

Saginaw High Drops Relay Track Crown

ANN ARBOR, April 15 (AP)—Flint Northern staged a thrill-packed finish here tonight to dethrone Saginaw, longtime king of the Class A schools, in the 11th annual River Rouge relays.

The victorious Vikings won the final melodramatic 880-yard relay to finish with 39 points, edging Ann Arbor with 38 and Saginaw with 37½.

The relay team of Ken Rankin, Leroy Bolden, Ellis Duckett and Sylvester Collins, raced home with a new meet record of 1:35.4 in the event when the chips were down.

The win wiped out a 1947 meet record of 1:36.3 set in 1947 by the defending titlist who had won the Class A crown for the last three years. Going into the final event, Ann Arbor led with 30 points, trailed by Saginaw with 27½ and Flint Northern with 27.

The Flint triumph provided one of eight record performances that thrilled a crowd of 1,000 in Michigan's Yost field house as Dundee retained its Class-C-D title by edging Milan, 35½ to 30, and Plymouth ousted Ypsilanti as the Class B king.

Sprinkling the fine overall performance was the record 6 foot 3 3/16 inch high jump by Bay City Central gangling Milt Mead, a C-D pole vault record by Jack Kelly of South Lake, a record Class A mile run by Ann Arbor's George Jayne and classy double performances by Jack Goodridge of Dundee and Ken Sparks of Charlotte.

Goodridge turned in a record high jump of 5 feet 10 inches and a .079 performance in the 65-yard low hurdles. Sparks took the Class B shot put with a heave of 49 feet 10 inches and hit 11 feet 9 inches in the pole vault event.

Walled Lake took the Class B sprint medley and Holt set the Class C-D mark.

Everett's Johnny Kinnane was second in the pole vault, and John Bachman of East Lansing was right behind Sparks in the shot. Ed Townsend, another Everett veteran, ran second in the Class B mile. Everett's sprint relay team was fourth.

Jerry Ketchum of East Lansing was fourth in the high jump. Everett's Duane Smith ran fifth in the 60-yard dash.

River Rouge Indoor 4-15-1950

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jeffhollobaugh
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Saginaw Dethroned in Relays

**Flint Northern Wins
Last Rouge Event**

BY HAL SCHRAM
Flint Free Staff Writer

ANN ARBOR — Overwhelming power in the dashes and hurdles brought Flint Northern High School its first River Rouge Relays title here Saturday night.

The Vikings swept both relays and picked up seconds in the two hurdles and 400-yard dash to roll up 59 points and dethrone Saginaw.

SAGINAW WAS gunning for its fourth straight Class A championship, but the Vikings were not to be denied. Saginaw wound up third with 27½ points behind Northern and Ann Arbor, which finished second with 38.

Plymouth ended Vesperia's three-year reign as Class B champion, clinching its first title with a victory in the 880-yard relay, final event of the night.

Dundee was the only defending champion to take home a second trophy.

Dundee edged its Huron Valley foe, Milan, in a two-team race, 25.1 to 20.1-2.

A usual, the 1,000 athletes from 85 schools received the relayed books for 2,000 fans in Yost Field House.

EIGHT MARKS fell while two others were tied.

Jeffrey Belden and Edna Duckett, two Alchdale female players, teamed with Ken Rankin and Syd Stevens to claim coach Stroh's triumph in the 880-yard relay.

The Vikings entered the final event trailing both Ann Arbor and Saginaw. But the speedy Northern quartet outpaced the two foes to win by three yards over Saginaw. Ann Arbor finished another two strides off the pace.

Earlier in the afternoon, it was a sensational 800 by Ed Hopper which featured Northern's triumph in the muddy relay. Hopper turned in a fine 2:30 performance for the half-mile race.

GLENN MARKS did his bit to keep Saginaw on the title trail by winning both the pole vault and the hurdles. He was named the meet's top individual performer in Class A.

Roy Cline's 300 Meter came through as expected in the high jump. The 8-foot 8-inch winner scored a record 8 feet, 3-3/8 inches, almost a full inch better than the current outdoor State record.

The Class B standout was Charlotte's Ken Sparks, who set records in winning the shot put and 11 feet 9 inches and tossed the shot 49 feet, 10 inches.

Jack Goodright, of Detroit, missed by a single point of equalling his individual point output of a year ago.

He won the high jump with a record leap of five feet, 10 1/2 inches, brought home first in the high hurdles and finished second in Billie's Hurdle position in the low hurdles for 17 points.

The performance brought him the honor of outstanding athlete in the Class C-D division for the second straight year.

Leading team totals:
 CLASS A—Flint Northern 59, Ann Arbor 38, Plymouth 35, Vesperia 30, Kalamazoo 17, Battle Creek 13, Flint 10, Saginaw 7 1/2.
 CLASS B—Plymouth 35, Westland 20, Kalamazoo 17, Battle Creek 13, Flint 10, Saginaw 7 1/2.
 CLASS C-D—Detroit 25, J.P.S. 20, Flint 15, Pontiac 12, I.P.S. 10, Grand Haven 10, Detroit 10, Detroit University 8 1/2.

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