

Northern Shares First Mott Relays Title

By LEN HOYES

It's been a while since Northern High won any championship because of the shot put but it happened Friday night at Houston Stadium.

Tom Jackson and John Nelson earned fourth place in the shot put "relay" for the two points which captured a share of the first Charles Stewart Mott Relays.

The Vikings scored 46 points to divide honors with Pontiac Central which got an early lead but fell back before rallying near the finish.

Because it was the first such meet, all the winning efforts became records. And because some of the events such as the triple jump, eight-mile and four-mile events, are unknown quantities on the high school level, it's difficult to assess the overall quality of the meet.

BUT THERE was no problem in judging, the mile relay time of Southwestern High as the meet's most spectacular.

The foursome of Greg Robinson, Isaac Lee, Tim Broden and Roy Dukes swept around the oval four times in 3:21.8 for the fastest time ever recorded by a Flint prep unit. And they were really pressed, indicating they might do better.

Considering that the state meet record is 3:20.5, a little pushing might get the Colts into that category.

Nor was there any mistaking the performance of Northern's Willie Polk who was the kingpin in his team's comeback in the last half of the meet.

POLK anchored the winning 440, 660 and 880 relay teams in respective times of 44.0, 1:06.9 and 1:29.7. Dwight Cole was a comrade in all three races while Ron Polk and Ron Light ran the 660 and 440 and Jackson and Mel Kelley in the 880.

Those three victories brought Northern back from a deficit which was 30-2 for Pontiac after six events. At that point it appeared that Grand Blanc and Kearsley would be the Chiefs' biggest opposition but the Big Nine Conference clubs already had used up most of their scoring punch in longer events.

Kearsley was third with 38 points and Grand Blanc shared fourth with Northwestern at 32.

Then came city champion Southwestern with 30, Central 29, Bay City Handy 27, East Lansing 24, Pontiac Northern 18, Flushing and Milford 13, Saginaw 12, Beecher 10 and Howell 6. Davison and Saginaw Arthur Hill failed to score.

SIX OTHER teams had been announced as entries but Lapeer, Ypsilanti, Port Huron, Dearborn, Bay City Central and Royal Oak Kimball failed to appear.

Every event was a relay, including field events where two-man totals constituted a team entry.

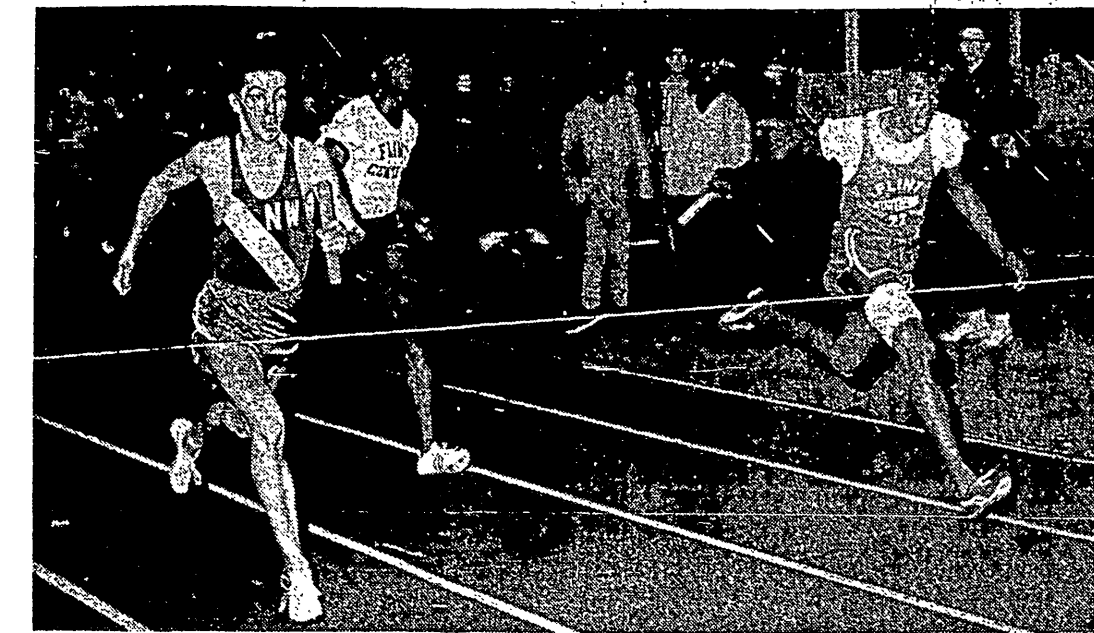
Northern and Pontiac won four events, Southwestern three, Kearsley two and Flushing and Grand Blanc one.

But two Pontiac victories came in field events where first place was worth only five points compared to 10 for the running events. The Chiefs took the high jump, long jump, sprint medley and shuttle hurdles.

NORTHERN'S two-mile crew of Brod Crump, Don Forte, John Butler and Owen Jackson won in 8:19.5. That triumph came in a stretch where the Vikings won four times in five events to build a 42-34 edge over Pontiac with Kearsley standing No. 2 at 36.

But Pontiac chased Southwestern in the mile and pole vault to earn 12 points and a 46-44 lead. Neither the Chiefs nor Northern scored in the triple jump, leaving the championship to hinge on the shot put.

Southwestern's Dave Liddell and Mark Whittaker won the pole vault and Mark Char-



rette and Dan Songer the shot put. Disqualification of the Colts' shuttle hurdles team — after it had won easily — eventually decided the championship because it advanced Pontiac to first place.

TERRY STEWART, Ron Yuille, Art McKnight and George Geisenhaver won the eight-mile and Jim Bonnell,

Mike Coates, Mike Brunet and Kent Raysin won the distance medley for Kearsley. Coach Don Marsh also got good mileage from sprinters Dave Hoover, Jeff Dosh, Nels Abramson and Joe Klobuchar who placed in three events.

Gary Van Kirk and Bart Jenniches won the triple jump for Flushing and Dick Hahn, Bob Mason, Jim Moore and Mike Pierce won the four-mile for Grand Blanc.

Results, page 12.

THREE STRAIGHT—Willie Polk (right) of Northern beats Northwestern's Rick Holaly to the tape Friday night to win the 440-yard relay in the Mott Relays at Houston Stadium. Earlier Polk anchored the Vikings to victory in the 440 and 660-yard events. In the middle is Central's Joe Friend who led his team to fourth place. Northern shared the team title with Pontiac Central. (Journal Photo by Barry Edmonds)



—Journal Photo by BARRY EDMONDS
HURRYIN' HORNET — Kent Raysin has no one close as he completes the distance medley relay in 10:42.9 for one of Kearsley's two victories Friday night in the Mott Relays. The Hornets were third among 17 teams in the first annual event.

MSD Thinclads Finish Third at CMI Relays