

Saginaw High Sprinter Highlights Area Track

BY BILL AYVAZIAN
 News Staff Writer

The quality of high school track has been continuously improving the past few years. This season's performers will do nothing to stop that trend.

Some exceptional times and distances were recorded by area track performers last season, and this year's crop looks like it could do even better.

The News' first area track listings of the season finds some familiar names and teams in the top five of each category from Class A, but some exceptional Class C and D performers have found their way to the top.

Saginaw High, behind the leadership of defending Class A state 100 and 220 dash champ Reggie Jones, has the most leaders with three. Freeland and Mount Pleasant have two each.

Midland, leading in one category, appears to have the most depth with representatives in 11 of the 15 events. Saginaw High is next with eight, followed by Arthur Hill and Bridgeport with six each and Mount Pleasant five.

The Trojans' premier sprinter Jones, who will enroll at the University of Tennessee next fall, leads the 100 and 220 categories with phenomenal times for this early in the season.

He has been clocked at 9.6 seconds in the 100, which equals the state record owned by Michigan State's Marshall Dill. Jones went 20.8 in the 220 dash, just missing Dill's record mark of 20.6 in that event.

Jones also anchors Saginaw High's 880-yard relay team, which placed fourth in the first listing of the season. Mike Thomas, Larry Foster and Robert Walker joined Jones to record a 1:34.9 mark. They're sure to improve on that as the season progresses.

The only other double winner comes from the Class C ranks in Freeland's Dennis Sova. He has emerged as the area's top hurdler. Mike Stuparek has departed from Midland, so the field is wide open this season.

Sova, who looks quite promising for high honors in 'C' this season, has recorded marks of 15.4 in the 120 highs and 20.7 in the 180 lows. Sova is tied with Vassar's Larry Martin for first in the highs.

Mount Pleasant's leaders come from the shot put and 880 relay.

Doug Thielen leads the shot putters with a toss of 53-8 so far this season. Wayne Bouvier of Wayne Eisenhower has already topped the 60-foot mark so that's something for area putters to work at.

The Ollers' 880 quartet of Kip Schmidt, Kelly Beltnick, Dean Bajj and Obe Nwabara lead with a time of 1:34.3. That event is close with the fourth place team, Saginaw High, just five-tenths of a second off the leading time.

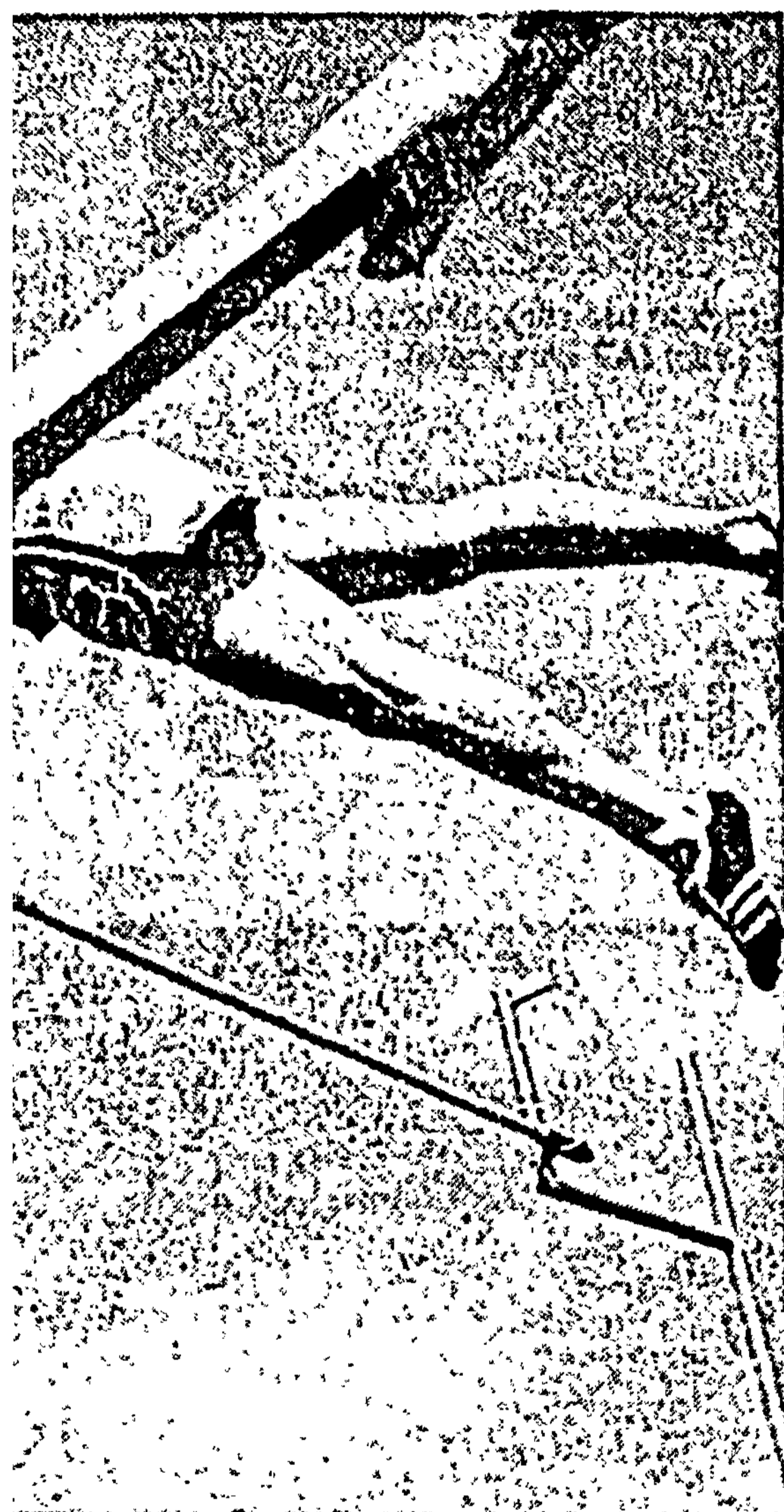
Saginaw High and Midland are the only teams with representatives in each of the three relay events. Bad Axe, Mount Pleasant and Bridgeport are in two of the three categories.

