

Oppose 11 Rivals in Relays at Central Michigan

Tribe Sophs Face Indoor Test

By LEN HOYES

Performances of a talented sophomore group Friday night should tell whether or not Central High's track hopes are for real.

The Indians' runner-up finish in the Huron Relays two weeks ago indicated Coach Carl Krieger's club might be the class of the Saginaw Valley Conference. But Friday night's 12-team indoor meet at Central Michigan University will be a better indicator.

Where each team was restricted to one man per individual event in the Ypsilanti meet, each team may enter three men on Friday. This meet emphasizes depth and if the Tribe is "loaded" as some observers feel, it should come out in a 12-event test which approximates an outdoor track meet.

EIGHT VALLEY MEMBERS — all except Southwestern Michigan—are joined by Traverse City, Muskegon, Lansing Eastern and Mount Pleasant. Preliminaries begin at 6 p.m., the field events at 7 and the running finals at 8. This meet traditionally brings together a select field because nine of 12 previous champs have gone on to win state championships.

Northern High, defending a three-year grip on the title, and Pontiac Central probably are the Indians' toughest rivals. These three have accounted for 10 championships, 11 second places and six thirds in the 12-year history of the event.

Coach Norbert Badar figures this is a building year for the Vikings. Of 14 men taken to the 1963 state meet—Northern was champ — only sprinters Willie Buck and Gene Byrd and quartermiler Rozeal Graves are back. Of 11 lettermen, only Buck and polevaulter Ernie Talley placed in the Valley championships.

BUT BADAR HAS A knack of developing talent and Northern undoubtedly will be stronger in another month.

However, if Central's sophs develop, the Indians may be too tough for the Vikings.

Hurdlers Len Hatchett and Gene Bowers, sprinters Lew Patton and Henry Purches and shotputter Dick Bowers are the best of the yearlings. Since Krieger already has a fine sprinter in George Hoey, two good high jumpers in MacHenry Johnson and Leroy Blasingame and two good shotputters in Mel Summers and Ken Baker, the Indians could be tough.

Polevaulter Joe Lee, hurdlers E. J. Williams and Archie Pearson, milers Al Smith and Ken Moore, quartermiler John Love, sprinters Lacey Jones and Richard Hogan and half-milers Jim Horsley, Pat Kirby, Tiny Laster and Gary Laster and-high jumper Willie Shepard are capable performers.

NORTHERN IS COUNTING on hurdlers Monroe Dent and Al Collins, milers Steve Thompson and Steve Narrin, sprinters Jim Humphrey, Gil Dorsey, Tom Robinson and Leon Blackman, shotputter Elie Ghattas, halfmilers Porter Cooper and Denny Lumsden, polevaulters Dale Patton and Gary Bickerseth and high jumper Leroy Scott for heavy duty.

Neither Northern nor Central has any returnee who placed first or second in last year's Mount Pleasant meet. Buck's third in the 60-yard dash was the best finish by a returnee.

Pontiac will be helped by the addition of several basketball players who reported late. The Chiefs have finished lower than third only once in the last 11 years at Mount Pleasant.

96 Cage Hopefuls In Olympic Trials

NEW YORK (UPI) — Prob- only goes to the foul line if he lems begin today for 96 Olympic basketball hopefuls when the referee tosses up an "oversized soccer ball." Then things get worse.

After three days and 12 games at St. John's University this weekend, the 20-man Olympic Committee will select 12 of the players and six alternates to represent the United States in the Olympic games at Tokyo this October.

is fouled in the act of shooting and misses ... until the last five minutes, when all fouls are penalized with two shots.

Hank Iba, the veteran Oklahoma State coach who passed the 700 victory mark this past season, will be the head coach of the U. S. team when it's finally assembled.