

Dropped Baton Beats Central

By **LEN HOYES**
Journal Sports Writer

MOUNT PLEASANT — You've heard the adage about lightning never striking twice in the same place.

Would you believe five times?
Doubting Thomases should contact Flint Central's track coach, Carl Krieger, for confirmation of the latest lightning which cost the 27th Central Michigan Relays championship here Saturday.

It was the case of a bird in the hand flying the coop. The Indians took a 57-50 lead into the final event but blew the bundle by dropping the baton in the 880 relay and watching Pontiac Central come on for a 62-57 triumph.

KRIEGER, WHO'S watched his men lose more titles than an unfrocked beauty queen, is entitled to any nightmares encountered while pondering what His Indians can do next to avoid packing the trophy case.

In the last three years Central has lost five titles, possibly six, by fouling up a relay. It's lost the Saginaw Valley Conference title, a Central Michigan indoor title, the Spartan Relays title and a regional championship which also may have cost a state championship.

Just to show determination, the Tribe managed to foul up two relays Saturday. Its 440 relay team was second by three-tenths of a second which could be attributed to a bad handoff. The 880 team never had a chance after the baton dropped, finishing sixth in a field of seven.

THE BOO-BOO came with the Indians running third, a position which would have assured victory had they maintained it. With Herb Washington due for the anchor leg, it's logical to assume they could have earned those six points.

Washington already had demonstrated his ability, joining teammate Freels Bacon and Pontiac Central's Bill Tipton as stars in a record-smashing parade for Class A and B schools.

Washington broke the 100-yard dash record with a time of 9.8 seconds, narrowly beating Flint Northern's William Wallace who was clocked in 9.85.

BACON BROKE the meet's oldest record with a 6-6 high jump. The former record of 6-5½ had been the property of Central's Floyd Bates Sr., since 1938. Later Bacon exceeded his previous best long jump by 19¼ inches to win with 22¾.

Added to a somewhat surprising six points by the middle distance relay team, it looked like Central's day. With three events to go it had an 11-point edge.

Then misfortune set in.
Central, Northern and Pontiac were in the same 880 heat. Northern got the early lead, Pontiac was second and Central was third halfway around the track when the baton dropped. Even so, victory still appeared somewhat possible until Tipton took over.

HE WAS SECOND by about four yards at the final exchange but outlegged Wallace to bag 12 points for first place.

Earlier Tipton won the high hurdles in 13.6 and the lows in 18.4. The latter was a meet record. His time for the highs was only one-tenth more than the national high school record but the wind gauge briefly fluttered beyond the 4.473 miles-per-hour maximum.

Central's distance medley team of Clevan Laster, Marcus Vinson, Jim Love and Jim Morse set a meet record with a 10:30.7 time for a new distance.

NORTHERN WAS third with 4½ points. Its only first came in the 440 relay with Thedford Perry, Fred Blackmon, Milt Wallace and William Wallace in 44.4. Pole vaulter Gene Lee cleared 13-10 but was relegated to second place by misses.

The Vikings placed in seven other events. Central scored in three other events.

The only non-Saginaw Valley Conference record went to East Detroit shotputter Guilio Catalo who tossed the 12-pound ball 60-1.

IN CLASS B, Swartz Creek's Rick Burns won the mile in 4:38.4 and Corunna's Jerry Dutcher won the high jump at 5-11.

Cranbrook breezed to the title with 58 points and three relay firsts. Alma and Howell tied for second with 31.

Swartz Creek and Holly shared 13th place with eight points. Corunna had seven, Bendle and Flushing four apiece and Bentley two.

Summaries on Page 100.

Hazel Park Results

First Race			
San Fernando (Anderson)	.560	3.60	3.00
Yank Go Home (Wall)		3.00	3.60
Miss Hy Gain (Gallimore)			3.60
Second Race			
Willis (Nicholson)	14.00	6.40	4.80
Prince Buster (Cave)		4.60	3.40
Co Hyp (Snyder)			3.80
Daily double Nos. 9 and 4 paid			\$50.60
Third Race			
Gainsman (Lawless)	8.60	4.60	3.20
Accompilla (Kunitake)		4.40	3.40
Lola Surge (Anderson)			3.80
Fourth Race			
Invictus (Snyder)	4.40	3.00	2.40
Schayer (Maple)		3.80	3.00
Famous Line (Wall)			3.80
Fifth Race			
Out The Window (Green)	25.60	17.20	9.20
Roberton (Gaddis)		17.60	8.00
Lowboy (Snyder)			4.80
Sixth Race			
Sulca (Maple)	7.20	4.80	4.20
Rae-Lynn (Bowlds)		5.60	4.80
Good Business (Nicholson)			6.20
Optional twin double Nos. 6 and 1 paid			\$268.40
Seventh Race			
Lad O' War (Gallimore)	5.60	3.80	2.60
Fast Friend (Wall)		9.80	4.60
Khaled Twist (Young)			3.00
Eighth Race			
Royal Intent (Noble)	18.40	9.00	4.40
Neheshter (Zakoor)		6.80	3.20
Bye Bye Bird (Kunitake)			3.00
Ninth Race			
Misty Spy (Zakoor)	10.80	5.80	4.00
Sendle's Echo (Young)		7.80	4.80
Jet Charger (Lawless)			4.80
Twin double 6-1-5 (one ticketholder exchanged his ticket). No one held ticket on winning twin double combination. Paid \$271.00.			
Attendance	18,002.	Total handle	1,326.955.

in His Face

Ussery, smiling shyly as he headed for the showers, said he had heard so much talk about how great Damascus was, but "I always believed this was going to me a wide open Derby.

"These horses have been beating each other all along."

Proud Clarion was a Johnny-come-lately in the Derby consideration. In his only other stakes start, he finished second to Diplomat Way in the Blue Grass at Keeneland last month.

★ ★ ★

Diplomat Way finished ninth in the Derby.

Ussery recalled that the best he had done in four previous Derby starts was a second place finish aboard Bally Ache in 1960.

"I waited a long, long time for this beautiful day because I knew I was going to make it," he said.

in 4-1 Tiger Victory

first and third, Bleafary belted a hot liner to Kaline in right.

it," said Kaline. "Bill made the play go."

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