

Marshall Captures First Hastings Relays Crown

By BILL FRANK

HASTINGS — Rain fell intermittently and it was on the coolish side but the Redskins of Marshall High School didn't mind the elements here Saturday.

They won their first Hastings Relays track and field championship in the 26 years that the colorful event has been sponsored here.

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JOHN SCHNEIDER, versatile Marshall athlete who is headed for a career at Harvard University, led the Redskins to their prized team championship. He garnered individual high point honors on 10½ tallies.

Marshall captured three out of a possible six relay events for 30 of its points. The five individual events were scored on a 5-4-3-2-1 basis and the relay events were double in points.

Dave Rodgers, Tom Wood, Dennis Flynn and Schneider teamed to win the 440 and 880 yard relays for Marshall. They took the 440 in 45.4 seconds and the 880 in 1:34.5 with plenty to spare each time.

Marshall placed third in the mile relay and was blanked in the other two relays, distance medley and two-mile. The Redskins piled up 8½ points in the individual events. Lynn Glenn placed second in the pole vault, Schneider third in the long jump, Russ Pryor fifth in the

shot put and Steve Redman tied for fifth in the high jump.

ONLY ONE record fell as the wet, chilly weather hampered the performers.

Gary Van Elst, 245-pound junior from Middleville, accounted for the only record and he broke it with a tape-measure heave in the shot put. Gary won on 56 feet, 4 inches, to smash the old mark of 53-6 that had been on the books since 1952. It was the oldest record in the Relays.

Dennis Alger of Hackett won the high jump on a leap of 3 feet, 8½ inches. Al Pearson of Altonia captured the pole vault by clearing 12 feet, 8 inches. Eric Conklin of Alma won the 120 high hurdles in :16.0.

St. Joseph banged home first in the mile relay in 3:38.2 and the Coldwater quartet of Dave Walzer, Dave Stanfill, Roger Williams and Jim Bilborrow won the distance medley in 11:37.5.

Charlotte's quartet of Ed Buxton, Tom Bytown, Bill Chenoweth and Jeff Wilbern captured the two-mile relay final event.

Who's No. 1? Horse Racing Retains Top Spot

NEW YORK (AP) — Horse racing was the country's No. 1 spectator sport again in 1966 with a record attendance of 48,495,454, the Morning Telegraph and Daily Racing Form reported Saturday in its annual survey of sports attendance.

Baseball was second with attendance of 35,193,461, football third with 34,837,742 and basketball fourth with 19,694,048 in the survey based on the major organized spectator sports.

A decade ago the converse Basketball Year Book pinpointed basketball attendance at all levels in the United States alone as 149 million but the Morning Telegraph and Daily Racing Form emphasize that their survey "does not include attendance figures for basketball played in high school gymnasiums."

The survey gave this breakdown compared to 1965:

Horse racing — thoroughbreds 40,913,694 plus 178,883; trotting and pacing 27,351,061; minor leagues, 19 circuits, 10,061,252 minus 132,567.

Football — collegiate, 616 schools, 25,739,309 plus 372,327; National League 5,337,638 plus 702,017; American League 2,160,389 plus 377,758; Continental League 640,000 plus 191,609.

post-season bowl games, colleges and pros, 1,124,436 plus 26,464.

Basketball — 1,060 colleges, 17,107,663 plus 723,661; NBA 2,386,383 plus 220,478.


Attendance at greyhound racing was listed as 11,120,293 plus 255,552 and for the National Hockey League 2,941,164 plus 118,178.

Estimated figures were given for automobile racing, wrestling, boxing, track and field and soccer.

Auto racing topped this category with 39,580,000 plus 390,000.

Wrestling was next at 4,630,000 minus 137,000. Track and field was unchanged at 2,900,000. So was soccer at 2,500,000.

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