The area performers are still two weeks away from regional meets in their respective classes, but already times and distances have been recorded by event leaders that are good enough to make it as additional qualifiers for regional meets.

The News will print the top times each Sunday, but will need the cooperation of all area coaches in reporting regularly and noting a top effort by an individual and relay team.

News Photos

by Leland R. Watrous



more University relays Saturday at Mount Pleasant. He just missed clearing 13-0, Class which was the winning distance for Redford Union's Scott Bjerke.

Top Area Track Times

SHOT PUT		5. Bad Axe (Tim Ohmer, Ken Sams, Bob Carder, John DeChane) 1:33.3	
1. Doug Thielen, Mount Pleasant	53-8	100 DASH	
2. Paul Walderzak, Arthur Hill	51-8	1. Reggie Jones, Saginaw High	9.6
3. Curt Thon, Arthur Hill	51-0	2. (tie) Jeff Mesler, Midland	10.2
4. Paul Garcia, SS. Peter & Paul's	49-11 1/2	John DeChance, Bad Axe	10.2
5. Bob Neidrich, Unionville-Sebewaing	48-3	4. (tie) Kelly Beltnick, Mount Pleasant	10.3
HIGH JUMP		Bill Hoepfner, Hemlock	10.3
1. Bob Chapman, Saginaw High	6-6	Reggie Carter, Saginaw High	10.3
2. Curt Thon, Arthur Hill	6-4 1/2	Ken Dozier, Saginaw High	10.3
3. (tie) John Combs, Arthur Hill	6-1	Pat Moore, St. Stephen's	10.3
Rick Burks, Midland Dow	6-1	220 DASH	
Ross Anderson, Eisenhower	6-1	1. Reggie Jones, Saginaw High	20.8
LONG JUMP		2. Pat Moore, St. Stephen's	22.4
1. Sam Onsett, St. Louis	32-3	3. (tie) Kelly Beltnick, Mount Pleasant	22.5
2. Neal Holler, Unionville-Sebewaing	21-6	Rick Warwick, Caro	22.5
3. Bill Yeo, MacArthur	21-3 1/2	5. (tie) Mark Poli, Midland Dow	23.0
4. Kim Altman, Midland	21-1/2	Jeff Mesler, Midland	23.0
5. Mark Braman, Midland	20-11 3/4	410 DASH	
POLE VAULT		1. Bill Yeo, MacArthur	50.3
1. Tom Putnam, Caro	13-0	2. Mark Poli, Midland Dow	51.0
2. Randy Balzer, Unionville-Sebewaing	12-9	3. Mike Arnold, Bridgeport	51.1
3. Brian Bailey, Saginaw High	12-8	4. Steve Leinberger, Freeland	51.4
4. Dave Lanigan, Midland	12-7 1/2	5. Larry Bradshaw, Saginaw High	52.3
5. Bob Brechtelsbauer, Arthur Hill	12-6	880 RUN	
MILE RELAY		1. Mike Arnold, Bridgeport	1:59.0
1. Midland (Gary Chase, Paul Gorton, Jeff Mesler, Kim Altman) 3:32.6		2. Gary Champagne, Arthur Hill	2:01.2
