almost every other event. The South sprinters made no sensational times but made a total of 20 of a possible 23 points in their events, including the two dashes and the relay. Two new men, Brandel and Barnes, bested South veterans, Hull and Peavey, in the century, and these four should work into a formidable half mile relay team. They made 1:37.5 in this opening meet. Only the Ottawa team has bettered that mark this year.

Millman, shot putter, reached 45 feet, 7 inches for South to rank as the class of the city so far, while two South high jumpers, Wieland and McDonald, tied at 5 feet, 7 1/2 inches, the best recorded leaps this spring in city ranks. For an opening meet, the Saturday show was most encouraging to South backers.

Union Picks Up Speed.

Union came forward as a more serious city threat Saturday by defeating the capable Ottawa squad. Union's success can be attributed partly to the definite improvement of its sprinter, Rice, who right now has the best 220 performance of the city to his credit. At the opening of practice he was not regarded as especially promising, for he had participated last year without much success, but he has been winning points steadily. In the Ottawa dash stars, Strehl, Blackburn and Bullen, he met a genuine test and proved he has the stuff.

Norbert Mknavich helped Union to victory when he snapped up the high hurdles in the creditable time of 16.6 seconds and then went into the pole vault to earn a tie with Ottawa's highly rated performer, Van Campen. Bob Grams did his bit by turning in his best competitive shot performance to win the event with 43 feet, 7 inches. Coach John Hess of Union again juggled his distance runners in an effort to add points and succeeded in snagging two places in the 410 by inserting Gilles, the miler, there. Luce of Ottawa won the race but Gilles and Cyberski of Union were second and third. Hutchins and Coffee ran a dead heat in winning the 880 for Union, and the other Union distance men, all slower than Hutchins and Gilles in the mile, still were able to slam that event.

Jefferson Ottawa Star.

Ottawa showed some sprint power, Capt. Bill Strehl racing the 100 in 10.2 seconds, and the relay team from the school making the best city time so far with 1:36.9 as its mark. The Indians also slammed

the broad jump, with Jefferson passing 20 feet. Jefferson was the Ottawa star, winning the broad jump and high jump, placing second in the shot and running on the relay team.

Prevailing winds at the Ottawa field seem to favor racers there as contrasted to conditions at South field, where races on the straight-away in the shorter events almost invariably find the runners bucking a breeze. For that reason the South track is a hard one on which to run against time and the sprint and hurdle comparisons between the South and Ottawa field competitions are not always relled upon. South's and Tech's sprinters will have a chance to try the Ottawa track when the three schools meet in a triangular on May 12.

Tech Runners Win.

Central, the city champions of last year, showed the effect of being without a track and a subsequent lack of practice in the running events when they lost to Tech after piling up a good lead in the four field events, which were contested at the Central school playground Friday evening. Central's field event performers were in good shape, having been at work constantly in the lot beside the school gym, but Tech won back the lead by impressive work on the cinders Saturday afternoon, winding up with a sweep in the 220, and first and third in the low hurdles and 880. Tech took seven of eight firsts in the running events, while Central won all four firsts in the field events.

Creston Hard Pressed.

Creston had its hands full with Allegan and trailed during a good portion of the meet, but came back at the finish with first and second in both the 880 and the broad jump to go ahead by the small margin that finally decided the race. Boskheim of Creston had the best mile recorded in the city Saturday, running in 5 minutes flat. Van Proyen hit 18 seconds in the high hurdles. The Bears, however, still seem to be some distance away from consideration as threats in the final city competition.

First place performances in each of the four local meets Saturday were as follows:

- 120-yard High Hurdles—Mknavich, Union, 10.0; Baker, South, 18; VanProyen, Creston, 18; Trzenewski, Tech, 18.2.
- 100-yard Dash—Strehl, Ottawa, 10.2; Brandel, South, 11; Conlee, Allegan, 11; Ryker, Tech, 11.0.
- Mile Run—Boskheim, Creston, 5:00; Boozard, South, 5:00.7; Pickett, Central, 5:02; McLoskey, Union, 5:01.2.
- 410-yard Dash—Luce, Ottawa, 55.1; Lewis, Tech, 55.7; L. Brown, South, 58.7; Darnth, Allegan, 57.0.
- 880-yard Run—Doane, Tech, 2:10; Hutchins and Coffee, Union, 2:10.8; Gilles, South, 2:13; Gezon, Central, 2:16.5.
- 240-yard Low Hurdles—Bullen, Tech, 27.0; Kuchnaskas, Union, 27.0; Conlee, Allegan, 28.5; Baker, South, 29.
- 220-yard Dash—Rice, Union, 23.7; Barnes, South, 24.3; Smith, Allegan, 24.5; Bullen, Tech, 25 seconds.
- Half-mile Relay—Ottawa (Blackburn, Jefferson, Luce, Strehl), 1:30.0; South, 1:37.5; Allegan, 1:38.2; Tech, 1:39.
- Shotput—Millman, South, 45 feet 7 inches; Grams, Union, 43 feet 7 inches; Finn, Allegan, 42 feet 1 inch; Duncan, Central, 41 feet 0 inches.
- High Jump—McDonald, South and Wieland, South, tied, 5 feet 7 1/2 inches; Anderson, Central, 5 feet 0 inches; Jefferson, Ottawa, 5 feet 0 inches; Parady, Creston, and Barrett, Allegan, tied, 5 feet 4 inches.
- Pole Vault—VanCampen, Ottawa, and Mknavich, Union, tied, 10 feet 5 inches; Hubbard, South, 10 feet 1 inch; Barrett, Creston; Barkin, Creston, and Vesler, Creston, tied, 9 feet 8 inches; Hultman, Central, 9 feet 0 inches.
- Broad Jump—Duncan, Central, 20 feet 5 inches; Peavey, South, 20 feet, 2 inches; Jefferson, Ottawa, 20 feet 1 inch; Ross, Creston, 18 feet 10 inches.