

Southwestern, Northwestern No. 2 in Valley track

By LEN HOYES
Journal Sports Writer

MIDLAND — Flint Northwestern and Southwestern spent most of Saturday afternoon chasing Pontiac Central and Midland in the Saginaw Valley Conference track meet and ended exactly where they began.

Flint's best challengers settled for second place although Southwestern had a much better threat, going to the final event before yielding to Midland, 59-55, in the East Division.

Northwestern was outgunned, 72-52, as Pontiac regained the west title from the Flint champion after a one-year absence.

IN THE WEST, Flint Northern was third with 35. Then came Saginaw Arthur Hill 32, Midland Dow 28 and Bay City Handy 21.

Me and Connie gets fast jump

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Me and Connie jumped to the lead out of the gate and went on to beat the fast-closing Bundler in the \$25,900 Debutante Stakes for 2-year-old fillies on Kentucky Derby Day at Churchill Downs Saturday.

Me and Connie, owned by Patricia Blass and ridden by Jimmy Nichols, opened a four-length lead and then finished 1 1/4 lengths ahead of Bundler for her third straight stakes victory.

In the five-team East, Saginaw was third with 46. Then came Bay City Central with 39 and Flint Central 31.

Because Pontiac Central and Midland were heavily favored in pre-meet figuring, the Flint crew had to get 100 per cent efforts to overtake them. They got good efforts but not 100 per cent.

It was especially true for Southwestern. Coach Gordon Spencer figured his hurdlers would place higher than 4-5 in the highs and 2-3 in the lows and he hoped for a good long jump by Lucian Adams. However, Adams, who may be the best long jumper in Flint, failed to reach the finals and didn't score.

BUT THE COLTS also had some plusses, particularly sophomores Jack Pepler, Marvin Turner and John Brown who helped win the 880, mile and 440 relays.

The 440 crew, which had Brown, Ron Moore, Pepler and Adams running in that order, won in 43.6 seconds which was the only Valley record among 30 events. They erased three-tenths of a second from a one-year-old mark.

Adams, Moore, Pepler and Mark Carrington won the 880 in 1:32.3 and Turner, Ron Watson, Jerry Tiller and Greg Burks won the mile in 3:30.2.

NORTHWESTERN'S Dan Wilkerson broke the West shot put record with a heave of 57 3/4 and teammate Terry

Thames, a sophomore, broke the West long jump record with a leap of 21-2.

Division records have been in effect for only four years since the Valley split into East and West.

Northern and Central won two events.

Sophomore Keith Young won the

Saginaw Valley West
Team scoring and legend — Pontiac Central (P) 72, Flint Northwestern (NW) 52, Flint Northern (N) 35, Saginaw Arthur Hill (AH) 32, Midland Dow (D) 28, Bay City Handy (BCH) 21.

Long jump — 1. Terry Thames (NW), 2. Doug Hill (NW), 3. Steve Moten (NW), 4. Jim Rait (AH), 5. Keith Yates (P) D-21-2. (Breaks West record of 21-1 by Delma Williams, Northwestern, 1970).

High jump — 1. Curt Thon (AH), 2. Anthony Brown (N), 3. John Combs (AH), 4. Doug Gresson (D), 5. Cato (P), H-6-5. (Equals West record by Campanello Russell, Pontiac, 1971).

Shot put — 1. Dan Wilkerson (NW), 2. Carlton Jones (P), 3. Paul Wolkderzak (AH), 4. Thon (AH), 5. Bill Birker (D), D-57-0-4. (Breaks West record of 55-4 by John Roy, Pontiac, 1971).

Pole vault — 1. Rick Malone (P), 2. Rich Roach (P), 3. Brian Wilson (AH), 4. Mike Britton (BCH), 5. John Miller (D), H-12-0.

880 relay — 1. Pontiac (Terry Robertson, Eugene Elliott, Willie Henderson, Lucky Smith), 2. Northern (Birdie Shields, Pat Atkins, Larry Dent, Bernard Lewis), 3. Arthur Hill, 4. Northwestern (Moten, Otha Fordham, Dwight Forte, Herman Thomas, S. Handy, T-1:31.0).

440 — 1. Tim Sulton (BCH), 2. Jeff Welcome (NW), 3. Paul Miller (D), 4. Dave Hernandez (D), 5. Gary Champagne (AH), T-2:00.4.

120 high hurdles — 1. Bill Mitchell (P), 2. Brian Coles (NW), 3. Kevin Jackson (P), 4. Keith Flowers (NW), 5. Jim Besant (N), T-1:52.2.

Mile — 1. Keith Young (N), 2. Steve Elliott (P), 3. Paul Gabriel (D), 4. Tim Gillman (BCH), 5. John Deering (AH), T-4:33.5.

100 — 1. Smith (P), 2. Jim Hitchcock (D), 3. Moten (NW), 4. James Wren (N), 5. Paul Zimon (NW), T-9.9. (Breaks West record of 10.0 by Mike Bianchira, Northwestern, 1971).

440 — 1. Sutton (BCH), 2. Henderson (P), 3. Gary Burks (NW), 4. Lewis (N), 5. Hernandez (D), T-50.6.

180 — low hurdles — 1. Mitchell (P), 2. Coles (NW), 3. Jackson (P), 4. Cato (P), 5. Steve Schroeder (D), T-20.2.

Two-mile — 1. Paul Zucker (AH), 2. Richard Banks (N), 3. Tom Plamp (D), 4. Mike Gregory (BCH), 5. Tim Myers (D), T-9:46.4. (Breaks West record of 9:46.9 by Tom Levengood, Handy, 1970).

