

## Cass and Central score 'Friendship' track wins

By Michael James Of The Detroit News Staff

The Cass Tech girls and the Central boys won Public School League track titles rather easily last week.

At Saturday's Operation Friendship track championships, held at University of Detroit Jesuit, Cass again won by a mile.

Central needed a little luck — and the Trail Blazers' luck turned out to be a bad break for Detroit Pershing.

Central won the overall competition 53-52 over Pershing, which lost star runner Darnell Hall in the 400-meter race. Hall suffered a strain in his right leg about 300 meters into the race, but he overcame the pain to win in 48.6.

With Hall unable to compete in the 1600-meter relay, the final event in the boys' meet, Central won the race (3:23.4) and the title.

Pershing, which placed second to Central in the PSL meet, was fifth with a time of 3:30.2.

"If I had run in the mile relay, we would have won," said a disappointed

Hall, who earlier anchored the 800meter relay (1:30.0) to a come-frombehind victory. "Something always haunts us."

The final standings will show Hall capturing the 200-meter dash, in which he had been the favorite. Though Hall's injury kept him out, teammate Jerald Johnson entered, using Hall's name, and won in 22.5. He gave the first-place medal to Hall.

"I'm going to give him this because he would have won it anyway," said Johnson, a sophomore who also won the 100-meter dash (10.9). "He's gonna have to take it, because he would have won by a lot more than I did. I was just filling in for him." Central Coach Woody Thomas

Central Coach Woody Thomas was with Hall after the race, instructing the Pershing star on how to care for his injury and prepare for Saturday's state finals.

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"We had a little luck again,"
Thomas said after talking with Hall.
"It hurt Pershing when Hall went
down, but they still got 10 points for
the win in the 200. We lost a lot of
points out there today."

## PSL 5-26-1990

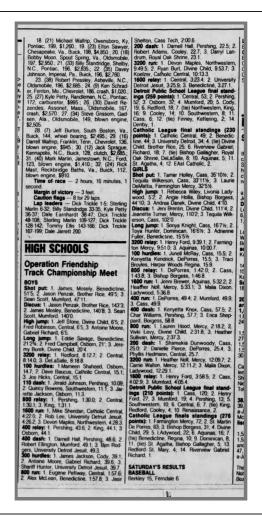
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