Byron's Wilcox wins 880

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MOUNT PLEASANT — Byron's Mike Wilcox, despite stumbling on the first turn, still won the 880-yard run in a breeze Saturday during the Class C running of the state high school track championship.

Wilcox's winning time was 1:57.1 while the second place finisher was 10 yards behind in 1:58.6. The Class C record is 1.56.3.

Byron's mile relay team took fourth place to give the Eagles 15 points and ninth place. That mile quartet, consisting of Randy Rauch, Dennis Shafer, Mike Wilcox and Les Wilcox, was timed in 3:35.0.

Alan Baker, winner in the high and low hurdles, and three relay victories gave Detroit St. Martin De Porres its second straight championship.

De Porres scored 73 points, putting them 25 ahead second-place St. Louis.

Three state records were broken and a fourth tied as athletes were hampered somewhat by unseasonably cool weather.

The most impressive record-shattering effort came in the pole vault as Steve Wren of Haslett vaulted 14-feet-1 to better the old mark of 12-11½ set in 1968 and tied in 1970.

Six of the top eight finishers in the pole vault broke the record at 13 feet even, and four of them cleared 13-4.

James Keller of Cassopolis ran the two-mile in 9:48.4, and the De Porrés team clocked 44.1 in the 440-yard relays to set the other new marks.

Baker of De Porres tied the 120-yard : high hurdles mark with a 14.6.

Dave Ratajack of Detroit Country Day collected a pair of firsts in the sprints, winning the 100 with a 10.3 and the 220 with a 22.3.

Sam Onstott of St. Louis won the long jump and placed second in the 220.

