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The Saginaw News

Trojans, Hills Have Outside Chance**Midland, NW Title Favorites****BY BILL AYVAZIAN**
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It has seemed like an unusually short, spring sports season for preps due to cold and rainy weather, but time waits for no one and the calendar moves. So, once again it's time to decide a pair of Saginaw Valley League track champions. One of the East one for the West.

Midland, the defending East champ, has a good shot at regaining the title but Pontiac Central—hit by racial strife among team members and coaches—will be hard pressed to keep Flint Northwestern out of the winner's circle in the West.

The Chemics won on home ground last season, but will have to repeat away from their friendly confines. The meet will be held at Flint Northwestern on the all-weather track Friday so times should be good and records broken. Field events and preliminaries get underway at 4 p.m. and running events at 7.

The Chemics have just what it takes to win a league title, individual standouts and team depth.

Hurdler Mike Stuparek, sprinter Jeff Mesler, shot putter Kevin Gay and distance runners Bill Eyre Mark Schaberg and Dick Smith are potential winners. The Chemics are strong in the relays.

Saginaw High's chances of winning the East title have always been slim this season, but they seem even thinner now. Sprinter Reggie Jones' shot putter and relay man Cal O'Neal, relay and dashman Mike Thomas and high jumper Bob Chapman are all ailing and may miss Friday's meet.

"We're not sure of anyone of them for Friday," said Saginaw High track coach Claude Marsh, "but will rest them until then and see how they feel on the day of the meet. Reggie is bothered by a football injury to his knee. We want him ready for the regionals so Friday is doubtful."

Jones has gone 9.9 in the 100 and 22.5 in

the 220 along with anchoring Saginaw High's 880 and 440 relay teams. If he is forced to sit out the meet, the Trojans are in for a bad day.

Midland Dow and Arthur Hill can only be listed as hopefuls in the West. Both have individual performers that could come away with some track loot, but neither has the over-all depth needed to take the title.

Arthur Hill will be counting on its strength in the field events and some exceptional times to move out of the fifth spot it had last season.

"We are strong in the field events this season," beamed Hillite coach John McCarger, "and have a chance to win

them all. Jim Jones and Jack Brechtelsbauer will get us some points and I look for John Combs to do well in the high jump. If our relay teams come through we should do all right."

Jones could do well in the high jump, long jump, 880 and part of the mile relay. Others who carry Hillite hopes are Curt Than, Chuck Beach, Jerry Wilson, John Dersch, Jim Rilf, and John Deering.

Dow has some fine individuals in Kim Poli, Mark Poli, Chris Giering, Mark Foster and Neal Clinthorne.

Northwestern's track should make a big difference in the times over last season (held at Midland) and a good warm day will see many records fall.

**Stuparek Only Double
Leader Others Find**