

# Betts, Stewart Alter Roles; Patino Out

Two opponents in the final game of the Class B state basketball tournament had opposite fortunes in Friday's Class B meet at The State Journal-Spark in High School Relays. For Willie Betts of River Rouge the day was filled with disappointment as he was upset by Willow Run's Lamar Miller in both hurdle races. But for Tom Stewart of Lakeview, how-

ever, it was a surprising day as he won the pole vault. In that state basketball final, which Rouge won 88-67, Betts scored 21 points while Stewart had 18. Betts, who won both hurdles in the Class B state meet last year, started training for track less than two weeks ago but he had a stiff workout Friday, running a total of eight races.

Betts, who won a gold medal by anchoring the winning shuttle hurdles relay team, showed that he knew how to lose although the experience is pretty new to him. "I have no excuses for what happened tonight," he said after the meet. "He just beat me. I can take defeat." Like Betts, Stewart had been training for only a short time

but he looked impressive in the pole vault, winning at 12 feet, 7 1/4 inches and making a good attempt at 13 feet. Besides his vaulting, Stewart also was fourth in the low hurdles. One of the outstanding athletes in either the Class B or the Class A section of the meet was Miller, a 5-10 senior whose father is the Flyers' coach.

Miller placed fourth in the high hurdles and second in the 220-yard dash at last year's state meet but looked like he would improve on that performance this year with his strong showing Friday. He won both hurdles in fast time, took third in the broad jump and ran on the third-place

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880-yard relay team for a total of 13 3/4 points, best by any athlete in the Class B meet. Miller is reportedly bound for Michigan State.

A spectator could get dizzy watching all of the races in the two days of the Relays. A total of 121 races were run both days, 46 in Class B and 75 in Class A, counting heats, semifinals and finals.

The strongest local showing made in Class B was by Haslett and Coach Ron Rittenburg's Vikings should make a strong showing in the Capital Circuit this year.

Rittenburg has one athlete who's trying to compete in two sports at the same time. He's Gary Bissell, who ran on the two-mile relay team Friday. Bissell was the state Class B 163-pound wrestling champion this year and plans to compete in the regional Olympic wrestling tryouts in Zeeland later in the month.

One of the first disappointments to Lansing Area fans in the class A section of the meet Saturday came when Everett's Henry Patino, the favorite in both hurdles events, was sidelined with a knee injury.

Patino ran :08.8 in his heat of the 70-yard high hurdles but suffered a bruised knee. However, he qualified in his heat of the 70-yard low hurdles with an :08.2, best time in the heat. However, his injured knee stiffened after that and he was forced to drop out of the high hurdles semifinals.

Coach Ron Barr then scratched his star senior from the low hurdles semifinal and the 880-yard relay which ran at night. Patino might be sidelined as long as two weeks.

Some Greater Lansing half milers ran fast times in the two-mile relay, but none of the teams could score. Best time by city athletes was turned in by Dion Stewart of East Lansing, who clocked a 2:01.9 anchor leg. But the Trojans placed sixth in final, which was won by Howell.

Howell's Chuck Majewski, a Golden Gloves novice state heavyweight champion and all-Capital Circuit tackle in football, competed for the Highlanders in the shot put and sprint relay.

Two city pole vaulters set personal bests in the meet. Everett sophomore Duane Wells cleared 12-2 to tie for fourth while Tom Miller of Sexton vaulted 11-2, but failed to place. Well's previous best was 11-6 while Miller had previously done 11-feet-even.