

"I feel they missed the best national victory dinner. an academic interest, marveled

# Prep Ace Clears 6-9 1/2

## Erie-Mason's Ron DeVries High Jumps To Record In Champion Of Champions' Track

By DEL NEWELL  
 Gazette Sports Writer

Would you believe that a high school senior could high jump seven inches over his height . . . that a boy who had never high jumped more than 6-5 would surpass the state record . . . and

that a coach would predict his star leaper would jump higher than he ever has before against the state's best competitors? It all happened Thursday at the 13th annual Champion of Champions Track Meet as Ron DeVries from Class B high school, Erie-Mason (near Monroe), cleared 6-9 1/2 to break not only a meet record, but also soar higher than the existing state record of 6-8 held by Freels Bacon of Flint Central and set in 1967. DeVries, a 6-2 1/2 senior, had

been labeled a 6-7 plus high jumper by coach Jerry Wing at Erie-Mason's spring sports banquet on Tuesday. Wing explained after the meet that Ron in preparation for the meet had been working only on the high jump, while all season he had competed in, besides his speciality, the pole vault, high and low hurdles.

Preparation paid off as DeVries, along with surpassing a state record, also won for his school the Kalamazoo Gazette trophy for the outstanding athlete of the meet.

Local track stars were also in the spotlight as Dennis Johnson of Kalamazoo Central won the long jump event with a distance of 23-3, Gary Harris of Loy Norrix set a new meet record in the two-mile run with a 9:31.2 clocking, while the K-Central 880 relay team of Charlie Parker, Leroy Scott, Larry Green and Johnson sliced two-tenths of a second off the old time of 1:29.3. The old mark was set by a Kalamazoo Central quintet in 1963.

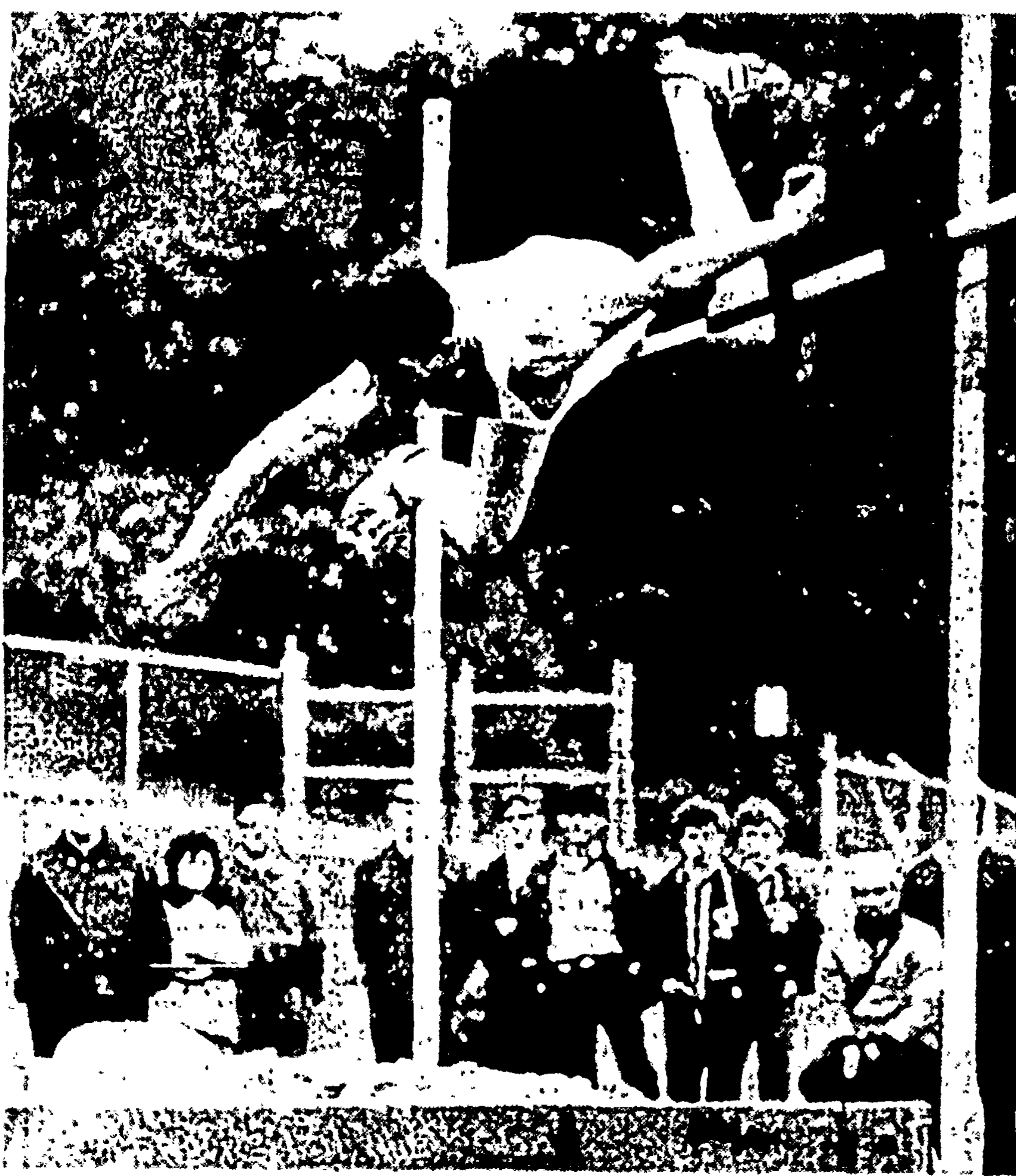
Johnson of the Maroons, in addition to winning the long jump and anchoring the winning 880 relay team, ran the third leg of the K-Central mile relay team and brought his team from behind into a challenging position, only to see Ecorse win the event on the anchor leg.