2. Vassar (Bill Esckelson, Tyre Proffer, Ron James, Jon Swinton)		3. Andy Kovac, St. Louis	2:01.4
3. Bridgeport (Mike Arnold, Jim Schauman, Steve Johnson, Zane DeForest)		4. Scott Holder, Midland	2:02.4
4. Breckenridge (Tom McCormick, Paul Spiekerman, Rich Neitzker, Rick Gaines)		5. Paul Miller, Midland Dow	2:02.5
5. Saginaw High (Larry Bradshaw, Larry Walker, Howard Taylor, Robert Walker) 3:37.0		120 HIGH HURDLES	
440 RELAY		1. (tie) Larry Martin, Vassar	15.4
1. Midland Dow (Steve Schroeder, Jon Hitchcock, Garry Brubaker, Mark Poli) 43.2		Dennis Sova, Freeland	15.4
2. Midland (Rick Smith, Mark Braman, Kim Altman, Jeff Mesler) 45.3		3. Joey Boyd, Buena Vista	15.7
3. Saginaw High (Mike Thomas, Ken Dozier, Reggie Carter, Larry Foster) 46.1		4. (tie) Dave Bannerman, Frankenmuth	15.8
4. Mount Pleasant (Kip Schmidt, Murray Kempf, Dean Bajj, Don Hawkins) 46.3		Rick Smith, Midland	15.8
5. Bad Axe (Ken Sams, Bob Carder, Tom Shedd, John DeChane) 46.4		140 LOW HURDLES	
800 relay		1. Dennis Sova, Freeland	20.7
1. Mount Pleasant (Kip Schmidt, Kelly Beltnick, Dean Bajj, Obe Nwabara) 1:34.3		2. (tie) Fred Dashner, SS. Peter & Paul's	21.0
2. Bridgeport (Lynell Stiller, Brian Austin, Gevan Woodke, Mike Arnold) 1:34.7		Rick Smith, Midland	21.0
3. Midland (Scholten, Brady, Bousfield, Mesler) 1:34.8		4. Jim Phuddle, Gladwin	21.3
4. Saginaw High (Mike Thomas, Larry Foster, Robert Walker, Reggie Jones) 1:34.9		5. Gevan Woodke, Bridgeport	21
MILE RUN		MILE RUN	
1. Paul Singer, Eisenhower	4:34.9	1. Paul Singer, Eisenhower	4:34.9
2. Kevin Taylor, Eisenhower	4:39.7	2. Kevin Taylor, Eisenhower	4:39.7
3. Paul Grabel, Midland Dow	4:40.1	3. Paul Grabel, Midland Dow	4:40.1
4. John Deering, Arthur Hill	4:40.2	4. John Deering, Arthur Hill	4:40.2
5. Doug Newman, St. Charles	4:40.6	5. Doug Newman, St. Charles	4:40.6
TWO MILE RUN		TWO MILE RUN	
1. Paul Zucker, Arthur Hill	9:47.7	1. Paul Zucker, Arthur Hill	9:47.7
2. Kevin Taylor, Eisenhower	9:52.6	2. Kevin Taylor, Eisenhower	9:52.6
3. Jeff Randolph, Midland	9:52.7	3. Jeff Randolph, Midland	9:52.7
4. Don Law, Bridgeport	10:05.7	4. Don Law, Bridgeport	10:05.7
5. Don McCoy, Hemlock	10:06.0	5. Don McCoy, Hemlock	10:06.0