

or Last Time

Ann Arbor Edged By Flint Northern For Title In Class A

By Dave Tefft

The River Rouge Relays, Ann Arbor style, at least, came to a more-or-less peaceful end here Saturday with new team champions taking over in two classes and new records being established in seven events.

Pre-meet rumors that Saturday's 13th running of what had developed into the nation's largest one-day prep school track meet would be the last were confirmed today by Don Canham, Michigan track coach and meet director, and Frank 'Buck' Weeber, River Rouge High athletic director and meet planner. Canham said he had already informed Charles Forsythe, director of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, as well as Weeber that Michigan no longer felt it could host the gigantic three-class meet which has drawn more than 1,000 entries annually in the past four years.

Michigan's recent inclusion in the regional phase of the state high school basketball tournament picture and in the state track championship program prompted the decision to abandon the indoor meet, Canham said. Despite excellent planning and handling by Elmer Swanson, Canham's Michigan assistant who had taken over the meet direction in recent years, the affair had become so bulky it was hard to handle. Streamlining of the program and limitation of entries to one-per-school for each event also detracted from the meet's worth to competitors.

Saturday's final program also developed more than the usual number of minor rhubarbs which served mostly to put Swanson undeservedly on the spot and point up the fact that none of the meet officials, from Weeber on down, cares to assume responsibility for deciding protests.

Continuation of the meet at another site under the present plan seems doubtful since no place other than Michigan State College and possibly Central Michigan College has the facilities to handle it.

Meanwhile, Saturday's meet results proved Ann Arbor and the surrounding area again have their share of top-notchers although none of the local teams appears sufficiently balanced to develop into state championship threats.

For the third successive year, the Class A team crown eluded Coach Tim Ryan's Ann Arbor High Pioneers by less than a point. The Ann Arborites hit the scoreboard in every event save the final 880-yard relay and that race proved decisive as its winner, Flint Northern, used the 12-point total to grab the team title with 28 points to the Pioneers' 27½.

Ann Arbor thinclads, incidentally, feel they were the victims of a bad decision in the half-mile relay which cost them the meet. On the anchor leg of their section, a Flint Northern runner, out in front, veered into Pioneer Bill Newman's lane after the baton pass and slowed Newman's getaway considerably. The protest was not allowed. Had Northern been set back or Ann Arbor moved up the latter would have won the team championship.

Trailing in Class A were Dearborn with 27 points and Flint Central and Pontiac with 20 each. Nine other schools earned points.

Two records fell in the top class. Ypsilanti High's fine miler, Jim Seidl, stepped the distance in 4:40 flat to improve the 1951 standard of 4:41.4 established by Battle Creek's Jim Arnold. Wyandotte's Duane Root, named the outstanding athlete in Class A, set a new mark of 7.6 seconds in winning the 65-yard low hurdles and equalled the meet record of :08.2 in taking the high.

In Class B, Ecorse repeated at team titlist with 29½ points to second-place Marshall's 27½. This area's lone representative, Howell, finished fifth with 20½ points. Mt. Pleasant's Dave Goodell, whose winning shot put of 51 feet, six inches established a new meet record, was voted outstanding in the class. Marshall's sprint-medley team of Durwood Curtis, Al Cornwell, Bill Burns and Ken Coleman, also established a new record at 3:51.9.

The Class C-D team title went to East Jackson by the narrowest of margins, 30-29 5/6 over Lansing Everett. Saline's upsurging Hornets finished third with 24 points. Milan counted 16 points to tie for fifth with Lincoln Consolidated, U High was ninth with 11½ points, being denied an almost certain higher place when its 880-yard relay team was disqualified for cutting a corner, and Chelsea finished in a 15th-place tie with three points. Ypsilanti Roosevelt failed to win a point.

Saline's speedy Joe Graf paced the Hornets to their fine finish. He teamed with Howard Braun, Wayne Luckhardt, and Egon Gross to win the sprint medley relay in record time of 3:57.1, and later won the 60-yard dash in 6.5 seconds for another meet record. Jerry Gonser added to Saline's total by winning the mile run in excellent time of 4:42.5.

Bill Wilson, placing second in both hurdle races and the high jump, proved a one-man team for Lincoln by scoring 15 of his school's 16 points.