Harris, coach Don Luken's star distance stepper, nipped Larry Williams of Farmington by 12 yards in his two-mile win. Going into the last turn both runners were step-and-step — then the blond-haired Knight turned on a strong finishing kick.

Only double winner in the meet was Andy Johnson of Battle Creek Central who captured both hurdle events. Mike Whitfield of Hackett was third in the lows and fourth in the high hurdles.

Gary Van Elst of Middleville, the outstanding performer in last year's meet, won the shot put with a toss of 61-8 — four

(Continued on Page 22)



RON DeVRIES SOARS 6 FEET, 9 1/2 INCHES IN RECORD HIGH JUMP EFFORT. He's Voted Outstanding Performer In Champion Of Champions' Track Meet

Gazette photo by Jerry Campbell

in the **SPORTS WHIRL** With **JACK MOSS**

### Tigers' Do-It-Yourself Player Development Plan Paying Off

Until Al Kaline was struck in the wrist by one of Oakland pitcher Lew Krause's deliveries last Saturday evening and placed on the disabled list for 21 days, the Detroit Tigers could offer a real baseball rarity in their lineup.

The Tigers could, and did, field a lineup in which all nine players had been scouted, signed and developed by the Detroit organization.

The move toward home-grown talent started when Kalamazooan John E. Felzer took control of the Tigers. Detroit had come off second-best in a cluster of trades while seeking to mold a pennant contender under the Briggs dynasty.

The all-Tiger grown team is the culmination of years of work by the Detroit farm and scouting departments headed first by Jim Campbell, now vice president and by current farm director Don Lund.

Fifteen of the current 25 Tigers were scouted and signed by the Detroit organization. Of the other 10, five were acquired through trades and five were drafted.

The Detroit farm system now includes six minor league clubs with more than 140 players under contract. Ed Katalinas, chief Tiger scout, heads a 30-man staff that combs the nation looking for prospects.

The home-grown talent program was climaxed on April 13 when the Tigers scored a 5-2 victory over the Chicago White Sox with every starter a product of the Detroit scouting-farm system.

Mickey Stanley, Dick McAuliffe, Ray Oyler and Don Wert comprised the infield, Kaline (the only one who never played minor league ball), ex-Kalamazooan Jim Northrup and Willie Horton the outfield, Bill Freehan catching and Joe Sparr pitching. Stanley (Grand Rapids), Freehan (Royal Oak) and Hertton (Detroit), like Northrup, are Michigan natives.

Injuries and a general tailoff after the sizzling start have put a crimp in the 1968 Detroit Tiger pennant drive, but the club's do-it-yourself program of player development hints an end to the Motor City flag famine soon.



