

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1955.

Central

Battle Creek Top Threat in Annual Meet

Maroons Count on Individual Stars.

By JACK MOSS

The final chapter in Kalamazoo Central's 1955 rags-to-riches track and field story will be written Friday at Angell Field.

That's when the Six-A League championship will be determined with field events and dash and hurdle preliminaries scheduled for 3:30 in the afternoon and running event finals at 8 in the evening.

Coach Elf Pedler's Maroon Giant thinlins were clobbered by Elkhart, Ind., High in their opening dual meet of the season, 70 to 39, and the Kalamazooans hardly looked like title contenders.

But the squad, made up chiefly of underclassmen, came along fast to win the Albion Invitational and Class A regional crowns and finished fourth in the Class A state finals last Saturday.

A team title in Friday's Six-A meet would close the books on one of Central's greatest track years.

And there's little reason to believe that Central won't come through to replace Lansing Sexton as Six-A titlist.

Pedler has individual standouts, who figure to win many valuable firsts.

Miller Jim Collier, state champion 880 ace Bob Lake, and quarter-miler Dave Snyder are among the meet favorites.

Other possible firsts could be scored by either Larry Brownell or Bill Johnson in the broad jump, Vern White in the high hurdles, the Maroon Giant 880 relay team, miler Bruce Matteson and shot putter John Sverna.

Battle Creek looms as most serious threat to Central's title chances. The Bearcats have a fine medley team, John Angood in the 440, Bob Jones in the 220 and Harold Stancle in the 880 in addition to state champion pole vaulter Dick Donnell.

Lansing Sexton has sprint man Bill Hall, 440 ace Dick Bigelow and high jumper Joe Thompson are top first place threats, but Coach Charley Sweeney's Big Reds lack the depth that carried them to the league title last year.

Behind Central, Battle Creek and Sexton come Ann Arbor, Lansing Eastern, and Jackson, all with good individuals but not seriously regarded as title threats.

Jackson has pole vaulter Ken Miller and miler Karl Parrish, Ann Arbor has Nick Rayer a good 880 man and Eastern has high jumper Mike Ellison, dash-hurdle star Jack Clark and half-miler Frank Green.

Points will be scored on a 5-4-3-2-1 basis except in races (the 440) where two heats are run. These races will be scored 5-3-1. Relay events will be scored 10-8-6-4-2.

Joe Bogart, Kalamazoo College track coach, is meet manager.

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