U High protested at length its disqualification in the half-mile relay but received no satisfaction. The Cubs and two other teams in their section received the boot for cutting inside a corner which, Cub coaches and supporters insisted, was poorly marked. The marking was improved after the incident. The three disqualified teams each turned in times sufficiently good for placings among the first six.

East Jackson's Ray Eggleston, who won both hurdle races and set a meet record of five feet, 11½ inches in placing first in the high jump, was voted outstanding athlete in his class. His 7.6-second

clocking in the low hurdles equalled the meet record.

Following is the school-by-school record achieved Saturday by athletes from Ann Arbor and surrounding communities.

CLASS A

ANN ARBOR — Prentz Ware (6th in 60-yard dash); Don Franklin (tie for 1st in high jump); Marv Baker (5th in high hurdles); Bob Barr (tie for 2nd in pole vault); Chuck Martin (2nd in mile); Duane Calvert (6th in low hurdles); Hugh Correll (4th in shot); sprint medley team finished 4th.

YPSILANTI — Jim Seidl (1st in mile in record time of 4:40); Bill Neely (tie for 2nd in high jump).

CLASS B

HOWELL — Carman Kypko (1st in pole vault — 11 feet, 8 inches); Hulley (tie for 1st in mile — 4:45.9); Bill Hilton (2nd in low hurdles); Bob Brown (3rd in shot put).

CLASS C-D

UNIVERSITY HIGH — Jerry Wolf (3rd in dash); Howard Young (tie for 1st in pole vault — 16 feet, 8 inches); Don Johnston (4th in low hurdles).

SALINE — Joe Graf (1st in 60-yard dash in record time of :06.5); Jerry Gonser (1st in mile — 4:42.5); sprint medley team (Howard Braun, Graf, Wayne Luckhardt, Egon Gross) first in record time of 3:57.1.

CHELSEA — Bill Berko (4th in mile). MILAN — Larry Dealson (3rd in low hurdles); Fred Teichhart (5th in pole vault); Floyd Richardson (6th in high hurdles).

LINCOLN CONSOLIDATED — Bill Wilson (2nd in high hurdles, 2nd in low hurdles, 2nd in high jump); 880-yard relay team tied for 6th.

or Last Time

Ann Arbor Edged By Flint Northern For Title In Class A

By Dave Tefft

The River Rouge Relays, Ann Arbor style, at least, came to a more-or-less peaceful end here Saturday with new team champions taking over in two classes and new records being established in seven events.

Pre-meet rumors that Saturday's 13th running of what had developed into the nation's largest one-day prep school track meet would be the last were confirmed today by Don Canham, Michigan track coach and meet director, and Frank 'Buck' Weeber, River Rouge High athletic director and meet planner. Canham said he had already informed Charles Forsythe, director of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, as well as Weeber that Michigan no longer felt it could host the gigantic three-class meet which has drawn more than 1,000 entries annually in the past four years.

Michigan's recent inclusion in the regional phase of the state high school basketball tournament picture and in the state track championship program prompted the decision to abandon the indoor meet, Canham said. Despite excellent planning and handling by Elmer Swanson, Canham's Michigan assistant who had taken over the meet direction in recent years, the affair had become so bulky it was hard to handle. Stream-lining of the program and limitation of entries to one-per-school for each event also detracted from the meet's worth to competitors.

Saturday's final program also developed more than the usual number of minor rhuarbs which served mostly to put Swanson undeservedly on the spot and point up the fact that none of the meet officials, from Weeber on down, cares to assume responsibility for deciding protests.

Continuation of the meet at another site under the present plan seems doubtful since no place other than Michigan State College and possibly Central Michigan College has the facilities to handle it.

Meanwhile, Saturday's meet results proved Ann Arbor and the surrounding area again have their share of top-notchers although none of the local teams appears sufficiently balanced to develop into state championship threats.

For the third successive year, the Class A team crown eluded Coach Tim Ryan's Ann Arbor High Pioneers by less than a point. The Ann Arborites hit the scoreboard in every event save the final 880-yard relay and that race proved decisive as its winner, Flint Northern, used the 12-point total to grab the team title with 28 points to the Pioneers' 27½.

