

# Alcorn Sets New State Vault Mark

## School Medley Relay, Mile Records Also Fall

By LES LINE  
Sports Editor

FERRY FIELD, ANN ARBOR—Bill Alcorn attained one of the greatest achievements of any Birmingham high school athlete in the past 20 years here Saturday afternoon.

The pole vault—track's most difficult single event—is Alcorn's specialty. Saturday the blond Maple junior soared higher than any prep predecessor in state competition in any class—12 feet 11 3/4 inches.

You would almost have to go back 20 years to 1924 when Bill Alcorn's phenomenal half-mile, Quentin Brelsford, turned in his historic 1:55.4 580 times—to find

vault record had stood untouched for 16 years. Monroe's Forest Naveaux set the standard—12 feet 7 1/2 inches—back in 1942.

It was shattered twice here Saturday, the first time—at 12 feet 9 1/2 inches—by both Alcorn and Mackeson's Dick Cahill.

Cahill, who beat Alcorn when they met in the Central Michigan college relay May 3, was Saturday's favorite. But he failed on

### Cranes 7th In 'B' Meet

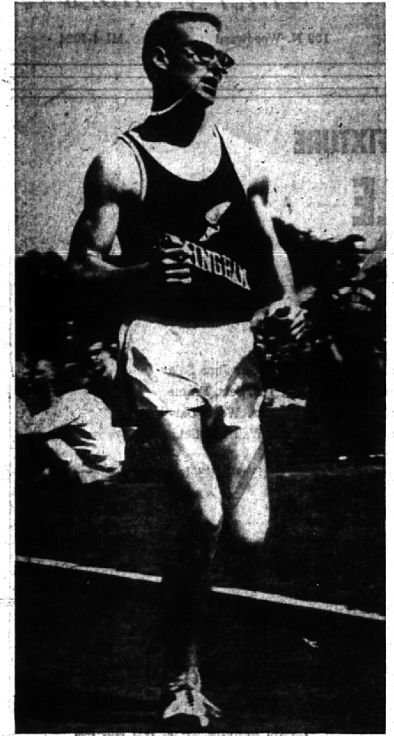
EAST LANSING — Cranbrook's 12 points, seventh in the state class B track meet here Saturday. East Grand Rapids won the title, scoring 30 3/8 points to 29 for River Rouge and 21 1/2 for Willow Run.

The Cranes had one first, by their captain, Tom Noteware, in the 400, but lost at 2:17 time. Rick Williams was third in the 800 in 2:04.5, Doug Gram was fourth in the 1600 shotput at 48 feet 2 inches and the Cranbrook medley relay team capped a fourth in 2:34.4.

all three tries at 12-11 1/4. Alcorn made it on the third.

ALCORN'S GREAT effort gives Birmingham the state records. Brelsford holds the other—in the class B half mile.

His state record doesn't quite equal Birmingham's school standard of 13 feet 3/4 inches, owned by Tom Gal and set in the State AAU meet at the end of last season. (See ALCORN, Page 7-D)



Best Half Since '38

Birmingham half-miler Dick Boyd strains across the finish line for a second place and a 2:00.4 clocking in Saturday's state class A 880-yard run at Ann Arbor. The time is the best by any Maple runner since Quentin Brelsford's phenomenal 1:55.4 in 1938.

## a line . . . from les

A lot of folks deserve a lot of credit for a lot of work to make this community's combined Babe Ruth-Little League fund drive a success.

They are all busy men and women, but they all found time—and they gave a lot of it, too—to insure a good baseball program for some 1,600 eight to 15-year-old Birmingham youngsters.

There's Dr. F. M. Adams, chairman of the entire fund project; and Jack Lindva, a Browns executive, who was co-chairman. Cliff Roberts handled the advertising and of things with the help of George Woodford and Fred M. Gray. Paul Averill and Al Rowe took care of the publicity, and Tom McNeill and Bud Sumner headed the merchants' and businessmen's part of the drive.

AND COORDINATING the efforts of the MOMS club were Babe Ruth mother Mrs. Millie Sothell and Little League mother Mrs. Helen Ostman.

Then there was the goal and all-allocations committee for the drive—Bill Roberts, city commissioner; Ralph Mackay, police chief; Mrs. Phyllis Jackson, recreation board president; Dwight Ireland, school superintendent; Richard Wilson, former chamber of commerce president; Cliff Stanton, Little League proxy; and the Babe Ruth president, Al Bates.

By the way, are you "Batter-up Booster" yet? No? There's still time to get in the swing of things. Merrill C. Adams, assistant vice-president of Detroit Bank and Trust Co. here, will be glad to accept your check—for any amount. Send it to him, care of the "Batter-up Booster" fund drive, at 975 S. Hunter.

(See a line from les, Page 7-D)



the tape read 12 feet 11 3/4 inches . . .

seconds after this, Bill Alcorn's state record-smashing pole vault on his third try, shattering a 16-year-old standard of 12 feet 7 1/2 inches, set by Monroe's Forest Naveaux back in 1942. (Eccentric photo by Les Line).

# Ford Opens Western Title Defense Today

## Low Scoring Forseen For Classic at Red Run

ROYAL OAK—Dr. Cary Middlecoff, Sam Sneed, Dick Mayer, Don Ford, Bill Casper, Arnold Palmer, Dow Finsterwald, Ken Venturi—just a few of the golfing world's real big names who'll start swinging away today for top money in the 56th annual Western Open at Red Run golf club here.

