

'Unhealthy' Beecher wins Mott Relays

By BILL KHAN

Jordan sports writer

If Beecher High's boys' track team was hobbling, opposing teams don't want to see the Buccaneers in peak condition.

Beecher eased the pre-meet fears of Coach Marty Crane by winning the 23rd annual C.S. Mott Relays Friday night by an 86-59 margin over runnerup Midland at Houston Stadium.

The Buccaneers, who entered the meet with the fastest times in only two events, won four events and scored points in 10 of the 11 they entered.

The 13 other schools on hand won't buy the fact that Beecher was a wounded team.

"We've got a couple of nagging injuries," Crane said. "We're not really healthy. I was apprehensive about the times I turned in. Prior to that, we were healthy and those are times we were capable of doing."

As it turned out, Beecher turned out season-best performances in several races.

The Buccaneers won the shot put relay, the shuttle hurdle relay, the 400 relay and the 1,600 relay. Larnel Kirkland, Ronald Allen, Jimmy Lacy and Michael Jones were each on two winning relay units.

In the 400, Midland ran a school-record 43.59, but Beecher still came out on top by registering a 43.20.

"We had perfect passes all the way through the 400," Crane said. "Our school record is 42.9. The kids have been looking at the board at school and say, 'We're not far away, coach.'"

The victory was Beecher's sixth in the Mott Relays, one short of Northern's record. This spring, the Buccaneers have won four consecutive invitationals after losing their first big meet at the Huron Relays.

"We had a discipline problem and only took five kids to the Huron Relays," Crane said. "We didn't do that well, but it woke some kids up."

Northern's trio of Marvin Allen, Greg Smith and Akil Young were members of the Vikings' winning C.S. Mott and sprint medley relay teams. Those victories helped the Vikings finish third with 40 points.

In the girls' meet, Brighton won its first C.S. Mott title by edging defending champion Ann Arbor Pioneer 48-42. Saginaw was third with 40 points, Northern fourth with 36 and Central fifth with 33.

The quartet of Jacqi Darby, Domicka Fordham, Tina Boxley, Rondee Gaines won the 800 and 400 relays to rack up 24 of the Lady Vikings' points.

Central won the shot put relay and the long jump relay and Northwestern's Arelia Berry won the 100-meter dash in 12.33 seconds.

C.S. Mott Relays

Boys

Team scoring — Beecher 86, Midland 59, Northern 40, Ann Arbor Huron 36, Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 33, Midland Dow 24, Brighton 22, Southwestern Academy 16, Pinckney 14, Flint Central 11, Northwestern and Saginaw Buena Vista 10, Saginaw Arthur Hill 9, Detroit Osborn 0.

6,400 relay — 1. Ann Arbor Huron (Chad Tibbetts, James Carson, Rob Robson, Jason Franzel) 19:14.3, 2. Beecher 19:28.10, 3. Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 19:29.37, 4. Midland Dow 20:07.40, 5. Pinckney 20:10.00.

Pole vault relay — 1. Midland Dow (Chris McManus, Todd Dalman) 26-6, 2. Midland 24-6, 3. Pinckney 22-6, 4. Brighton 13-6, 5. Flint Central 12-6.

Discus relay — 1. Beecher (Louis Tyson, Kareem Vaughn) 272-10; 2. Brighton 271-3, 3. Ann Arbor Huron 270-8, 4. Midland 265-2, 5. Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 258-0.

Long jump relay — 1. Midland (Stacey Cowan, Jason Burtch) 40-8½; 2. Southwestern Academy 39-4¼; 3. Beecher 38-5¼, 4. Northwestern 38-9¼, 5. Saginaw Arthur Hill 37-10½.

C.S. Mott relay (4x200) — 1. Northern (Marvin Allen, Greg Smith, Damon Garrett, Akil Young) 1:29.30, 2. Beecher 1:30.71; 3. Midland 1:31.40, 4. Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 1:31.60, 5. Saginaw Arthur Hill 1:32.40.

Shuttle hurdle relay — 1. Beecher (Ramsay Walkins, Larnel Kirkland, Obie Perry, Ronald Allen) 1:00.49, 2. Northern 1:01.81, 3. Midland 1:04.43, 4. Flint Central 1:04.90; 5. Pinckney 1:05.84.

Sprint medley relay (400-200-200-400) — 1. Northern (Allen, Smith, Young, Reggie Harris) 2:26.49, 2. Southwestern Academy 2:27.31; 3. Beecher 2:28.44, 4. Northwestern 2:30.93, 5. Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 2:32.30.

3,200 relay — 1. Brighton (Trevor Darnell, Chris Seiler, Todd Nibbe, Todd Snyder) 8:06.57, 2. Beecher 8:12.53; 3. Pinckney 8:15.30, 4. Midland 8:40.04, 5. Southwestern Academy 9:06.41

Shot put relay — 1. Midland Dow (Bob Murray, Chris Parnello) 94-

11½; 2. Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 94-11; 3. Saginaw Arthur Hill 93-7; 4. Ann Arbor Huron 90-7, 5. Midland 86-11½.