JIM NORTHRUP 'Home-Grown' Tiger

## Summary Of Track Carnival

Shot Put — 1. Gary Van Elst (Middleville) 61-8; 2. Gene Panther (Waterford Kettering) 57-4; 3. Ralph Reichenbach (Akron-Fairgrove) 51-2; 4. Stu Hanley (Lansing Sexton) 51-7; 5. Jim Elmer (Kalamazoo Central) 51-4; 6. Ken Fox (Wicksburg) 52-7; 7. Steve Wilson (Battle Creek Central) 52-5 1/2.

Two-Mile Run — 1. Gary Harris (Kalamazoo Loy Norrix) 9:31.2; 2. Larry Williams (Farmington) 9:35; 3. Gene Strong (Lansing Waverly) 9:38.4; 4. Jim Billabroom (Coldwater) 9:51.2; 5. Nick Wellborn (Lanton) 9:52.2; 6. Brian Davis (Port Huron Northern) 9:54.4; 7. Tom Boushock (Kalamazoo Central) 9:57.2; 8. Elliott (Eik Rapids) (meet record, Old record 9:37.8, Kim Hartman (Southfield) 9:51).

400-Yard Relay — 1. Kalamazoo Central (Charles Parker, Leroy Scott, Larry Green, Dennis Johnson) 1:29.3 (meet record, Old record 1:27.5; Kalamazoo Central, 1963); 2. Ecorse 1:30.6; 3. Rochester 1:31.7; 4. Lansing Gehris 1:32.6; 5. Highland 1:32.6; 6. Waterford Kettering 1:33.7.

One Mile Run — 1. Gary Williams (Farmington) 4:21.8; 2. Rich Randall (North Farmington) 4:23.9; 3. Dan Kimble (Kalamazoo Central) 4:25.7; 4. Craig (Cranbrook) 4:25.8; 5. Ray Eddy (Adrian) 4:28.2; Tom Atwater (Lanton) 4:28.4.

150-Yard Dash — 1. Dennis Johnson (Kalamazoo Central) 23.3; 2. Don Shelton (Grand Rapids Union) 22.6; 3. Chris Brown (Farmington) 22.5; 4. Mike Pugh (Lansing Waverly) 22.9; 5. Ed Barr (Stevensville Lakeshore) 21.8; 6. Bob Kimball (Comstock Park) 21.1; 7. Tom Pender (Lansing Mona Shore) 20.9; 8. Bob Peterson (Kalamazoo Loy Norrix) 20.6; 9. Gary Stahl (Farmington) 19.4.

200-Yard Dash — 1. Andy Pender (Lansing Waverly) 18.2; 2. Andy Park (Battle Creek Lakeview) 18.5; 3. Mike Whittling (Kalamazoo Central) 18.4; 4. Bill Dennis (Waterford Kettering) 18.5; 5. Mike Thompson (Farmington) 18.1; 6. Graham (Farmington) 18.5.

300-Yard Dash — 1. Dan Haugen (Farmington) 1:55.7; 2. Steve Frisco (Three Rivers) 1:55.8; 3. Dave Patton (Battle Creek Central) 1:58.8; 4. Al Cowwell (Battle Creek Lakeview) 1:59.5; Curt Griffin (Stevensville Lakeshore) 2:00; 5. Mike Thompson (Farmington) 2:00; 6. Gary Stahl (Farmington) 2:00.

400-Yard Dash — 1. Bob Anderson (Hackett) 59.6; 2. Dale Watson (Hackett) 59.7; 3. Dave Barr (Farmington) 59.8; 4. Bob Beyer (Farmington) 59.9; 5. Ed Barr (Stevensville Lakeshore) 59.9; 6. Ed Barr (Stevensville Lakeshore) 59.9; 7. Ed Barr (Stevensville Lakeshore) 59.9; 8. Ed Barr (Stevensville Lakeshore) 59.9; 9. Ed Barr (Stevensville Lakeshore) 59.9.

500-Yard Dash — 1. Jim Holmes (Lansing Waverly) 1:09.4; 2. Ron Williams (Farmington) 1:09.4; 3. Steve Frisco (Three Rivers) 1:09.4; 4. Al Cowwell (Battle Creek Lakeview) 1:09.4; 5. Curt Griffin (Stevensville Lakeshore) 1:09.4; 6. Mike Thompson (Farmington) 1:09.4; 7. Gary Stahl (Farmington) 1:09.4; 8. Graham (Farmington) 1:09.4; 9. Graham (Farmington) 1:09.4.