The touring professionals—plus a host of Michigan top "honorary" pros, including Franklin Hills' Wally Burkemo—will be after the crown won last year at Plum Hill, low by Ford. It took a three-hole playoff to decide things between Ford, George Bayer, Gene Littler and Billy Maxwell in last summer's affair.

Seasonal low scoring is forecast for the \$25,000 four-day links classic. Frank Metzger, host pro, predicts a winning score of 278, adding that putting will be the key to success on Red Run's flat but receptive layout.

METZGER BASES his estimate on the 74 Lloyd Mangrum pros to win the 1956 Motor City Open

## B'ham LL Play Opens

Play in Birmingham Little League's three major circuits opened at 7:30 p.m. Monday night with the Cardinals, White Sox and Red Sox gaining victories in their respective loops.

Steve Kwany gave up just four hits in pitching the White Sox to a 7-1 win over the Senators in the Federal League opener. The winner's Mike Davis had a home run. Charles Wessels pitched and led the Cardinals to a 3-2 National League triumph over the Braves.

Bob Elston was named Bloomfield Hills high's outstanding athlete at last week's sports banquet. Most valuable player awards went to Jim Kearney (football), Bill Jordan (track), Bob Barrett (basketball), Bud Badger (golf) and Howard Kutchak (tennis). Van Patrick was guest speaker. Other sports personalities attending were Detroit Lions general manager Nick Karbasy, former boxing star Chuck Davay, pro footballer Ollie Spencer, former Lion and now with Green Bay, Ed Lind Wing Marty Pavlich and hockey great, Les Lindsay.

Williams Gun Sight Co. of Davidson will hold its 12th annual shooting school June 7 and 14. There is no charge for the school, open to all ages and girls 12 to 18 years of age and designed to teach the youngsters how to handle firearms safely as well as the care of the gun, sportsmanship, conservation and competitive shooting.

## Assumption Victor

WINDSOR, Ont.—Assumption scored twice in the second leg of four singles and an error by Cranbrook 2-1, here Saturday morning. Winning pitcher John Ushan allowed three hits, allowing the goal.

## BASEBALL RESULTS

Bloomfield Hills 11, West Bloomfield 10.  
Pontiac 3, Cranbrook 2.  
Birmingham 2, Cranbrook 1.  
Birmingham 2, Kimball 1.  
Northwestern 3, Cranbrook 2.  
Oak Park 5, Bloomfield Hills 2.

## Maple Linksmen State 'A' Kings; Repeat at Pontiac

Birmingham high is Michigan's new class A prep golf champion. Coach Carl Lemle's linksmen won the coveted state title by a single stroke at Battle Creek country club Saturday. Pete Green shot a 38-38—76 to spark the Maples to a 314-315 victory over runnerup Flint Central.

Ann Arbor was third in the 16-school field with 316. Grand Rapids finished fourth with 318. Dick Taylor contributed a 78 to the Birmingham cause, with Gary Mow and Warren Sumner adding 80 and 81.

OVER AT KALAMAZOO, Hillsdale and Tecumseh tied for the state class B crown at 326. Bloomfield Hills finished far down the list in a tie for 10th at 343, but the Barons didn't go home empty handed. Bud Badger shot a two-under-par 70 for medalist laurels.

The Maple golfers, meanwhile, repeated Monday as Pontiac Prep invitational champions. It was Birmingham's fifth title in the seven-year-old tournament.

Birmingham's five-man team totaled 381, 36 over par for the five 18-hole rounds at Pontiac municipal course. Pontiac St. Frederick's was runnerup with 410. Bloomfield Hills finished third among the 14 entrants with 411.

GREEN PACED the Maples with 71, while Mow earned a fine 72. Summers had a 75, Taylor a 75 and John Robertson an 84 score.

Pontiac Central's Dick Whitmer captured class A medalist honors with 70, one over par. Bloomfield Hills' Badger was class B medalist with 73.

The Pontiac scoring: Birmingham 381, St. Frederick 406, Bloomfield Hills 410, Pontiac Central 416, Shrine 426, Kimball 436, Waterford 443, Dunderberg 446, Holy Redeemer 447.

## Holiday Games Open Babe Ruth

Five games at three sites will open Birmingham's Babe Ruth season tomorrow, Memorial day. The schedule:

Pioneers League: Wolverines vs. Barons, 10 a.m. high school.  
Spartans vs. Rockets, 1:30 p.m. high school.  
Chiefs vs. Titans, 1:30 p.m. Derby.

Satellite League: Royals vs. Monarchs, 10 a.m. St. James).  
Blues, 11:30 p.m. St. James).

## TRACK RESULTS

Birmingham 67, Mount Clemens 42, (varsity).  
Birmingham 59, Mount Clemens 46, (reserves).

**Undergrad Meet To Birmingham**  
PONTIAC — Birmingham out-pointed Pontiac Central and Waterford here Thursday afternoon in a triangular meet of the three teams' undergraduate tracksters.  
The Maples, with several seniors adding strength, tallied 67 1/2 points to 63 1/2 for Pontiac. Waterford picked up only six points. Birmingham won or shared seven firsts.

**The Birmingham Eccentric**  
**SPORTS**  
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