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Mt. Morris Athlet

Prep Track Summaries

Class B Mark Betters One Set in Class A

Jackson Ace Holds 4:30.8 Record for Ten Minutes

EAST LANSING, May 25—An unheralded miler from Mt. Morris made high-school track history here today.

Ralph Brakeroy, running for a class B school, dashed the mile in 4:30.2 in the annual State meet, the fastest mile ever registered in the prep division of Michigan's former. Dashed to the current went for Brakeroy's performance when he sprinted to the front of the field to become the first Michigan prep ace to step the mile under 4:30.

It was by all odds the finest performance in the history of the 711 high school track and field athletes compete for the big State meet. The old record, a mark which had never won track titles were crowned state champions in the four classes, while eight records were broken and two equaled.

Brakeroy's time came as a fitting climax to a great meet. It took away the glory from another great mile run by Fox Wesley, Ann Arbor ace, who ran in 4:31, namely 10 minutes before Brakeroy, Wesley set a Class A record, but it was short-lived because of the mark George Miles, of Kalamazoo, set in 1935.

Wesley's mark lasted great until Brakeroy, a slender boy with a flaming red head of hair, came. Then it was all Brakeroy as he set his own pace in the last half mile for his record mile.

The new team champions are Class A, Battle Creek Central; Class B, East Grand Rapids in Class C and Bath, a tiny school in Class D. Battle Creek took the Class A crown with 29½ points. East Lansing finished with 26 1/12 points, East Grand Rapids had 25 and Bath 20.

Registers 19 Points

While Brakeroy was the talk of the new meet, it remained for Bert Copeland, of Benton Harbor, to top the individual scoring with a total of 19 points with victories in the 100- and 220-yard dashes and the broad jump.

Another individual star was Bob Derby, of Detroit Northwestern football fullback from Fremont. Derby scored 15½ points by winning the shot put and the discus, tossing a leg on the winning relay team and placing fifth in the shot put.

In setting the Class A mile mark Brakeroy erased one of the oldest records in the books. He was 17 straight mile runs.

The Class A mark broken Saturday was the 880-yard record set by Ray Arnold, of Detroit Western, in 1926. Harold Carpenter, of Royal Oak, clipped nine-tenths of a second off the Class B mile by stepping the distance in 1:59 flat.

Battle Creek won the Class A title by a margin of 4½ points over the next. Its half-mile relay Grand Rapids South was second in the Class A mile relay. Flint Northern, Battle Creek Central and Muskegon Heights were tied with 21 points. River Rouge, 1939 Class A champion, finished with 8½ points for fourteenth place.

Huron Track Team

State 5-25-1940 DFP

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