



Pontiac Central's Steve Elliott

Pontiac star shatters mile

By KEN WILLIAMS
News Sports Writer

FLINT — Steve Elliott knows the value of a finishing kick and it was his explosive burst of late speed Saturday that was most responsible for a state Class A high school mile record of 4:08.2 in Guy Houston Stadium.

The blistering performance by the Pontiac Central star wiped out the second-oldest Class A mark on the books — the 4:13.2 mile of Louis Scott of Detroit Eastern in 1963. The oldest record, eventual Olympic champion Rex Cawley's time of 19.0 seconds for the 180-yard low hurdles for Farmington in 1958, escaped again.

Elliott wound up one second ahead of Jeff Randolph of Midland, who was timed in 4:09.2. Sam James of Highland Park was third in 4:15.7 with Eric Burt of Ann Arbor Pioneer fourth in 4:16.2, Doug Sweazey of Garden City East fifth in 4:16.6 and Bill Spencer of Grosse Pointe South sixth in 4:18.0.

Completing the field were Dan Heikkinen of Adrian, seventh in 4:18.2, and Tony Badalamenti of St. Clair Shores Lakeview, eighth in 4:18.7.

"I knew if I didn't have that finishing kick I'd lose again like I did last year," Elliott said.

"Last year I finished second in 4:16.2 to Ed Grabowski of West Bloomfield (4:15.8). It was in

the last 10th of a mile that I got beat. I'll never forget it. I was sure today I'd break the record after I did that 4:12.4 in the All-Oakland County meet just a week ago."

Randolph led the first lap with Elliott taking over on the second. They ran side-by-side most of the third lap before Elliott set himself up for the finish — and the kick that easily beat Scott's effort of 12 years ago.

Elliott is an 18-year-old senior bound for the University of Michigan. He stands 5 feet 9 and weighs 143 pounds.

Elliott's record was one of only two set in the state Class AA finals. Detroit Cass posted the other in the 440-yard relay with a time of 42.3 seconds. The old standard was a 42.8 by Detroit Kettering in 1974.

Members of the Cass foursome were Sam White, Tom Seaborn, Roosevelt Smith and double sprint winner Harlan Huckleby. Flint Southwestern was second in 42.9 and Flint Northwestern was third in 43.1.

Huckleby won the 100-yard dash in 9.8 seconds, trailed by Jackson's Randy Smith in 9.8 and William Copeland of Detroit Cooley in 9.9. Then he beat Ron Feaster of Flint Southwestern to the finish in the 220 in the time of 21.9 to Fenster's 22 flat. Again, Copeland was third.

Flint Southwestern captured the team title

with 39 points, although Coach Fred Jackson's squad failed to win an event. Its previous state Class A title was earned in 1966.

Flint Northwestern, sparked by defending champion Terry Thames' winning long jump of 23 feet, 7½ inches, was runner-up with 38 points and Cass was third with 35. Jackson was fourth with 30.

In a three-way tie for fifth with 22 points were Saginaw, Flint Northern and Grand Blanc. Cooley was eighth with 21.

In addition to Feaster's second in the 220, Flint Southwestern had seconds in both the 440 and 880 relays from the same foursome of Feaster, Carlyle Richardson, Booker Moore and Dexter Shankle.

Defending champion Keith Young of Flint Northern repeated in the 880 on a clocking of

Aaron is upset by slow start

MILWAUKEE — (AP) — Henry Aaron says his disappointing start with the Milwaukee Brewers this season has got him down.

And the fame attendant to breaking Babe

e mark

1:51.3. Young, bound for Tennessee, was trailed by Jerry Wojtala of Trenton in 1:52.7 and Ken Brown of Livonia Stephenson in 1:53.5.

"I had a little trouble when I got boxed in on the first lap (by Brown and Brian King of Rochester Adams)," Young said. "But things managed to open up eventually and I broke away."

In the 440, Greg Anderson of Detroit Southeastern missed the state record by four-tenths of a second with a winning time of 48.4. Willie Washington of Pontiac Northern was second in 48.8 and Mark DeMerrit of Plymouth Salem was third in 49.0.

Arnett Chisholm of Taylor Center took the 120 high hurdles in 14.2. Keith Edwards of Grand Rapids Creston won the 180' lows in 19.3. Tom Calvert of Jackson won the two-mile in 9:13.7.

In the field events, John Kretschmer of Bloomfield Lahser won the pole vault at 14 feet, 8 inches.

Complete results — Page 4F