600-Yard Dash — 1. Al Miller (Waterford Kettering) 1:27.5; 2. Jim Williams (Lansing Waverly) 1:27.5; 3. Les Warren (Comstock Park) 1:27.5; 4. Bill Peterson (Farmington) 1:27.5; 5. Chris Brown (Farmington) 1:27.5; 6. Chris Brown (Farmington) 1:27.5; 7. Ecorse (Ecorse) 1:27.5; 8. Dan Haugen (Farmington) 1:27.5; 9. Kalamazoo (Kalamazoo) 1:27.5.

(Continued on Page 22)

**The STANDINGS**

By The Associated Press  
 American League

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Detroit	27	15	.643	—
Baltimore	26	18	.591	1 1/2
Cleveland	25	20	.556	3
Minnesota	24	20	.545	3 1/2
Boston	21	23	.477	6 1/2
New York	21	23	.477	6 1/2
Chicago	21	23	.477	6 1/2
California	21	23	.477	6 1/2
Chicago	17	25	.405	9 1/2
Washington	17	27	.386	10 1/2

Today's Results  
 Cleveland 3, Minnesota 1  
 Oakland 6, Boston 2  
 Baltimore 3, Chicago 0  
 New York 12, Washington 4  
 Detroit 7, California 2

Today's Games  
 California (Edis 3-1) at Oakland (Dobson 2-1), night  
 Minnesota (Herritt 3-1) at Chicago (Peters 2-1), night  
 New York (Slightmyre 6-3) at Detroit (Lohan 2-1), night  
 Washington (Ortega 4-3) at Cleveland (Tipt 6-1), night  
 Baltimore (Horton 6-1) at Boston (Barr 3-1), night

Saturday's Games  
 New York at Detroit  
 Minnesota at Chicago  
 Washington at Cleveland  
 Baltimore at Boston  
 California at Oakland, tonight

Sunday's Games  
 Cleveland at Oakland  
 Minnesota at Chicago, 2  
 New York at Detroit, 2  
 Washington at Cleveland, 2  
 Baltimore at Boston, 2

National League

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Francisco	26	20	.565	—
Atlanta	24	21	.529	1 1/2
Philadelphia	21	18	.538	3
St. Louis	23	21	.523	2 1/2
Chicago	22	22	.500	3 1/2
Cincinnati	21	22	.488	3 1/2
Los Angeles	21	22	.488	3 1/2
New York	20	23	.465	4 1/2
Houston	19	24	.438	5 1/2
Pittsburgh	18	22	.450	6 1/2

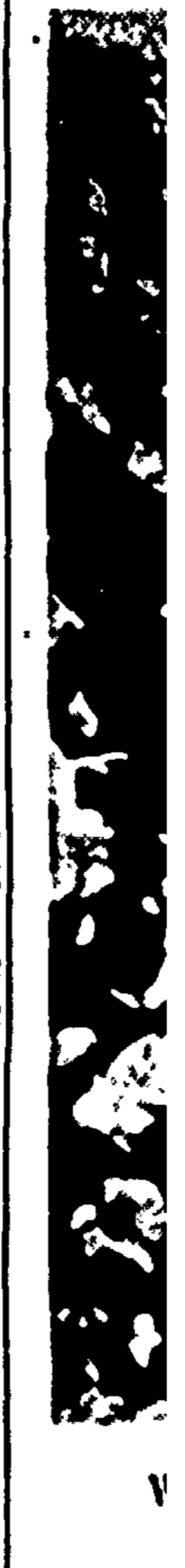
Today's Results  
 New York 6-5, Pittsburgh 3-4  
 Los Angeles 5, Cincinnati 3  
 Houston 11, Atlanta 0  
 St. Louis 6, San Francisco 0

Chicago at Philadelphia, rain  
 Today's Games  
 St. Louis (Lester 2-1) at New York (Seaver 2-1), night  
 Cleveland (Coker 3-1) at Philadelphia (L. Jackson 5-1), night  
 Atlanta (P. Niekro 4-1) at Pittsburgh (McBean 3-1), night  
 Chicago (J. Niekro 5-1) at Houston (Dobson 3-1), night  
 San Francisco (McCann 4-3) at Los Angeles (Ortiz 3-1), night

