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PAGE TWENTY-SEVEN

Thinclads Set Two Records, Earn 11 All - State Berths

Southwestern Michigan thinclads made a strong individual showing with two records and 11 all-state performances Saturday in state high school track and field competition at three sites.

Hartford's Jim Oida topped the Class C pole vault mark and Lawton's Nick Welburn lowered his own Class D two-mile record at the Central Michigan University track in Mount Pleasant.

Class C honors and Bay City's Tom Axteler went while Battle Creek Central's Class D mile, while sprinter Les Warren of Coloma and

Albert Miller of Brantwyche were racing off with dash honors in Class B at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

Coach Gene Bodnarowski's Blue Devils made the strongest area challenge in team competition with a tie for fourth in the pole vault and settled for a tie for fifth in the high jump at 4 feet, 2 inches. He had gone last Wednesday in the Red

at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Oida soared 12 feet, 11 1/2 inches to break the old Class C pole vault record by two and a half inches. It was the best vault ever by the Indian senior for the school record.

Brown, who has been bothered by a leg injury, didn't place in the pole vault and settled for a tie for fifth in the high jump at 4 feet, 2 inches. He had gone last Wednesday in the Red

off his best two-mile of the season for a record 10:51.1. Teammate Axteler breezed to the mile crown at 4:34.1. Welburn and Axteler, along with six other area Class D performers, also received all-state recognition. The honor was given to the first two finishers in each event.

Lawton's John Wierding took second in the high jump at 5-10. Galley's Larry Nekvasil second in the 200-yard dash at 2:8 and in the 400-yard dash at 2:8 and a sixth in the high hurdles by



LEAVING BATTLEFIELD: Oakland Athletics pitcher Jack Aker, face bruised and uniform torn, turns for last look at battle area where he and Jim Northrup of Detroit Tigers tangled in brawl that involved other players from both teams during Sunday's game. Oakland trainer Neil Jones is at left. (AP Wirephoto)

Wind Robs Flint Sprinter Of Shot At State Records

ANN ARBOR (AP) — Flint Central's super sprinter Herb Washington has emerged as the Class A champion in the 100-yard and 200-yard dashes, but his coach believes he was cheated out of setting new state records by a 14-mile-per-hour headwind.

"I had him primed for a 9.5 in the 100," Flint Central head coach Carl Krieger said Sunday. "But even running against a 14-mile wind, he managed to set the state record in the 100."

Washington sped the 100-yard dash at the State Class A championship in Ann Arbor Saturday in 9.8 seconds, using a record originally set by Eddie Tolian of Detroit Class Tech in 1967. Six other runners also have tied the mark.

Washington's outstanding performance in the two events was equaled by Battle Creek Central's team, which compiled 37 1/2 points to win the Class A championship.

Flint Central was second with 33 points, Pontiac Central third with 29, and Flint Northern fourth with 25.

Battle Creek Central sprinter Eugene Brown gave Washington his toughest competition. Brown finished second in both the 100-yard and 200-yard dashes.

Flint Northern's William Wallace, who was expected to give Washington his stiffest competition, finished third in both events.

Battle Creek Central's 880-

yard relay team, consisting of Andrew Johnson, Jessie Wright, Jerry Miller and Eugene Brown, captured the school's only first place, going the distance in 1:29.1.

"Despite the wind, a few new Class A records were set Saturday."

Richard Gross of Grosse Pointe won the two-mile run in 9:19.2, bettering the old record of 9:23.7 set by Ken Howse of Detroit Finney in 1967.

Ecourse set a state record in the mile relay with a time of 3:20.5. The former record of 3:21.6 was set by Detroit Forest in 1960.

In the pole vault, Larry Bickner of Waterford Township had a leap of 14 feet, 6 1/2 inches to the record set by Dave Lettler of Grand Haven in 1967.

od in the long jump at 25-4. Jefferson also teamed with Bulldogs Clarence Lauderdale, Steve Smith and Russell Bailey for a second in the 800 relay at 1:35.1.

Other Class D places included a third in the half mile by Lawrence's Dave Spencer at 2:44.1, a fourth in the two-mile by Lawton's John Schur at 10:23.7, a fifth in the 200 by Bailey at 2:1.5, a sixth in the century at 1:15.5 by Nekvasil, a sixth in the high hurdles by

Benton Harbor St. John's Bill Flood at 14.3, a seventh by Bailey in the 100 at 10.8 and eighth by Lawrence's Rick Mann in the pole vault at 11-4.

Coloma's Warren slipped to a third in the half mile by Blossoms rival Miller trailing in fourth place. It was the upset senior's best race ever and gave him the school record.

Warren missed a chance to compete in the century finals by missing the final hurdle in preliminaries and pulling up 10 yards short as the rest of the field zipped by to the ribbon.

But Miller still came through as the area representative in the finals with a 10.1 clocking for first place.

Miller's teammate, Terry Furst, the regional two-mile record holder and a third place finisher at state last year, suffered a leg cramp on the second lap Saturday and finished way back in the field.

Lake Shore's Ed Borr placed in two events with a 5:19 clocking for seventh place in the quarter mile and a 2:11-inch leap for eighth in the long jump.

Buchanan's Francis Brown finished seventh in the one jump and Casopoli's Bob Davis was fourth in the low hurdles. Dowagiac was blanked in the mile relay but finished third in the mile relay with a time 3:20.5.

DeWitt failed to win a first place in taking Class C honors. The winners compiled 41 points with second-place finishes in the 200-yard dash and the 800-yard relay and a third place finish in the 400-yard run and the mile relay. Runerup Akron Fair Grove had 32 points.

Unionville finished among the top three in six events to breeze to victory in Class D with 40

Writers' Award Banquet June 3

Berrien County's most outstanding senior athletes will be honored Monday, June 3 at Post's restaurant at 6:30 p.m.

The 19th winner of the Berrien County Sportswriters' award will be named at the banquet and his name will be engraved, along with those of the winners of previous years, on the huge traveling trophy that remains in the trophy case of the winner's school for a year.

include: Tim Klein, Niles; Ellis Hill, Benton Harbor; Kent Ingles, Galien; Terry Palleschi, St. Joseph; Alex McNair, Benton Harbor; Randy Peshigoda, Bridgman; Mary Tretheway, Lakeshore; John Dase, St. Joseph; m Soudier, St. John's; Bill Ford, St. John's; Jason Harness, St. Joseph; Casey Clark, Berrien Springs; Don Arend, Benton Harbor; Glenn Briggs, Berrien Springs; Rickie Morlock, Waterford; Paul Weber, St.

What have you got to gain?

[Image of a person]

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