

Central's Washington Needs Help

By LEN HOYES

Washington was first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen. George Washington, that is.

Washington also has a chance to make Central High first in the state Class A track meet. Herb Washington, that is.

It appears that the Indians' hope to improve on four straight runner-up finishes rests with the junior sprinter who earlier this year ran 100 yards in 9.7 seconds for the best performance by a Flint prep trackman.

Washington also requires help from another speedster, teammate Bob Patton, and the Tribe 880 relay team.

IT'S GENERALLY AGREED that the team with the sprint strength has the inside track to the state title. Flint Southwestern did it last year, getting 32 of its 40 points from the speed events.

The job facing Washington, Patton & Co., is emphasized by the fact that the two teams which Central must beat have strength in the short events.

Pontiac Central already is conceded two first places by its great hurdler, Bill Tipton. The Chiefs also have a 14-foot pole vaulter and an 880 relay team which defeated Central at Mount Pleasant. Another good vaulter, plus possible points in the shot put and long jump, already have gained the Associated Press' ranking as the team to beat.

Battle Creek, with nine entries, is something else.

SPRINTER GENE BROWN was timed in 9.6 seconds for 100 yards and 21.8 for 220 in last week's regionals and teammate Andy Johnson was second in both events. They aided a 1:28.7 clocking in the 880 relay. Battle Creek's mile relay team took the regional in 3:25.9 and hurdler Larry Evans won the highs in 14.3 and the lows in 19.5.

It's possible that three men and two relay teams represent 50 points. Considering that no Class A team has scored more than 45 points in eight years, the job facing Central is obvious.

Washington must (1) cut into Battle Creek's duo and (2) neutralize Tipton's conceded 16 points for Pontiac.

It should not be construed that Central has only sprint strength.

TWO-MILER JIM MORSE is one of the state's best, miler Jim Love is the defending champion and high jumper Freels Bacon's best leap (6-8) is one-fourth inch better than the meet record. If they come within range of the maximum possible 24 points, Central will have a shot at the title. Bacon was second last year competing for Flint Northern.

Coach Carl Krieger also has Tom Quinn qualified in the pole vault and Clevan Laster



—Journal Photo by Robert Parks

Herb Washington. . . Must Come Through

in the 880. However, the latter may be scratched from the half mile to concentrate on the mile relay where the Tribe must score.

The job facing Central's sprinters is further complicated by the presence of defending champion Charlie Robinson of Detroit Mackenzie. He won the 100 in 9.8 and the 220 in 21.5 last year.

OTHER TEAMS WITH TITLE chances and the number of qualifiers are: Wyandotte Roosevelt 14, Ann Arbor, and Detroit Southwestern 12, Dearborn 11, Detroit Mackenzie, Kalamazoo Central and Roseville 10 and Detroit Pershing nine.

The Flint area has seven other teams among the 110 with at least one qualifier.

Northwestern has four men in five events, Southwestern two men in five events, Northern two men in three events and one relay team, Grand Blanc two men in two events, and Clio, Davison and Kearsley, all with one man in one event.

Of those individuals, Northern's William Wallace was third in the 100 and Southwestern's Pierre Miller was third in the long jump, tied for seventh in the high jump and eighth in the high hurdles.

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