



BEST CLASS A BETS? BIRMINGHAM AND FLINT NORTHERN

Central Classic Beckons Maples, Cranes

Pontiac Central's decision not to enter the Central Michigan college relays at Mount Pleasant has left the gate wide open for a titular duel between Birmingham and Flint Northern in Saturday's class A segment of the huge schoolboy track carnival.

The relays, grand-daddy of all such high school einder spectacles, unfold for the 18th time Friday with class B and D competition. Saturday is reserved for the class A and C tracksters.

Considered a sneak preview of the state finals late this month, the two-day einder affair will attract a record 2,700 thrillers from a record 173 schools.

CRANBROOK WILL CARRY this area's hopes in class B while, with powerful Pontiac out of the running, Coach Kermit Ambrose's Birmingham charges may have their golden opportunity for Central's top class A honors.

Pontiac, the state class A king the past three years, copped the Central crown in 1955 and 1956. Flint Northern dislodged the Chiefs from the throne last year.

The Chiefs, winners of Eastern Michigan college's indoor Huron relays in late March and the recent Mansfield, Ohio, relays, were shaded by Northern for the Central Michigan class A indoor invitational crown several weeks ago.

Northern took a convincing dual victory in a showdown at Pontiac last Friday.

Scheduling difficulties will keep Pontiac out of this week-end's Central meet.

BIRMINGHAM'S POINT potential lies in the field events and the distance relays.

Junior Bill Alcorn, who has been consistently clearing the 12-foot mark, should give the Maples a first in the pole vault. He was second at Mansfield at 12-6.

Chuck Gibson could make it two field events firsts in the shotput. His 53-foot-plus heaves this spring rank among the best in state prep ranks. He finished third in the Mansfield meet.

Fellows like Jim Reilly, Bob Benson, Dick Boyd, Rich Riey, Lee Tout, Fraser Cocks and Phil Ingraham give Birmingham plenty of strength in the relay events—of which there are many.

CRANBROOK TRACK COACH Ben Snyder will take his full squad to tomorrow's class B affair, and the Cranes could come home with a fair share of individual—and possibly team—laurels.

Top Crane entries include sophomore dashman Larry Dewitt, quarter-mile and high-jump ace Tom Noteware, miler

Chris Platon, Norwegian exchange student, and half-miler Rick Williams.

Snyder has entered teams in five relays.

The 173 schools entered in the Mount Pleasant meet include 90 in class A, 50 in class B, 54 in class C and 39 in class D.

THE CLASS A ENTRANTS include Muskegon Heights, Battle Creek, Taylor Central, Inker, Bay City Central, Detroit LaSalle, East Detroit, Lansing Eastern, Lansing Sexton, Saginaw Arthur Hill, Port Huron, Saginaw, Traverse City, Saginaw Catholic, Hazel Park, Waterford, Kimball, Lapeer, Muskegon Catholic, Detroit Catholic, Farmington, Flint Central, Detroit St. Joseph, Thurston, Muskegon, Roseville, Walled Lake and Romulus.

Both Friday and Saturday sessions open at 9:30 a.m. Afternoon events both days begin at 2 p.m.

Field events and preliminaries in the hurdles and 100-yard dash are first on the morning schedule. Finals in three relay events will be held in the morning, the first, the two-mile relay, at 10:05 a.m.

Both field events and running event finals are on the afternoon docket.

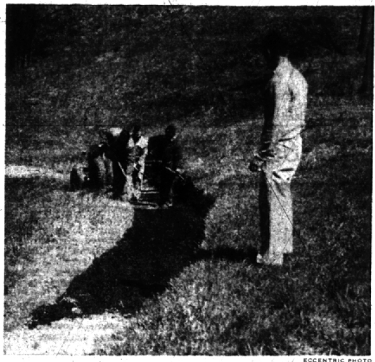
Derby Swimmers Capture State Novice Laurels

Birmingham swim club, under the direction of James Glier, Derby junior high physical education and swimming instructor, captured the state novice swimming championship recently at Patton pool, Detroit.

Birmingham's 75 points doubled the second place score, 38, in the 13-team field. Six of nine first places went to the Derby swimmers.