220 — 1. Smith (P), 2. Robertson (P), 3. Moten (NW), 4. Shields (N), 5. Brady Purches (NW), T-22.3. (Breaks West record of 22.4 by Ron Paik, Northern, 1970).

Mile relay — 1. Northern (Robert Chambers, K. Young, George Young, Lewis), 2. Dow, 3. Northwestern (Forte, Burks, Hill, Welcome), 4. Handy, 5. Arthur Hill, T-32:27.5.

440 relay — 1. Pontiac (Elliott, Mitchell, Robertson, Henderson), 2. Northern (Shields, Wren, Atkins, Dent), 3. Northwestern (Zimon, Purches, Flowers, Fordham), 4. Dow, 5. Arthur Hill, T-44.2.

West mile in 4:33.5 and joined Robert Chambers, George Young and Bernard Lewis in winning the mile relay in 3:27.5 for Northern.

George Washington took the East shot put at 54-11 1/2 and Don Toatley won the 180 low hurdles in 20.7 for Central.

TOATLEY, WAS second in the high hurdles, third in the long jump and anchored the Tribe 440 relay team to third place. He was the only contestant to place in four events.

Saginaw Valley East
Team scoring and legend — Midland (M) 59, Flint Northwestern (SW) 55, Saginaw (S) 46, Bay City Central (BC) 39, Flint Central (C) 31.

Long jump — 1. Ron McKellar (S), 2. Kim Allman (M), 3. Don Toatley (C), 4. Dale Lo Forrest (BC), 5. Beamon Veasley (SW), D-20-10 1/2.

Shot put — 1. George Washington (C), 2. Greg Beamon (BC), 3. Tim Stickle (M), 4. Willie Dawkins (S), 5. Brad Colter (N), D-56-1 1/2.

Pole vault — John Mizze (BC), 2. Brian Bailey (S), 3. Dave Lonigan (M), 4. Scott Halsey (M), No lift, H-11-6.

High jump — Robert Chapman (S), 2. Terry Hillaker (BC), 3. Terry Thell (M), 4. Terry Brady (X), 5. Veasley (SW), H-4-1 1/2.

880 relay — 1. Southwestern (Lucian Adams, Ron Moore, Jack Pepler, Mark Carrington), 2. Central (William Chafman, Greg Davis, Charles Garrett, Duane Hill), 3. Midland, 4. Bay City Central, T-1:32.3.

440 — 1. Dave Malusi (BC), 2. Eddie Coburn (BC), 3. Steve Gregory (M), 4. Carlos Deleon (S), 5. Jerry Tiller (SW), T-2:00.4.

120 high hurdles — 1. Rick Smith (M), 2. Toatley (C), 3. Jim Engel (BC), 4. Herb McIntosh (SW), 5. Craig Johnson (SW), T-16.2.

Mile — 1. Al Benazette (M), 2. John Thomas (SW), 3. Mark Shadberg (M), 4. Dick Nash (SW), 5. Julius Hobson (C), T-4:36.5.

100 — 1. Reggie Jones (S), 2. Carrington (SW), 3. LoForrest (BC), 4. John Brown (SW), 5. Ken Dozier (S), T-10.0. (Jones' 9.9 in preliminaries equated East record by Reggie Barnett, Flint Central, 1971, and Jones, 1972).

440 — 1. Jeff Messler (M), 2. Larry Bradshaw (S), 3. Malusi (BC), 4. Tiller (SW), 5. Coburn (BC), T-51.5.

180 low hurdles — 1. Toatley (C), 2. Adams (SW), 3. McIntosh (SW), 4. Dawkins (S), 5. Henry McCluno (S), T-20.7.

Two-mile — 1. Al Randall (M), 2. Dave Dexteter (SW), 3. Paul Crane (C), 4. Ted Toland (M), 5. John Bradburn (SW), T-9:44.3.

220 — 1. Jones (S), 2. Carrington (SW), 3. Messler (M), 4. Hill (C), 5. Reggie Carter (S), T-21.9. (Breaks East record of 22.1 by Jones, 1972).

Despite nine Flint victories, the day really belonged to the non-Flint contingent.

Saginaw's Reggie Jones won the 100 and the 220 in 21.9 for two East records. Pontiac's Lucky Smith broke records with 9.9 and 22.3 for the same events in the West. Jones is the defending state champion in both races. He might have helped another victory but Saginaw was disqualified in the 880 relay, moving Southwestern to first.

Also West records were the 9:46.4 two miles of Arthur Hill's Paul Zucker and teammate Curt Thin's 6-5 high jump. The latter effort tied the record.

MIDLAND WON FOUR events and had two second-place finishes against Southwestern's three firsts and five seconds. The Chemics scored in all except the 100 and low hurdles while Southwestern scored in all except the pole vault.

Until the pole vault finish was announced, SW and Midland had 55 points. But Midland earned third and fourth

places in a mediocre competition (the winner cleared only 11-6) to nail down the East crown for the third straight year.

Northwestern stayed close to Pontiac throughout the afternoon but it was an inaccurate picture because of the pole vault. When the pole vault was finished, the Chiefs' 1-2 finish accounted for 10 points, half of their 20-point margin.

PONTIAC SCORED in all except the 880, two-mile and mile relay, not even bothering to enter the relay. Northwestern was blanked in the high jump, mile, two-mile and pole vault.

The 'Cats picked up 13 points with a 1-2-3 finish in the long jump but Coach Sy Collins didn't have the first-place strength to maintain the advantage.

Pontiac won seven of the 15 West events and added four second places. NW had two firsts and four seconds, including hurdler Brian Coles who was dethroned in the highs and lows. He was coming off a leg injury and was still below par, being edged by Pontiac's Bill Mitchell.

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