

City Girl Sets Record In AAU Meet

(Special to The News)

HANFORD, Calif. — Ann Arbor's Francie Kraker has a point to prove at the National AAU Women's Track and Field Meet and most doubts about her are already erased.

Francie is out to prove that she's the best girl half-miler in the country. If yesterday's qualification heats in the meet are any indication, the point shouldn't be hard for her to make. The Ann Arbor lass stepped to a victory in her heat of the 880-yard race in 2:19.5, an American record in the event, new for girls. She qualified for the final race today, against other heat winners, Susie Byersdorfer of the Wills, Calif., Spikettes (2:25) and Mary Anderson of San Mateo, Calif., (2:22.5). The old stadium record was 2:24.7.

Francie's teammate on the Ann Arbor Anns Track Club, Louise Gerrish of Livonia, qualified for the finals of the javelin by placing third yesterday with a toss of 141 feet, 4 1/2 inches. Lurline Hamilton of the Louisiana Track Club qualified first with 144-1 and Linda Haverlation of Sherman Oak, Calif., threw the shaft 144 feet.

Both the Misses Kraker and Gerrish are competing in the 17-and-under age group.

Another Michigan girl, Karen Dennis of Detroit, won her qualifying 220-yard heat and reached the finals with a time of 25.5.

One other record was broken and two tied in yesterday's preliminaries. Debbie Thompson of the Frederick, Neb., Track Club made her bid to succeed Wilma Rudolph as America's queen of sprints by running to a record 8.1 in the 75-yard dash.

A field of 370 girls are competing in the event.