

# Boys Don't Kid Barb Vogel Now

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Her male peers kidded her and the boys in the neighborhood laughed when she raced around the block.

But, that didn't deter Barb Vogel from continuing to run . . . and run . . . and run. She did exercises, ran long distances, ran sprints and then ran more long distances.

**NOW, AFTER** one year of hard training, the boys at Lansing Catholic Central respect her for what she is—a very quick-footed young lady—and the boys on her block turn their heads when she comes whizzing by for fear she may challenge one of them to a race.

Miss Vogel, a 17-year-old senior-to-be at Catholic Central, is a state champion sprinter, capturing the Class B girls 220-yard dash crown recently. She also placed second in the 100-yard dash.

"Running came kind of natural to me," Miss Vogel explained. "I didn't start to run seriously until the spring of my sophomore year, and when I found out that I could beat most of the girls without training, I decided to start working at it."

**MISS VOGEL** didn't go out for the girls track team in her sophomore year because she was taking driver's training. However, before the Lakewood Girls Invitational, the Catholic Central coach (Jean Bennett) asked her to participate in the meet.

Without any training, she won two races and finished third in another. In the state meet in 1971, Barb was seventh in the 220.

Miss Vogel, who is a very adept softball



BARB VOGEL

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and basketball player, as well, began training diligently following her sophomore year.

"I USE my block as my main training ground," she said after a couple of quick sprints in front of her parents' home at 1728 Tecumseh Drive. "I also ran for more than an hour a day at school each day in the parking lot."

All the hard work paid off for the strong-shouldered sprinter, as she ran the 220 in the "B" championships in :27.45 and the 100 in a runner-up time of :11.9. Her best in the 220 is a :25.8, while her top 100 performance came in the state meet.

"When I saw all of those girls at the state meet, I didn't think I had a chance," Barb confessed. "But, my mother (Helen) told me that I was just as good as they were and I guess she was right."

**MISS VOGEL** works as a dental assistant and wants to enter the field as a dental hygienist. She would like to go to either Michigan, Detroit or Ferris State after her senior year.

"I'd really to go to the University of

Hawai, but my mother won't let me," Barb said, with a laugh.

Whenever she goes, Barb would like to keep her hand in athletics—especially track and softball.

"**MY CHIEF** goal is to break the state record for the 220 of :25.0, and I feel that I can do it by next year," Miss Vogel said. "As for the 100, I was just happy to break 12 seconds for the first time.

"If I keep on improving, I might try for the 1976 Olympics, but that's a long ways off."

Barb's Waverly Challengers softball team has won two straight girls fastpitch city titles, and she would like to try out for the Lansing Laurels next year. She plays centerfield.

**WITH THE** new state rule that girls can compete in athletics with boys, the obvious question arises whether she'd like to be on the Catholic Central track team?

"I'm a realist," Barb said, seriously. "I can beat some boys, but they're not the good ones. I Don't have much chance against the good boys right now, although I enjoy racing against them."

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