Individual first place swimmers were Ricky Jay, Wayne Andrade and Tim Hannon. The quartet of John Vidcar, Gary Hendrickson, Hugh Clark and Jim Elliott won the 200-yard freestyle relay.

OTHER POINT winners for Birmingham were Jim Leashy, Larry Severy, Mike McCarthy, Tom Kennedy, Fred Osterbeck, Bill Quick and Ted Wildlund.



Blacktopped, Too

A blacktopped path leading down the hill from the ninth tee is one of many improvements being made at Birmingham's Springdale Park golf course this year. Course manager Dale Rolph (right) checks on the work's progress. Out-of-bounds signs have been installed on several fairways and a new practice green for chipping will be built near the park office. Daily membership through Friday totaled 370. Rolph reports. Season memberships numbered 71 and family memberships 25.

SPORTS CALENDAR

Table with columns for Baseball, Tennis, Track, and Golf, listing dates and locations for various events.

AMBROSE REHIRED

The Birmingham board of education reported Monday it had rehired Kermit N. Ambrose as Birmingham high school's head track and cross country coach. The announcement came from Dr. Mark H. Carross, board personnel director.

Ambrose had resigned several weeks ago. He later after pressure from parents, fans and students, said he would be willing to stay on as Maple coach.

Cranbrook Bumped By Flint 9 Again

FLINT—Flint schools continued their baseball mastery over Cranbrook here Tuesday afternoon. Flint Central handing the Cranes a 3-2 setback, their second in six outings. The other defeat came at Flint Northern's hands.

The winners tallied two runs in the first and another in the second. Cranbrook picked up single scores in the first and third frames. John Kirk was the winning pitcher, Andy Billeston the loser.

Sports Show Opens

The national sports and travel show opens in Detroit for five days May 14 at the Light Guard armory on Eight Mile road.



Give Course Once-Over

Thursday, but recommended a few minor changes. He spoke to press, radio and television representatives at a luncheon following his tour of the course. Eymon is Forest Lake president.

B'ham Buries RO Foe In Windblown Track Duel

By DALE WRIGHT

Kimball was no match for Birmingham and the elements were too much for both in a Tuesday afternoon einder duel that accomplished only two things—it opened the Maples' home schedule and initiated their new, but still just half-completed, track layout.

Gale-like winds—or so they seemed on the track's unprotected plateau—buffeted the entire meet. Swirling dust kicked up from the barren infield and the piles of cinders and clay covering four of

the six lanes obscured runners, into the wind—will hardly stand coated competitors and officials and added to the misery of the few who met itself? Nine firsts and bitterly cold fans.

Ribbon-cutting ceremonies, with Mayor Carl Ingraham doing the honors, seemed premature. But there was a good reason for Tuesday's meet—Kimball's equally new track has never worn shape, so Birmingham's facilities received their "baptism of fire."

EVERY WINNING time, height and distance registered became a record... for the track. But times like 19.4 in the high hurdles, 1:13 in the century and .27.2 in the 220—all run head-on

THERE WERE NO double winners, and about the only par performances were turned in in the two events swept by Birmingham, Dick Boyd, this year's captain, won the 800 in 2:07.3. Chuck Gibson copped the shotput at 61-8. Bob Stephenson went out at 5-11 in the high jump after clearing a measured 5-9.

Shamrocks Hang 11-3 First Day Loss on Maples

By BILL OTOOLE

Sports Correspondent

Opening the 1958 baseball season, Birmingham high went down to quick defeat to East Detroit 11-3 before a small, chilly crowd at home Tuesday afternoon.

Starting Maple hurler Dick Clooman got into trouble in the second inning when Ed Polachowski walked, stole second, and was followed by Ray Drey's single and steal. A fielder's choice by Dave Henderson, a bunt single by Chuck Burke and other single by Bill Pozzi forced Clooman out.

Bill Muenchinger came on and finished the inning after Vito Porta doubled in two more runs in the five-run inning.

