

LSJ 4-1-1967

# Ecorse Wins Class B Title In Journal-Spartan Relays

By HAL BATEMAN  
State Journal Sports Writer

Competition for team honors in the State Journal-Spartan High School Relays is getting too tight.

It's reached the point where a slight stumble or a nicked hurdle is enough to drop a team from first to fourth in the team standings.

If you think that's an exaggeration then you weren't one of the 1,000 paying customers plus 1,100 athletes who saw the Class B portion of the meet at Jenison Fieldhouse Friday night.

The meet has been noted for its tight team finishes but it outdid itself Friday as only 3 1/2 points separated the first

## CLASS B SUMMARY Page A-12, Col. 1

five teams in the standings with Ecorse finally capturing the coveted team trophy for the second straight year.

The Raiders from the Twin Valley League scored 17 1/2 points to edge league rival Willow Run, which had 17, and Erie-Mason, which was third at 16. Oxford was a close fourth at 15 1/2 and Detroit Lutheran West rounded out the first five at 14.

Competition just as keen was expected tonight when the Class A portion of the meet concluded at Jenison with finals in 10 events. The action started this afternoon for the 1,250 athletes from 78 high schools.

Ecorse, which looked hopelessly out of the team race

in the afternoon session, won the title the hard way by taking a fourth in the final mile relay event after the second Ecorse runner fell on an exchange. He got up, however, and the Raiders worked themselves back into contention.

Ecorse took only one first but had enough balance to win by a whisker. The winning margin turned out to be a tie for fifth place in the high jump by Dave Purifoy good for a half point. Earlier, Purifoy had taken second in the shot put. The biggest haul for the Raiders, however, was in the 880 yard relay when they won for five points.

With outside temperatures in the 70s, it definitely was not the weather for an indoor meet. Temperatures in the 80s kept the temp warm inside Jenison and maybe the hot weather helped make for the even competition.

Erie Mason, Willow Run and Detroit Lutheran West were the only teams to score double victories while Oxford won a title outright and tied for first in another.

The Wildcats from Oxford looked like they had the title wrapped up in the afternoon but two misfortunes in the evening ruined their title chances. In the 880 relay, Oxford was running third in the fast final heat when the Wildcat anchor man inexplicably fell about 20 yards from the finish to drop the team out of a scoring place.

In the shuttle hurdles relay, the Wildcats had the lead on the last leg but their anchorman clobbered two hurdles and Charlotte swept by to capture the title. Oxford wound up fourth in the event to lose three points, which would have been enough for victory.

The only individual double winner was Erle Mason's

Wayne Hartwick, who won both the high and low hurdles.

The outstanding athlete, however, would have to be miler Ron Strang of Lutheran West, who accounted for one of the two meet records set in the Class B competition. Strang lowered his own meet record

from 4:26.9 to 4:25.7 to beat the opposition by nearly 100 yards.

The only other record came in the afternoon when Detroit St. Anthony won the two-mile relay in 8:24.8, two tenths of a second under the old record set by Dearborn Heights Riverside last year.

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## Tickets at Gate

Tickets will be available at the gate tonight for the concluding portion of the Class A section in the State Journal-Spartan High School Relays in Jenison Fieldhouse.

The meet started this afternoon with finals in three events with the remaining 10 finals slated for tonight.

The first running event tonight will be the 75-yard high hurdle final at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$2 for adults and \$1 for students.

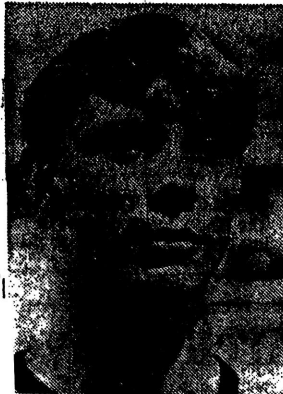
# Pole Vaulters From Waverly Shares Title

Waverly pole vaulter Bob Fitzke is a very surprised Class B co-champion of The State Journal-Spartan High School Relays.

When the Class B pole vault ended at 4:45 p.m. Friday, Fitzke and Ken March of Oxford had both cleared 12-foot-6 but the Oxford vaulter was awarded first place on the misses rule.

However, a check made during the dinner break showed that Fitzke should have been given a tie for first rather than a second.