Saturday's Games  
 St. Louis at New York  
 San Francisco at Los Angeles  
 Cincinnati at Philadelphia, night  
 Atlanta at Pittsburgh, night  
 Chicago at Houston, night

Sunday's Games  
 Cleveland at Philadelphia  
 Atlanta at Pittsburgh  
 Chicago at Houston  
 San Francisco at Los Angeles  
 St. Louis at New York, 2

strongest the favor apart. If ing who straight plonship The st failed, c onds on pit stops crash in ed ho and cont These ning on brother. They al stock ca Bobby, time, led but appe Lotus ti nard wi sight. T Leonard coasted Parnell



Do  
 I  
 DETR ers look the Am past fou Thus : ager of in prais Detroit series in was clic victory The tr series, left then in league game e Baltimore Tiger happy or ance, ca "has a a long w time sor league, running Detroit 43 game of 623. In wit encount Jim No runs an a Califo pitcher knocked eighth i The T Rick Cl in the f Sparrm for the : A wal double

OH  
 G  
 W  
 G  
 D  
 1  
 NO  
 LVI  
 C





—Gazette photo by Jerry Campbell

# Harris Of Norrix Sets 2-Mile Mark

(Continued from Page 20)

feet better than his closest challenger.

Other local and area tracksters who were impressive in the star-studded field included Steve Bundle of Hackett with a third in the 100-yard dash, Steve Freese of Three Rivers with a second in the 850 run and Nick Welburn of Lawton, fifth in the two-mile.

Flint Central's Herb Washington and B.C. Central's Eugene Brown did not compete because of prior commitments. Washington was competing in the San Diego Invitational, while Brown was visiting Oregon State U. — with a football scholarship as the lure.

The Kalamazoo Jaycees aided by local and area track coaches, plus WMU mentor George Dales and members of his track team, skillfully ran off the quick-moving meet. Proceeds from the meet went to the U.S. Olympic Fund.

\* \* \*

## Prep Track Summaries

(Continued from Page 20)

zoo Central 3:26.8; 3. Midland 3:29; 4. Grand Rapids Central 3:31.1; 5. Muskegon Mona Shores 3:35.2.

**POLE VAULT** — 1. Larry Biskner (Waterford) 13-10; 2. Tim Martin (Waterford) 13-6; 3. Jim Olds (Hartford) 13-6; 4. tie Andy Lopez (Jackson) and Ed Sundbeck (Manistee) 13-0; 5. Cliff Draper (Oscoda) 13-0; 7. Don DeLong (Kalamazoo Loy Norrix) 12-6; 8. tie, Bill Copeland (Ogemos) and Steve Linde (Kalamazoo Loy Norrix). Sam Macon (Downsview) 12-6; 11. tie, Rick Good (Montrose) and Mike Colasanti (Plainwell) 12-0. No Height: Bob Mitchell (Sturgis), Bill Sykes (Kalamazoo Loy Norrix), Jeff Fansler (Wyoming Rogers).

**HIGH JUMP** — Ron DeVries (Erie-Mason) 6-9½ (meet record. Old record, 6-5¼, Del Littlejohn, Jackson, 1961, and Gary Knickerbocker, Manchester, 1963); 2. John Mann (North Farmington) 6-7¾; 3. Grady Walker (Jackson) 6-6¾; 4. Mike Kalashtas (Divison) 6-6¾; 5. Bruce Littlejohn (Jackson) 6-4¾; 6. Bill Cohrs (Vicksburg) 6-4¾; 7. Brown (Hartford) 6-3¾; 8. Amos Jones (Kalamazoo Hackett) 6-1¾; 9. tie, Bill Barry (Sturgis) and Bob Kimble (Comstock Park) 6-1¾; 11. Jesse Wright (Battle Creek Central) 6-1¾; 12. tie, Kevin Wickliffe (Davison) and Steve Noland (Reading) 5-11¾; 13. Steve Redman (Marshall) 5-11¾; 15. Brad Miller (Sturgis) 5-11¾; 16. Brian Smith (Kalamazoo Loy Norrix) 5-11¾.