

# Relay Records in Jeopardy

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Herb Washington won't be the only "man to watch" in Saturday's Class A high school section of The State Journal-Spartan Track Relays.

Keep a wary eye on Larry Biskner, too. He's an equally good bet to put forth a record-breaking effort.

There's only one problem, where Biskner is concerned — you'll have to get there early. He's shooting for the pole vault mark, and the finals in that event (as well as the shot put and two-mile relay) take place in the afternoon.

Vaulters—54 of them—are involved in the first event of the day, at noon Saturday. Preliminaries in the running events begin at 12:30 p.m., as does the shot put. The two-mile relay ends afternoon action at 4:50.

Finals in most events are scheduled starting at 6 p.m., when competition in the high jump and long jump begins.

All action takes place at Jenison Fieldhouse. Tickets, which are good for both sessions, are \$2 for adults, \$1 for students, including MSU students.

Biskner hails from Pontiac Waterford, and is one of the finest pole vaulters ever produced in Michigan prep circles. Before the

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season is over, he is considered to have an excellent chance of stamping himself as the best.

Last week, in the opening event on the prep calendar the Huron Relays, he soared 14 feet, 1¾ inches to better the meet record. The mark he'll be going after Saturday is 13-8¼, established in 1967 by Dave Leitner of Grand Haven.

At this early point in the season, Biskner is well ahead of the improvement pace Leitner set on his way to the existing state Class A record of 14 feet, 6½ inches.

Washington, of course, is Flint Central's threat to just about every 60-yard dash record. The co-world record holder in the 50, he has a strong shot at both meet and fieldhouse marks in the 60 — 6.2 and 6.1 seconds respectively — and an outside chance at the world standard of 5.9 seconds.

Another record likely to tumble is the 3:29.0 mile relay registered by Ypsilanti last year. Ecorse did better than that last week, winning the Huron mile relay in 3:28.7.

Flint Central, with Washington running in the anchor position, rates a very formidable challenger for the half-mile relay standard. The record is 1:34.5, set by Flint Southwestern in 1965. Flint Central did 1:34.9 last week.

A couple of individuals who may threaten records with peak performances are high jumper Phil Selby of Jackson Parkside and miler Steve Gorsalitz of Clio. The standards they are aiming for are 6-5 and 4:23.8, set in 1965 and '64 respectively.

Selby cleared 6-4 last weekend to win the Huron Relays high jump. Here, he'll be pushed by considerably tougher opposition, including a couple who have gone as high as he has. Gorsalitz is in a similar position. He won last week with a 4:28.7, and will be pushed harder Saturday.

If a push is what Washington needs, he'll get it. Several other dashmen in the Class A field have run the "60" almost as quickly as he has, among them Eugene Brown of Battle Creek Central, Glenn Walls of Ypsilanti, Sherwin Munn of Mt. Clemens, Dennis Johnson of Kalamazoo Central, Eric George of Ecorse and Jim Mitchell of Dearborn.

All have done at least 6.4 seconds.

While the hurdles field is very talented, it will take a super effort to erase the records set last year by Pontiac Central's great Bill Tipton, who did 8.4 in the 70-yard highs and 7.9 in the 70-yard lows.

Based on times furnished by the coaches, Dan Kurkowski of Birmingham Brother Rice appears to be the class of the field in both events.

Flint Central and Ecorse are considered the team favorites. The latter won the Class B portion of the meet last year, before advancing into "A" ranks this season.

## Class B Finals Tonight

Finals in 10 events on the Class B program begin this evening, at 6 o'clock, at Jenison Fieldhouse.

Preliminaries, and finals in the pole vault, shot put and two-mile relay, were scheduled for this afternoon.

At stake tonight are first and second place team trophies, as well as individual awards including a trophy for the most valuable athlete, trophies for the winners of each event, and numerous medals.

## Spartan Relays Preview 4-5-1968

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Mon, Dec 24, 2018