

RU's Blanchard Ties State Vault Mark

The name of Roger Blanchard of Redford Union has loomed big — VERY BIG — for Saturday's state Class A regional track championships at Belleville.

Blanchard proved himself Michigan's schoolboy premier pole vaulter when he soared 14 feet, 6 1/2 inches to win his favorite event in the record-

breaking Schafer relays in Southgate.

Not only was it a meet record but it also tied the state state mark shared by Dave Leitner of Grand Haven and Larry Biskner of Waterford.

However, Blanchard's feat won't enter the state record books. He'll have to do as

well, or better in the state finals a week from Saturday to get into the official Michigan record book.

Blanchard, who started vaulting when he was seven years old, never had gone so high before.

He shared honors with Marshall Dill, of Detroit Northern who won the 100

yard dash in 9.4 seconds, being the fastest time ever by a Michigan prep in the event, and the Northern 880 yard relay time of 1:27.1, an all-time best in the Wolverine state by a prep unit. Dill anchored the quartet and also won the 220.

Redford Union also picked up a third place in the mile relay with a team of Bob

Barker, Mark Kenney, Keith Richmond and Mike Laguna.

NORTHERN won the meet with 49 points with Grosse Pointe North second with 31. Livonia Franklin had 10 points and Redford Union eight to finish well back.

Mike Jinett, of Franklin, turned in a sparkling effort to finish second in the 440 yard

run won by Bill Nance, of Northern, in the record time of 48.3. Franklin's John Dawe was third in the mile.

Mike Powierski, of Thurston, with a toss of 53 feet, 9 inches placed second in the shotput, while Thurston's two mile relay of Mike Jones, Dale Caudill, Roland Posget and Dave Drake was fourth.

Garden City West came up

with a third in the shuttle hurdle relays as Kirk Lewis, Ken Smith, Dale Halliwell and Russ Graham carried the baton in :58.8.

North Farmington, competing in the Howell Invitational, scored 58 points to place fourth.

The Raiders won the shuttle hurdle relay with a foursome of Craig Dhoe, Drew Mahlich,

Rick Fuelling and Mike Gow. The same quartet was second in the 40 yard relay and fourth in the 880 yard relay.

North Farmington's Fuelling and Ron Crowe combined to place second in the shot put relay; Bill Doerr and John Dwyer followed suit in the pole vault; and Gow and Dhoe in the long jump. Mahlich and Bill Douglass were third in the high jump.

In the distance medley relay, Jerry Makinen, John Dwyer, Tom Messing and Dale Carruthers raced to a fifth place finish.

FARMINGTON HIGH was second in the Ashley Relays at Waterford Mott with 49 points as Ann Arbor Huron squeezed in with 50 to take the team title.

Livonia's Churchill and Stevenson tied with 12 points each for ninth place while Southfield Lathrup had 11 and Farmington Harrison one point.

Farmington captured four events. Tom Massey took the shot put while the Falcons won the mile, four mile and shuttle hurdle relays.

Here's the way Observer-area track meets in the Ashley relays:

High Jump: 4.- Jim Monke (Churchill).
Long Jump: 5.- Charles Babcock (Stevenson).
Pole Vault: 2.- Mike Stagin (Lathrup), 5.- Lee Blodgett (Farm).
Shot Put: 1.- Tom Massey (Farm), 5.- Charles Shipley (Distance: 54 feet, 3 1/2 inches).
Four-mile relay: 1.- Farmington (Kim Jaska, Kim Hildebrandt, Nick Burton, Mike McGlothlin), 2.- Stevenson. Time: 18:52.1.
Distance medley relay: 5.- Churchill, 440 yard relay: 3.- Southfield Lathrup.
Two Mile run: 2.- Dennis Kurita (Churchill). Time: 9:34.8.
Sprint medley relay: 2.- Farmington, High Hurdles: 3.- Randy Pender (Farm).
100 yard: 2.- Mark Timmons (Farm), 5.- Mark Maloney (Churchill).
Middle Distance relay: 2.- Stevenson, 3.- Churchill, 5.- Harrison.
Low Hurdles: 2.- Pender.
Shuttle hurdle relay: 1.- Farmington (Dan Steinko, Bruce Stilling, Steve Kamp, Pender). Time: 1:58.5.
Mile relay: 1.- Farmington (Hildebrandt, Doug Carvel, McGlothlin, Timmons). Time: 3:24.9.



