

California weather aids area trackmen

By LEN HOYES

A little of California visited Mt. Morris High Monday night and perfect weather paid dividends in the ninth annual Greater Flint Track and Field Invitational.

"This is California weather," said Duane Raffin, the veteran coach from Holly High. He added, "It's like this in California all the time. No wonder they get such great performances."

"Our kids are as good as theirs but we don't have the good weather. Give us this weather all spring and you'd see what our kids could do."

Temperature in the 80's— it was 84 at the start— provided the chance and the contestants followed through with a record-shattering performance before the largest crowd in the history of the meet.

FIVE RECORDS tumbled, including two of the oldest, and the one-mile run lived up to advance notice by producing the fastest time of the spring in Michigan.

Two other winning performances would have been records under normal circumstances but they were up against excellent records.

Southwestern and Kearsley won five events, the Colts claiming two records and the Hornets one.

Linden, with two victories, led the Class B entrants which took five events. Lapeer East, Beecher, and Bentley won one among the five 'B' triumphs and Northwestern accounted for the other 'A' victory.

RON KING OF Northwestern wiped out the last record from the inaugural meet in 1970, covering the 880 in 1:53.2, two seconds better than the record.

Brian Carpenter of Southwestern leaped 22-10 to break the long jump record of 22-7 which had stood since 1971.

Carpenter also had a hand in the 880 relay record, joining Anthony Battle, Norm Graham and Reggie Mitchell in a 1:29.1 finish. The same foursome won the 440 relay in 43.0, only one-tenth of a second off the record.

Dave Duchene of Kearsley shattered the discus record by almost eight feet with a heave of 162-1, breaking the mark of 154-1½.

Larry Wiley of Beecher cracked the one-year-old mark of 39.2 in the 330 hurdles with a time of 38.25.

DAVE PODSADECKI of Kearsley turned in the fastest mile in Michigan this spring of 4:16.4. It wasn't a record only because a former state champion, Dave Baker of Kearsley, set the mark of 4:15.6 in 1971.

Jeff Lewis of Holly pushed Podsadeci to the limit, finishing second in 4:17.7. The top five finishers were under 4:23.0.

Terry Doherty, another of Kearsley's seemingly endless supply of distance specialists, won the two-mile in 9:18.7. He already owned the Greater Flint record of 9:14.5 from last year when he ran for Davison.

Kearsley's Rick Hayden won the 440 in 49.8, again denied a record because it's owned by a former state champion.

Pole vaulter Steve Shock of Kearsley won at 13-6.

GRAHAM EARNED Southwestern's fifth victory with a time of 22.6 in the 220.

The Class B contingent, which never is embarrassed in this meet, had these other victories:

Jeff Rowe of Linden, 10.3 in the 100, and teammate Jim Lamb, 52-4½ in the shot put.

Keith Lange of Lapeer East, 6-4 in the high jump. Benny Rosalez, Bentley, 14.6 in the 120 hurdles, only one-tenth off the meet record.

Besides winning five events, the Class B crew was second in five events and third in 11 events.

ROWE ALSO WAS second in the 220, third in the long jump and helped Linden take third in the 440 relay.

Wiley was second in the high hurdles.

The sprint field was hampered by the absences of Northern's Michael Miller, state champion the last two years in the 220, and Lake Fenton's Vern Chontos, 1977 Class B sprint champion.

But there was enough overall strength to encourage meet officials to try the same Memorial Day date in 1979.

Raffin said, "All we need is a little of this California weather and we'll put on a show for the people. They saw the talent. Now, if we could only control the weather."

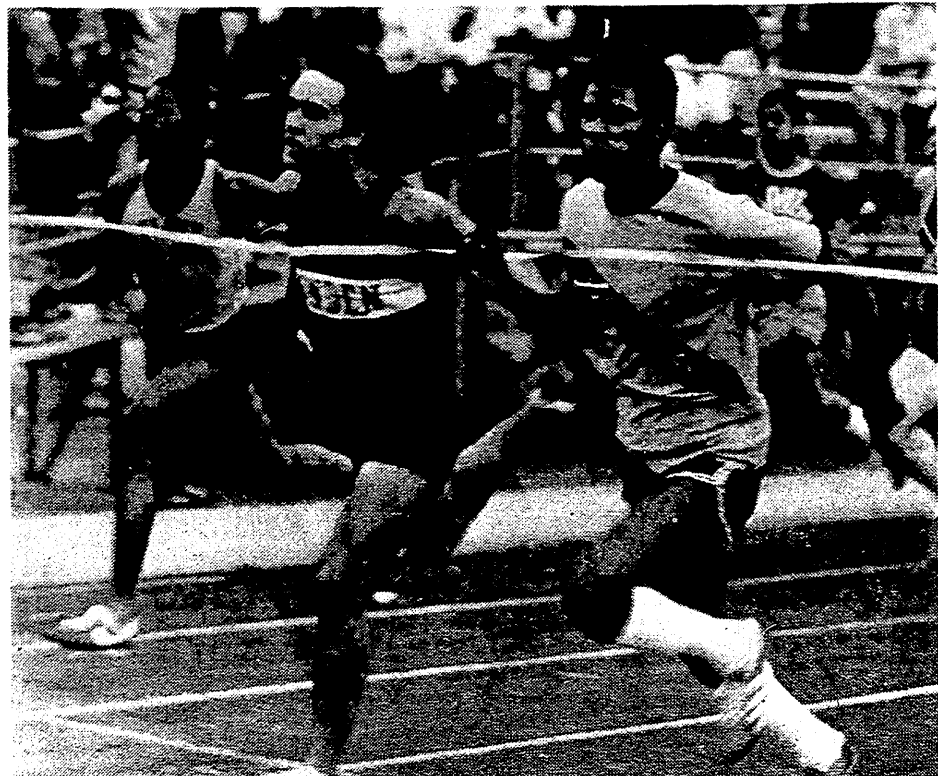


Dave Duchene... discus mark of 162-1



— Journal Photos by LLOYD E. MOEBIUS

Dave Podsadeci... state's best mile



'B' IS BUZZING — Jeff Rowe of Linden pushes into the finish tape to nip Anthony Battle of Southwestern and Quintin Reese of Flint Academy in the 100-yard dash Monday night in the Greater Flint Track and Field Invitational at Mt. Morris High. Rowe's victory in 10.3 seconds was one of two Linden triumphs and one of five by Class B entries.

before. I used to be timid. Now I go right after them."
Baltimore Manager Earl Weaver said McGregor serves a good mix of fastballs, curves, sliders and changeups and "the key to his success is control— being able to get all four of them over."

complete games. The 24-year-old lefthander was working on a three-hitter and had a 6-1 lead until the ninth inning when Ron LeFlore singled and Rusty Staub smacked a homer.

CARLOS LOPEZ opened the game with a home run, while Rick Dempsey accounted for the other Baltimore run

of the Orioles.

"**YOU HAVE** to be lucky," designated hitter May said of his 32 two-homer games. "The pitcher has to throw the ball where you're swinging."

May raised his homer total to 11 and RBI count to 36 with a three-run shot in the third and a solo number in the

Home sweet? Not for Tigers

By LARRY PALADINO

DETROIT (AP) — Home sweet home?

Don't tell the Detroit Tigers how much better it is to play in your own stadium.

They won just once in eight tries on the road, only to return home and