Ann Arbor thinclads, incidentally, feel they were the victims of a bad decision in the half-mile relay which cost them the meet. On the anchor leg of their section, a Flint Northern runner, out in front, veered into Pioneer Bill Newman's lane after the baton pass and slowed Newman's getaway considerably. The protest was not allowed. Had Northern been set back or Ann Arbor moved up the latter would have won the team championship.

Trailing in Class A were Dearborn with 27 points and Flint Central and Pontiac with 20 each. Nine other schools earned points.

Two records fell in the top class. Ypsilanti High's fine miler, Jim Seidl, stepped the distance in 4:40 flat to improve the 1951 standard of 4:41.4 established by Battle Creek's Jim Arnold. Wyandotte's Duane Root, named the outstanding athlete in Class A, set a new mark of 7.6 seconds in winning the 65-yard low hurdles and equalled the meet record of :08.2 in taking the high.

In Class B, Ecorse repeated at team titlist with 29½ points to second-place Marshall's 27½. This area's lone representative, Howell, finished fifth with 20½ points. Mt. Pleasant's Dave Goodell, whose winning shot put of 51 feet, six inches established a new meet record, was voted outstanding in the class. Marshall's sprint-medley team of Durwood Curtis, Al Cornwell, Bill Burns and Ken Coleman, also established a new record at 3:51.9.

The Class C-D team title went to East Jackson by the narrowest of margins, 30-29 5/6 over Lansing Everett. Saline's upsurging Hornets finished third with 24 points. Milan counted 16 points to tie for fifth with Lincoln Consolidated, U High was ninth with 11½ points, being denied an almost certain higher place when its 880-yard relay team was disqualified for cutting a corner, and Chelsea finished in a 15th-place tie with three points. Ypsilanti Roosevelt failed to win a point.

Saline's speedy Joe Graf paced the Hornets to their fine finish. He teamed with Howard Braun, Wayne Luckhardt, and Egon Gross to win the sprint medley relay in record time of 3:57.1, and later won the 60-yard dash in 6.5 seconds for another meet record. Jerry Gonser added to Saline's total by winning the mile run in excellent time of 4:42.5.

Bill Wilson, placing second in both hurdle races and the high jump, proved a one-man team for Lincoln by scoring 15 of his school's 16 points.

U High protested at length its disqualification in the half-mile relay but received no satisfaction. The Cubs and two other teams in their section received the boot for cutting inside a corner which, Cub coaches and supporters insisted, was poorly marked. The marking was improved after the incident. The three disqualified teams each turned in times sufficiently good for placings among the first six.

East Jackson's Ray Eggleston, who won both hurdle races and set a meet record of five feet, 11½ inches in placing first in the high jump, was voted outstanding athlete in his class. His 7.6-second

clocking in the low hurdles equalled the meet record.

Following is the school-by-school record achieved Saturday by athletes from Ann Arbor and surrounding communities.

CLASS A

ANN ARBOR — Prentz Ware (6th in 60-yard dash); Don Franklin (tie for 1st in high jump); Marv Baker (5th in high hurdles); Bob Barr (tie for 2nd in pole vault); Chuck Martin (2nd in mile); Duane Calvert (6th in low hurdles); Hugh Correll (4th in shot); sprint medley team finished 4th.

YPSILANTI — Jim Seidl (1st in mile in record time of 4:40); Bill Neely (tie for 2nd in high jump).

CLASS B

HOWELL — Carman Kypko (1st in pole vault — 11 feet, 8 inches); Hulley (tie for 1st in mile — 4:45.9); Bill Hilton (2nd in low hurdles); Bob Brown (3rd in shot put).

CLASS C-D

UNIVERSITY HIGH — Jerry Wolf (3rd in dash); Howard Young (tie for 1st in pole vault — 16 feet, 8 inches); Don Johnston (4th in low hurdles).

SALINE — Joe Graf (1st in 60-yard dash in record time of :06.5); Jerry Gonser (1st in mile — 4:42.5); sprint medley team (Howard Braun, Graf, Wayne Luckhardt, Egon Gross) first in record time of 3:57.1.

CHELSEA — Bill Berko (4th in mile). MILAN — Larry Dealson (3rd in low hurdles); Fred Teichhart (5th in pole vault); Floyd Richardson (6th in high hurdles).

LINCOLN CONSOLIDATED — Bill Wilson (2nd in high hurdles, 2nd in low hurdles, 2nd in high jump); 880-yard relay team tied for 6th.