IT DOESN'T COUNT as a state record but Redford Union's Roger Blanchard equaled the existing Michigan High School Association mark of 14' 6 1/2" in the pole vault Saturday at the Schafer Relays. Roger will try to make it official over the weekend when he competes in the regionals. Then on to the state meet later in the month. (Observer photo)

Bentley Gets Solace By Beating Plymouth

Overall, it has not been a happy year for Bentley High in baseball.

As defending champs in the Suburban Six League, the Livonians have had their problems and are out of the running to repeat as kingspins. But it helps to make things easier for Bentley anytime it can win over Plymouth. That was the case Monday when Bentley pulled out an 8-6 win.

Relief work by Bill Duncan, after taking over for Brian Dinsmore in the sixth inning with one out, helped save the day for Bentley.

Bentley had built up an 8-0

lead before Plymouth put on a comeback that almost caught the Livonians.

A homer by Al Hernandez with Tom Waronek aboard shot Bentley off to a 2-0 lead. Then in the fifth Bentley scored five times when Hernandez walked, Bob Statakas doubled, Jim Gentz singled, John Sprietzer was hit by a pitch and Dinsmore doubled.

A walk to Hernandez and an error made it 8-0 in the top of the sixth.

Plymouth then struck back. Howie Schryer, Jack Mahias

and Jim Grimmer walked to load the bases. Dan Hees doubled, Steve Straley was safe when the leftfielder missed his fly and John Owens and Pete Genger followed with singles.

Schryer and Grimmer walked and Hees singled for the final run of the game.

Meantime, Redford Union, which had won its first five games to take a two-game lead in the league, bowed out in the second time in a row — this time to Belleville, 2-1, to see his hold on the top spot shrink a little more.

Randy Ferguson, who had hurled victories in his first eight games for RU, suffered his second consecutive defeat when Larry Fix homered in the third inning and drove in the winning run after a walk in the fourth.

Ferguson gave up six hits, fanned seven and walked three.

Vern Gowen, the winning pitcher, allowed four hits. The only RU run came across in the first inning when R.J. LeRoux walked, stole second and scored on Bill Herbert's single.

GC East Bats Sound Off; Rip Robichaud

The bats of Garden City East rang a merry, merry tune against Robichaud.

Combined with some super pitching by Chris Waronek it all added up to a 16-2 win for East and kept the team in contention for the Mid-Wayne League title.

It was East's fourth victory

in six conference starts.

East went to town with 16 hits and scored 10 times in the fourth inning in enjoying one of its most lopsided wins.

While all this was going on Waronek gave up only two hits to the Robichaud batters, fanned 14 and walked three.

FOUR OF WARONEK'S teammates totaled as many hits by themselves as the entire Robichaud team. Steve Orr, Ken Shaw, Bob Kleinbrook and Steve Bard each had a pair of safes.

In the 10-run uprising, Waronek started things with a single. An error and then a

walk to Orr loaded the bases. Ken Shaw singled in two runs.

After Kleinbrook walked and Dennis Kesik was safe on an error, Brian Smith drove in two runs with a single, Bard two with a double, Waronek for the second time singled and Jim Wisniewski, up for the second time, too, also singled.

The victory followed on the heels of a 4-3 decision for East over Inkster. Dennis Ray, the winning pitcher, allowed five hits, fanned nine and walked three.

Shaw went three-for-three with one blow a solo homer. Orr chipped in with a two run homer.



FRANKLIN HIGH'S Rob Hollandsworth didn't quite make it when he attempted to steal against North Farmington. North second baseman Arne Kankonen takes the throw in plenty of time to tag out Rob. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

Lathrup Netters Whip Stevenson

Southfield Lathrup netters became overwhelming favorites to capture the Inter-Lakes Conference championship for the second straight year when they crushed the previously undefeated Livonia Stevenson, 6-1.

Both teams entered the

showdown with identical 4-0 records during which Stevenson had lost only one set and Lathrup none.