Distance medley relay (800-400-1,200-1,600) — 1. Ann Arbor Huron (Marcus Askew, Dave Borgsdorf, Robeson, Tibbetts) 11:21.16; 2. Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 11:29.27, 3. Midland 11:44.79; 4. Flint Central 11:54.45, 5. Saginaw Arthur Hill 12:00.79.

High jump relay — 1. Midland (Joe Kackoisen, Brian Kerestes) 12-10, 2. Beecher 12-0, 3. Ann Arbor Huron 6-2; 4. Flint Central 5-10, 400 relay — 1. Beecher (Michael Jones, Garth Spight, Kirkland, Jimmy Lacy) 43.20, 2. Midland 43.59 (school record); 3. Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 43.91; 4. Saginaw Buena Vista 44.46; 5. Ann Arbor Huron 44.50.

1,600 relay — 1. Beecher (Allen, Jones, Lacy, Marcus Tipton) 3:27.14; 2. Northern 3:27.20, 3. Saginaw Buena Vista 3:30.50; 4. Northwestern 3:30.59, 5. Brighton 3:31.66.

Girls

Team scoring — Brighton 48, Ann Arbor Pioneer 42, Saginaw 40, Northern 36, Flint Central 33, Ann Arbor Huron 28, Northwestern 23, Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 19½, Midland 15, Midland Dow 12½, Saginaw Arthur Hill 11, Southwestern Academy 8.

C.S. Mott relay (800-400-800) — 1. Brighton (Lara Grimes, Andrea Boyer, Theresa Mau, Carolyn Slosser) 7:06.88, 2. Midland Dow 7:10.48, 3. Northwestern 7:12.83, 4. Ann Arbor Pioneer 7:13.64, 5. Saginaw 7:15.20.

Shot put relay — 1. Flint Central (Chalan Pea, Allison Smith) 63-5; 2. Brighton 62-5½, 3. Saginaw Arthur Hill 60-2, 4. Midland Dow 56-3½, 5. Northwestern 56-1.

Shuttle hurdle relay — 1. Brighton (Heidi Mundy, Emily Duggan, Becky Katoia, Kim Aubert) 1:05.80; 2. Ann Arbor Pioneer 1:09.19; 3. Saginaw 1:09.20, 4. Northern 1:11.29; 5. Midland 1:13.30.

High jump relay — 1. Midland (Molly Kuczak, Amy Schlicklin) 9-8; 2. Flint Central 9-2, 3. Brighton 9-0; 4. Southwestern Academy 4-8, 5. (Tie) Kalamazoo Loy Norrix and Midland Dow 4-6.

800 relay — 1. Northern (Jacqi Darby, Domicka Fordham, Tina Boxley, Rondee Gaines) 1:46.26, 2. Saginaw 1:47.30; 3. Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 1:47.40, 4. Flint Central 1:49.45; 5. Ann Arbor Huron 1:50.64.

3,200 relay — 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer (Ingrid Sharporn, Randi Henry, Tonya Favers, Sarah Hagen) 10:03.32, 2. Brighton 10:11.92; 3. Ann Arbor Huron 10:41.19, 4. Saginaw 10:48.89, 5. Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 10:50.70.

100 — 1. Arelia Berry (Northwestern) 12.33, 2. Darby (Northern) 12.48, 3. Denise Edwards (Kalamazoo Loy Norrix) 12.50, 4. Antonica Bibbs (Flint Central) 12.53, 5. Nikki Walker (Saginaw Arthur Hill) 12.54.

Discus relay — 1. Ann Arbor Huron (Robyn Kimmye, Brooke Larson) 209-6, 2. Ann Arbor Pioneer 207-11, 3. Brighton 199-3, 4. Northwestern 174-6, 5. Flint Central 166-0.

1,600 — 1. Bridget Mann (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 5:14.28, 2. Sylvia Morino (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 5:31.16, 3. Amy Mischley (Midland) 5:34.97, 4. Michelle Schaefer (Kalamazoo Loy Norrix) 5:37.70, 5. Mary Lynn (Midland Dow) 5:41.80.

Long jump relay — 1. Flint Central (Bibbs, Nicola Mossey) 30-2; 2. Saginaw Arthur Hill 29-4¼; 3. Ann Arbor Huron 29-3, 4. Brighton 28-9¼; 5. Midland Dow 28-4.

400 relay — 1. Northern (Fordham, Darby, Boxley, Gaines) 51.12, 2. Saginaw 51.35, 3. Southwestern Academy 51.55; 4. Ann Arbor Huron 52.09, 5. Ann Arbor Pioneer 52.27.

1,600 relay — 1. Saginaw (Nelson, Taito, Drake, Thomas) 4:14.40, 2. Northwestern 4:14.92, 3. Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 4:19.34, 4. Northern 4:19.56; 5. Ann Arbor Huron 4:20.49.