When the Waverly senior showed up for the night session at 6:30 p.m., he learned he had earned a co-championship. His 12-6 effort, a Waverly school record, was particularly impressive since he had been practicing for only a week.



His performance worth 4 1/2 points helped the Warriors take 13th place in the team standings with 5 1/2 points. Howell was the top area placer in seventh with 12 points while Charlotte was eighth with 11. Haslett and Okemos tied for 17th at four points while Ionia tied for 22nd at two points.

"I'm faster and stronger than I was last year," said Fitzke, who had 12-2 for a school record last season.

Fitzke looked good when he cleared 12-6 on his first attempt but on his first try at 13 feet even his favorite fiberglass pole snapped into several pieces in the middle of his vault. He did a somersault in midair and landed a little shaken but uninjured.

He had to borrow a pole for his remaining vaults at 13 feet but didn't come close.

Waverly picked up its other point when Lamont Beard placed fifth in the mile at 4:45.3.

Charlotte accounted for the only other area victory when the quartet of Eric Wilmore, Joe Bartolacci, Terry Miller and Mike Fleming was a surprise winner in the shuttle hurdle relay with a :30.2 performance.

Fleming also placed third in the high hurdles while Wilmore

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Fleming also placed third in the high hurdles while Wilmore was third in the long jump at 20-10 inches.

One of the closest local races was in the two-mile relay where Haslett edged Howell, 8:31.0 to 8:32.2, for second place but Detroit St. Anthony was the easy winner. Don Cecil sparked Haslett with a 2:02.9 anchor leg.

Howell's other points came when Rick Hahn was fourth in the shot put at 50-10 1/2, a fifth in the sprint medley relay, a third in the low hurdles by Pat Eaton and a third in the mile relay.

The only points for Okemos came when Tom Yunch placed second in the mile at 4:37.1 while Al Pearson accounted for both of Ionia's points by taking fourth in the pole vault at 12 feet.

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youths from Class A sch Tom Thon, Saginaw Arthu and Mike Rafferty of Bir ham S e a h o l m. Others v Gerry Gerard, L'Anse; Pal ler, Menominee and John la of Flint St. Matthew.

Dean, Miller and McI along with Flushing's Bill ser and Ron Goodin of M ville made up the Class B team.

The second team in cla included: Ron Alcorn, Bay J o h n Glenn, Dan Leskie Lamphere; Bill Zhulkie, peming; Bill Cohrs, Vicks and John Thomas, Willow In Class C, Mike Hacke s a r t e champion Mt. Ple Sacred Heart was selecte the first team along with art of L'Anse, Al i n k a l Wakefield, Harold Lowe, D Visitation and Steve Mar Flint St. Michael.

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Leslie's Chuck Lay was n to the Class C second along with Bill Hoelzer of ton, Tim Baughman, D e t Country Day, Bill Beckm; S h e l b y and Dean Ke L'Anse.

Named to the Class D team were Sperla and tear Paul Staroba of St. Ma along with Terry Conrad, I Jack Judge of Peck and ston's Randy Lyons.

Selected for the second in Class D were: Bill Bess Trout Creek; Randy Foch; Hermansville; John Ma Lawrence; Jim Murray, City St. Joseph and Schwartz of Adrian Ca Central.

**SMILING WOLFPACK** — Here's a Wolfpack that has plenty to smile about after setting a record in the Class C 880-yard relay at The State Journal-Spartan High School Relays Friday night. The Laingsburg quartet of (left to right) Jerry Rustad, Nick DeVault, Dave Carroll and John Arntz was timed in 1:39.1 to break the old record of 1:39.9.

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# Laingsburg, De Witt Win Special Relays

A pair of Central Michigan Athletic Conference teams won the two special Class C relays Friday at the State Journal-Spartan Relays in Jenison Field house.

Laingsburg won the 880-yard

relay and DeWitt the mile relay by leading just about all the way for easy victories.

The Wolfpack from Laingsburg clocked 1:39.1 to break the old record of 1:39.9 set by Portland in 1964. DeWitt didn't come close to a record in its 3:45.0 victory

but still had an easy time winning.

Laingsburg's winning quartet was composed of Nick DeVault, Jerry Rustad, John Arntz and Dave Carroll, Class C state sprint champion, while DeWitt's winning combination was Ed Fosnight, Steve Marhkam, Mike Dolby and Al Young.