THE REMAINING six runs came in bulk in the fourth when a base-loaded single by Polachowski plus two Maple errors culminated in a four-run spree. East Detroit's 11-0 shutout was spoiled in the fifth inning when Ed Estes singled, Fred Bussner walked and both came home on a wild throw by catcher Polachowski. The final Birmingham tally came in the seven when Pat Russell tripled and scored on an infield out. Phil Inbell went to the mound for Birmingham with one out in the fourth. Clooman was charged with the defeat. Jim Olsen went the distance for the opponents. East Detroit 0 0 5 6 0 0—11 9 Birmingham 0 0 0 0 2 0—3 5 3

Registered Shoots

Birmingham gun club will hold two registered shoots this month—May 18 and May 30. A regular club shoot is set for Saturday.

Cranbrook Nips Linc Thinclads

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—Cranbrook copped firsts in seven events and a like number of seconds here Friday afternoon to nip Ferndale, 56-53, for the host Cranes' third straight track triumph.

Sophomore sprinter Larry Dewitt was a double winner for Cranbrook. His firsts came in the 100 and 220. Ferndale's Toy Palmer took the broad jump and high jump while Doug Peter won both hurdle events for the Lions.

Whitewashes Foe

Birmingham high's tennis squad blanked East Detroit, 5-0, at home Tuesday afternoon.

CONGRATULATIONS Bill Stark THE DOOR MIRROR WINNER BIRMINGHAM PAINT, GLASS & WALLPAPER

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a line... from les

This month could be a big one as far as the Birmingham area's schoolboy record books are concerned.

Track campaigns are now in full swing. And on all three fronts—Birmingham, Cranbrook and Bloomfield Hills—there are lads who could topple school standards before May is over.

The einder sport is one where records really mean something, for it's a sport in which the individual's ability is the only thing that counts.

Size here means little. It's not like basketball where the 7-foot giant becomes a scoring sensation on his height alone—or football, where the 250-pound fullback bulls his way by sheer strength to touchdown after touchdown.

A COUPLE OF field event standouts, Chuck Gibson and Bob Stephenson, have the best chances of writing new records into Birmingham high's track annals. Both hold the marks they'll be trying to better this spring.

Gibson's Maple shotput record of 53 feet 8 inches was set in the Redford indoor meet in March. Stephenson established the school high jump mark of 6 feet 4 1/2 inch last spring.

A single pole vault ace Bill Alcorn may still be a year away from breaking Tom Segal's towering 13-foot 3/4-inch standard, but he has been hitting the 12-6 mark and could conceivably reach 13 feet before the June 4 league meet.

DASHMAN MARK Hall has unofficially equaled the 100-yard dash mark of 10.2, which four others already hold. He could tie the record officially or even smash it this spring.

The remainder of Birmingham's records some dating as far back as 1933—appear safe. The shotput, mile, 440 and medley relay records are the ones in jeopardy at Bloomfield Hills. The mile and medley marks have already been shattered this season. The other two have been bettered unofficially in practice.

Cranbrook is looking for a new high jump mark from its captain, Tom Noteware, who holds the present 5-foot 10 1/2-inch mark, set last year.

NOTEWORTHY might also threaten the school's quarter-mile standard before the season is over. His best performance this season is only about three seconds off the 1:4 record time.

Albion Star to Coach B'ham Legion Team

Kirk Flack, former Birmingham high and American Legion baseball star and now varsity catcher at Albion college, will coach this city's Legion entry this season.

Flack, Albion junior and physical education major, was the No. 1 Maple catcher his junior and senior years. He played four years in the Legion program.

He is the 21-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. James K. Flack, 705 W. Lincoln, Birmingham.

TWO TEAMS—Southfield and



KIRK FLACK

Waterford—are expected to be added to this district's American Legion league. Present members are Berkley, Birmingham, Clawson, Milford, Rochester and Royal Oak.

June 11 is the opening date for the '58 campaign. Teams will play either a 14 or 16-game schedule, with contests set for Wednesdays and Sundays. The Birmingham team will be outfitted with new uniforms this year.



Joe Dey (left), executive secretary of the United States Golf association, and Blaine Eymon, general chairman of the United States Women's Open, inspect Forest Lake country club's course, site of the girls' links classic June 26-29. Dey gave his stamp of approval to the layout last

Thursday, but recommended a few minor changes. He spoke to press, radio and television representatives at a luncheon following his tour of the course. Eymon is Forest Lake president.