RON HOEKSTRA, of Stevenson, broke the Charger streak when he defeated Keith West, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3. It enabled the Spartan

star to maintain his unbeaten string but didn't stop Stevenson from going down to its first setback.

Jerry Kennedy and Mike Mikula, of Stevenson, forced Howard Wright and Steve Schreider to three sets before losing, 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.

It was one of the finest high school tennis matches of the spring even though it was apparent early that Lathrup had a bit too much power for the losers.

Larry Nemer started the Chargers on the route to victory when he took the No. 1 singles from Jim Shea 6-2, 6-1. Bob Hollander followed with 6-2, 6-0 triumph over Paul Adams and Jack Zaret beat Tony Leonard, 6-2, 6-0. That's when Hoekstra broke the string with his triumph in three sets.

Lathrup swept the three doubles matches with Mike Pomish and Cliff Migdal going all out to crack Doug Hansford and Bruce Lupp, 6-3, 9-7 and then Steve Katz and Howard Dawes swept the final double match, 6-0, 6-2.

Schoolcraft Wins 12th Match In Row

The unbeaten Schoolcraft College golfers stretched their string to 12 when they beat Henry Ford CC and Auburn Hills CC of Oakland CC in a triangular meet.

Schoolcraft had a total of 304 strokes followed by Henry Ford 313 and Auburn Hills 335.

Tom Cash, of Livonia Franklin, was medalist with 73. Other Schoolcraft scorers were: Tom Proben, of Thurston, 74; Jack Bendig, of Stevenson, 75; and Jeff Taylor, of Northville, 77.

Other members of the

Ocelot team are Dick Lind and Pat Flaherty of Stevenson and Andy Lawrence of Livonia Bentley.

Schoolcraft will compete in the state junior college championship at Northwestern Michigan College next week. The winner advances to the regional meet at Black River Country Club in Port Huron against teams from Ohio and Indiana.

The Ocelots, coached by Tom Roncoli, were third in the state meet a year ago.

Prep Schedule

BASEBALL

THURSDAY

Plymouth at Tranton, Belleville at Bentley, Churchill at Northville, Clawson at Livonia, Allen Park at Redford Union, St. Rita at Sorrows, Borgas at Aquinas.

FRIDAY

Birmingham Seaholm at Southfield, Pontiac Northern at Southfield Lathrup, St. Agathe at Ann Arbor, St. Thomas Stevenson at Waterford, Glenn at Garden City East, Farmington at Walled Lake Central, Thurston at Wayne, Cherry Hill at Garden City West, Walled Lake Western at North Farmington, Brother Rice at Catholic Central.

SATURDAY

Southfield at Redford Union, Clawsonville at Brighton (2), Howell at Henson (2).

MONDAY

Royal Oak St. Mary at Sorrows, Mt. Carmel at St. Agathe, Brother Rice at Clawson, Redford Union at Plymouth, Tranton at Bentley, Southfield at Bentley, Churchill at Walled Lake Western, Franklin at Glenn, West Bloomfield at Clawsonville, Waterford West at Harrison, Thurston at Oak Park, Garden City East at Ann Arbor, Garden City West at Kennedy, Groves at North Farmington, Lathrup at Farmington, Sacred Heart at Bishop Borgas.

TUESDAY

Austin at Brother Rice.

WEDNESDAY

Franklin at Groves, North Farmington at Thurston, Glenn at Oak Park, Hazel Park at Southfield, Waterford at Lathrup, Taylor at Garden City East, Clawsonville at Garden City West, Farmington at Pontiac Northern, Harrison at Churchill, Wayne St. Mary at St. Agathe.

LEX ANDERS tournament at Ford Field: Plymouth vs. Redford Union, 8 p.m.; Wayne vs. Churchill, 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Groves at Franklin.

State Regionals.

SATURDAY

Lathrup at Waterford Kettering, Southfield at Farmdale, DelaBate at Brother Rice.

TUESDAY

Garden City East in Mid-Wayne League meet, in on Wednesday.

Garden City West in Tri Rivers League meet (also on Wednesday).

WEDNESDAY

Western St. Louis League meet at Waterford Mott, Suburban St. Louis League meet at Belleville, Inter-Lakes League meet at Waterford, Northwest Suburban League meet at Franklin, Bishop Borgas at Sacred Heart.

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