Trailing Laingsburg in the 880 relay were Bath at 1:42.6, Boys Training at 1:42.8, Perry at 1:43.2, Middleton-Fulton with 1:43.5, Pewamo-Westphalia at 1:45.0 and Williamston at 1:47.7.

Placing second to DeWitt in the mile relay was Boys Training at 3:49.5 while other placers were Middleton-Fulton, 3:55.2; Perry, 3:55.7; Laingsburg, 3:56.7 and Williamston, 3:59.4.

## Class B Summary

Summaries of the Class B finals of The Lansing State Journal-Spartan high school relays:

**Shot Put** — 1, Mike Denay, Bay City Glenn, 33 feet 5/4 inches; 2, Dave Puritov, Ecorse, 32-8; 3, Bob Frye, Vassar, 32-4; 4, Rick Hahn, Howell, 30-10 3/4; 5, Ron Goodin, Marysville, 29-7 3/4.

**Pole Vault** — 1, (Tie between) Ken Marsh, Oxford, and Bob Fitzke, Lansing Waverly, 12 feet, six inches; 2, Jeff Fansler, Wyoming Rogers, 12-0; 3, Al Pearson, Ionia, 12-0; 5, Dave Boyer, Fremont, 11-4.

**Two Mile Relay** — 1, Detroit St. Anthony (Bob Karkowski, Jim Mortitz, Gary Powers, John Lasky); 2, Haslett; 3, Howell; 4, Oxford; 5, Wyoming Park, 8:24.8 (Bettlers former meet record of 8:25.0 by Dearborn Heights Riverside, 1966.)

**70-Yard High Hurdles** — 1, Wayne Hartwick, Erie Mason; 2, Jim Hawthorne, Ecorse; 3, Mike Fleming, Charlotte; 4, Rick Reichenbach, Bay City Glenn; 5, Tom Harbourne, Livonia Clarenceville, :09.0.

**Sprint Medley Relay** — 1, Willow Run (Don Atkins, David Hart, Dick Coleman, Ron Atkins); 2, River Rouge; 3, Wyoming Rogers; 4, Ecorse; 5, Howell, 2:33.9.

**60-Yard Dash** — 1, Tim Kelley, Oxford; 2, Dick Kluge, Mount Clemens Clintondale; 3, John Schneider, Marshall; 4, David Hart, Willow Run; Les Coloma, Warren, :06.5.

**70-Yard Low Hurdles** — 1, Wayne Hartwick, Erie Mason; 2, Tom Harbourne, Livonia Clarenceville; 3, Pat Eaton, Howell; 4, Tim Leatherman, Wyoming Godwin Heights; 5, Tim Droski, Grand Rapids Kenowa, :08.4.

**Long Jump** — 1, Gordon Wood, Detroit Lutheran West, 21 feet, 2 3/4 inches; 2,

John Goodloe, Dundee, 20-11 1/2; 3, Rick Wilmore, Charlotte, 20-10; 4, Dick Coleman, Ypsilanti Willow Run, 20-8 3/4; 5, Tim Kelley, Oxford, 20-6 3/4.

**880-Yard Relay** — 1, Ecorse (Dewayne Gardner, Ellis Felton, Eric George, Charles Griffin); 2, Detroit Lutheran West; 3, Willow Run; 4, Marshall; 5, Livonia Clarenceville, 1:36.9.

**1 Mile Run** — 1, Ron Strang, Detroit Lutheran West; 2, Tom Yunk, Okemos; 3, Dave Holben, Wyoming Park; 4, Rick Hoetke, Wyoming Rogers; 5, John Heaman, Marysville, 4:25.7 (Bettlers former meet record of 4:26.9 by Strang, 1966.)

**Shuttle Hurdle Relay** — 1, Charlotte (Eric Wilmore, Joe Bartolacci, Terry Miller, Mike Fleming); 2, Tecumseh; 3, Erie-Mason; 4, Oxford; 5, Northville, :30.1.

**High Jump** — 1, Daniel Wellhan, Michigan Center, 5 feet, 10 inches; 2, Gregg Miller, Wyoming Rogers, 5-10; 3, Ron Devines, Erie-Mason, 5-10; 4, Jerry Dikker, Wyoming Park, 5-10; 5, (Tie between) Dave Puritov, Ecorse and Robert Root, Swartz Creek, 5-8. (Places in tying heights decided by fewest misses).

