

Beecher captures title but not the 'B' trophy

By CHUCK JOHNSON
Journal Sports Writer

BATTLE CREEK—Flint Beecher High's track team scored 42 points to win the state Class B track title here Saturday, but the Buccaneers were forced to go home without the first place trophy because of an error in the team scoring.

The error, which gave Dearborn Heights Robichaud eight points in the two-mile run although it didn't have a competitor entered, caused a scene at the Harper Creek High School Stadium that won't soon be forgotten by the fans who were still in the stands to witness it.

Beecher Coach Marty Crane had informed his squad of its victory on the basis of his final scoresheet that had Beecher on top and Robichaud second with 39 points.

The jubilant Buccaneers were posed on the winners' stand, prepared to accept the first-place trophy and nearly everybody left the stadium with the impression that Beecher was the state champion.

Then a public address announcement said that Robichaud was the winner with 47 points and Beecher was second. The message caused instant pandemonium from the Robichaud team while Beecher's trackmen jumped from the stand in disgust and disbelief.

Crane, after gathering his composure from the sudden turn of events, asked the meet director, Ralph Kenyon, to go over Robichaud's scoring. After a brief check, Kenyon found the mistake that had given Robichaud eight points in the two-mile. The points should have been awarded to Dearborn Divine Child's Kevin Marcy.

Kenyon immediately announced the correct results but by that time Robichaud had boarded its bus and was headed out of the stadium. An attempt by some of the Beecher runners failed and several calls over the PA were also unheeded by the now accelerating caravan.

Even without the first place trophy temporarily, Beecher's victory was sweet.

The Bucs scored in six events, including two first places to claim their first-ever state championship. It ended a successful athletic year for the school which won the state Class B basketball crown in March.

Paced by the workhorse performance of Anthony Akins, the Bucs had too much overall talent to be denied the title they were favored to win.

Akins triumphed in the 120-yard high hurdles and also had a hand in the Bucs' winning mile relay victory. In addition, the senior standout anchored his team's second-place 440 relay unit and capped a fourth place in the 40-yard dash.

Akins posted a 14.2 in the high hur-

dles, barely nipping Victor Huguley, who had run a 14.1 in the preliminaries for a state record.

The mile relay unit of Benard Carpenter, Ricky Franklin, Ricky Curtis and Akins was clocked in the winning time of 3:23.1. Beecher's 440 relay quartet of James Ross, Kenneth Miller, Jessie Hogan and Akins finished with a 43.9, a step behind Muskegon Heights which won in 43.8.

Akins' time in the 440 was 49-flat. The event was won by Brian Blank of Grand Rapids Northview with a state record time of 48.3.

Beecher also got points from

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Stones sets jump record

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Dwight Stones of Long Beach State, making a promise he could keep, broke his world high jump record with a leap of 7 feet, 7 inches Saturday at the 55th annual National Collegiate Track and Field Championships.

Stones, an Olympic bronze medalist with his sights on a gold in Montreal this summer, set the old mark of 7-6 1/2 in 1973 while competing for the Pacific Coast Club.

The cocky Stones predicted he would set a world mark at the NCAA's because he felt he wouldn't reach it in the Olympic Games this summer at Montreal. Stones described the Olympics as a drag.

His effort Saturday, anything but a drag, marked the ninth time he set a world record in the high jump and the 19th time he has gone over 7-5.

Stones said the high jump at the Olympic Games takes five hours, and is nerve wracking. He predicted high jumpers at the Games will not be able to keep their muscles loose for so long a period.

The 22-year-old Stones was at Munich in 1972, finishing third and suffering from a lack of experience.

But he went back to Munich in 1973 in a dual meet against West Germany and jumped 7-6 1/2, then a world record.

The NCAA record was 7-4, set by Ray Brown of California Poly at San Luis Obispo and Tom Woods of Oregon, both in 1973.

Tennessee's Phil Olsen won the javelin title with a mark of 273 feet. He edged Brigham Young's Dick George who threw 270-8.

Beecher earns title without trophy

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Hubert Massey with a fourth in the discus, and Larry Wiley with a fourth in the low hurdles.

Before the running events began, the Flint area was well represented with Bentley's Gordon Jackson setting a state record in the high jump with 6-feet, 9-inches. That broke the former mark of 6-8 $\frac{1}{2}$ set in 1974 by Jeff Swanson of Battle Creek Pennfield.

Jackson missed his first two tries at 6-7 before clearing it and then conquered 6-8 on his first attempt. Now the lone jumper, Jackson, re-broke the record on his second attempt.

Linden's Randy Rife captured the 220-yard dash in 21.6 and was nosed out in the 100-yard dash. Mike Ball of Wyoming Park nipped Rife with a lean. Both were timed in 9.9.

Ball was a double winner, posting a 19.4 in the low hurdles.

Sam Angell of Holland West Ottawa established a state mark in the discus the first time the event was held with a toss of 161 feet, 9 inches.

Robichaud's Everette Charlston won the long jump with a leap of 22-feet, 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Tom Spian of Royal Oak Shrine led the pole vault field with a 14-4 effort.

A teammate, Mike Hetes, was the winner of the shot put with a 58-1 toss.

River Rouge claimed the 880 relay victory with a 1:31.2 clocking. Mark Polman of Wyoming Rogers took the mile run in 4:18.0.

Other area place finishers included Linden's Lee Wolverton, fifth in the shot put; Holly's 880 relay quartet of Craig Brooks, Chris Brooks, Kurt Ebert and John Lueb with a fourth; Jeff Lewis of Holly, sixth in the 880 run; Chris Gilbert of Fenton, third and Joe Herronen of Holly, sixth, in the mile run.

Fenton's Rob Bancroft was third in the 880 and teammate Mark Kaufman ended fourth in the long jump.

Taylor sent to Houston

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Veteran receiver Otis Taylor of the Kansas City Chiefs was traded to the Houston Oilers for an undisclosed future draft choice.

Taylor, an 11-year National Football League veteran, joined the Chiefs as a fourth round draft choice from Prairie View A&M in 1965.

He leaves Kansas City as the Chiefs' all-time leading career pass receiver

with 410 catches for 7,306 yards and 57 touchdowns. Taylor ranks second behind Oakland Raider Fred Biletnikoff among active American Football Conference receivers and 21st on the all-time NFL career receiver list.

Taylor's best seasons for the Chiefs were in 1966 and 1967. He had a personal high of 59 receptions in 1967 for 958 yards and 11 touchdowns. He had 58 catches for 1,297 yards and eight touchdowns in 1966.