**1 Mile Relay** — 1, Willow Run (Richard Coleman, Ron Atkins, Larry Brown, Don Atkins); 2, River Rouge; 3, Howell; 4, Ecorse; 5, Oxford, 3:35.5.

**Team scoring**—Ecorse 17 1/2; Willow Run 17; Erie-Mason 16; Oxford 15 1/2; Detroit Lutheran West 14; Wyoming Rogers 12 1/2; Howell 12; Charlotte 11; River Rouge 8; Bay City John Glenn 7; Wyoming Park 6; Livonia-Clarenceville 6; Marshall 5; Detroit St. Anthony 5; Lansing Waverly 4 1/2; Michigan Center 4 1/2; Dundee 4; Haslett 4; Mount Clemens Clintondale 4; Tecumseh 4; Vassar 3; Ionia 2; Marysville 2; Grand Rapids Godwin Heights 2; Coloma 1; Fremont 1; Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills 1; Northville 1; Swartz Creek 1/2.





EXPENSIVE SOUVENIRS — Waverly's Bob Fitzke picked up some expensive souvenirs at the State Journal-Spartan Relays Friday as he examines what is left of his broken fiberglass pole. Fitzke cleared 12 feet, 6 inches with the pole to tie for first place but it shattered on his next vault, tossing him into an unplanned somersault. He wasn't hurt but he did wind up with some souvenirs that cost about \$65 when all in one piece. (State Journal Photo)

## Track Stars No April Fools

Concluded from Page G-1

saw superlative performances all day but the athlete that impressed them the most was Bill Tipton of Pontiac Central, the meet's only double winner.

The five foot, 10 inch senior won both the high and low hurdles in record time to keep his team in the running for the team title most of the way.

Tipton was the meet's first record breaker when he clocked :08.4 in his preliminary heat of the 70-yard high hurdles, shaving a tenth of a second off the old meet record set last year by Sexton's Charley Davis.

He equalled that time in the semifinal and finals to easily win both races. He tied the meet record of :08.0 in his semifinal heat of the 70-yard low hurdles but lowered it to :07.9 in the final to continue the record deluge.

Tipton also anchored his team to fifth place in the shuttle hurdles relay to personally account for 11 of his team's 16½ points.

Even with Tipton's record breaking, there were two other athletes from the tough Saginaw Valley, both from Flint, who nearly stole the show.

One was Flint Central Junior Herb Washington who equalled the meet record of :06.2 three times in easily capturing his preliminary heat, semifinal and final. In each instance, Washington exploded about 20 yards out and won going away to show why he's one of the most prom-

ising prep sprinters in the state in quite sometime.

Flint Southwestern was dethroned as team champion. But it wasn't the fault of the Colts' Lavern Miller, who took a first and a second.

Miller won the long jump for the second straight year with a meet record of 23 feet, ½ inch on his first jump of the competi-

tion. He then placed second to Freels Bacon of Flint Central in the high jump with a leap of six feet, three inches.

Two other meet records came early in the competition. In the afternoon session, Dave Leither of Grand Haven raised the pole vault record to 13 feet, 8¼ inches while early in the evening session Mt. Clemens set a meet record in the sprint medley relay.

The quartet of Kip Phiel, Bob Duda, Sherwin Munn and John Mock clocked 2:30.8 to shave a full second off the record set last year by Flint Southwestern. Mock paced the record with a :49.8 leg on the anchor 440.

As usual, winners came from all parts of the state.

Flint Central and Pontiac Central were the only teams to score double victories while other firsts were taken by East Detroit, Eastern, Grand Haven, Mt. Clemens, Ypsilanti, Grosse Pointe, Pontiac Northern and, of course, Flint Northern and Flint Southwestern.

By the time the athletes finished the 10-hour program, four meet records were set with two others tied.

The final meet record came in the last event when Ypsilanti ran 3:29.0 in the one-mile relay to crack the mark of 3:29.6 set by Roseville in 1965.

Eastern wound up 12th with six points while East Lansing tied for 17th with four. Everett tied for 27th with one point.

—HAL BATEMAN