

RU Captures Observer Relay Crown

By TOM DONOGHUE
Sports Editor

The second running of the Observerland Relays lived up to all expectations with the one surprise being the overall champion in Redford Union.

The Panther cindermen brought the crowd of over 2,000 to its feet with a 440 relay win over powerful Franklin and Bishop Borgess along with firsts in the high jump and pole vault.

RU also scored a third in the 880 relay; fourth in the shot put and shuttle hurdle relay; and fifth in the long jump, two mile, and distance medley relay.

Livonia Stevenson gave the title bid a real shot but fell two points shy at 23 points. Franklin finished third with 21. Bishop Borgess fourth with 19½ and Churchill fifth with 16 points.

It was a busy day at the Lola Valley junior high track with pole vaulting starting at 3:30 p.m., hot dogs sold out by 7 p.m. and RU crowned champions at 11:30 p.m. with pole vaulting ending around 12:30 p.m.

EVERY RELAY RECORD was broken with only two individual marks standing from the first running of the relays in 1971. The two being the best shot put by Farmington's Tom Massey at 55'11½" and the top long jump by Mike Gow of North Farmington at 20'9".

Southfield Lathrup's Matt Hepler had the best shot put with a toss of 52' but Garden City West put it all together for a relay first. Mike Green, Gary Snyder and Gerald Holmes combined for 146'2½" which topped the mark of North Farmington at 141'8¼".



WHAT A FINISH! Redford Union's Tom Burk raises his arms after breaking the wire in the Observerland Relay's 440. One-tenth of a second separated the first four teams. Burk clocked in at :44.46; Greg Battle of

Borgess at :44.48; Ken Yuhasz of Franklin at :44.65; and Farmington's Mark Timmons at :44.60. (Observer photo by Tom Donoghue)

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Thurston trio of Dennis D'Annunzio, Bill VanAlsten and Rick Westphal captured first in the long jump with a total distance of 58'8½", bettering North Farmington's mark of 57'11½".

RU scored its first win in the high jump with a total height of 17'3". Dave Schoof, Paul Matthews and Scott O'Grady made up the winning combination. Schoof had the best jump at 6'1", also a record.

CHURCHILL OPENED the running events with top honors in the four mile relay, with a time of 18:37.1. The Charger quartet of Don Shaw, Randy Saletnik, Don Priebe and Dennis Kurtis broke the mark Churchill set last year at 18:49.9, of which Kurtis was also a member.

The 880 relay as expected was right down to the wire with favorites Franklin, Farmington, RU and Borgess battling it out. But the fastest 880 relay team in the area proved itself again with Mike McKindles, Chuck Quinn, Mark Newman and Ken Yuhasz scoring a Franklin first at 1:32.7, breaking North Farmington's mark of 1:33.9.

Franklin's hopes of an Observerland championship started to vanish when Plymouth dashed to top honors in the two mile relay. This was one race Patriot Coach Bob Holmes had been counting on but the combination of Brian Smith, Eric Weber, Tom Matthews and Scott Dunson bettered Franklin by two seconds.

STEVENSON scored its lone first in the distance medley with Tim Duffy, Rich Fuerst, Bill Walker and Dave Mathia clocking in 10:54.4.

Next came the shuttle hurdle relay with favorite Bishop Borgess proving true to form with a first at :58.2. The hurdling foursome was Tim DeBello, Mark Cesarz, Mark Sopko and Greg Battle.

Everyone at the track knew what the next event was... the 440 relay. By the time the third and fastest heat was to start, everyone in attendance was standing with Stevenson in lane one, Borgess in lane two, Farmington in three, RU in four, Franklin in five and GC East in six.

The crowd was in an uproar at the gun and Tom Tullock had the edge in the first turn for RU. Jim Prince and Tim Biehl kept the Panthers in front and when Biehl handed off to Tom Burk Borgess, Franklin and Farmington were closing in.

BURK GAVE IT ALL he had down the stretch and hit the wire with arms extended high in the air

and when he crossed the line; he let out the biggest yell and threw the baton halfway across the track.

RU had just upset the No. 1 440 relay team in the state in Franklin with next best in Borgess.

But what a finish it was... only one tenth of a second between RU in first and Farmington in fourth.

Burk crossed the finish at :44.46. Battle of Borgess finished at :44.48, that's only two hundredths of a second off the winning time and Franklin's Yuhasz placed third at :44.65. Mark Timmons of Farmington hit fourth with a :44.60.

The final running event was the mile relay and the Franklin team of Tom Chester, John Dawe, Chuck Quinn and Joe Jinnett dashed away with top honors at 3:39.4 with Stevenson four second behind.

Some three hours later, the pole vault event came to a close with Farmington's Nat Durham the individual winner at 13'7" and RU the relay winner with a total height of 32'6".

Scott Bjerke, Greg Broquet and Dave Bloomingburg combined for the Panther clincher, and Coach John MacKenzie couldn't have had a bigger smile.

DEFENDING CHAMPION Farmington placed eighth with only 11 points.

"We were plain flat," said Falcon Coach Jerry Young. "We didn't run too hot but it was a great meet to be a part of."

Franklin Coach Bob Holmes expressed disappointment after the 17 school meet.

"We didn't come up with a single point in the field events," said Holmes. "Sure RU was on its home track and might have had a little advantage but we fell inches short in too many running events."

"The 440 relay was a must and RU really surprised me," added Holmes.

RU might even have surprised itself. Coach MacKenzie knew he had the potential but the question was if he could put it all in the right places for a meet of this sort which required overall balance and depth.

TEAM STANDINGS

Redford Union	25
Stevenson	23
Franklin	21
Bishop Borgess	19½
Churchill	16
Thurston	15
Garden City West	12½
Farmington	11
Birmingham Groves	7
Plymouth	5
North Farmington	4
Farmington Harrison	4
Southfield	2
Bentley	0
Garden City East	0
Southfield Lathrup	0
Northville	0

Dunson, 8:07.8; 2- Franklin, 8:09.8; 3- Borgess, 8:25.9; 4- Thurston, 8:36.0; 5- RU, 8:36.2.

DISTANCE MEDLEY RELAY: 1- Stevenson (Duffy, Fuerst, Walker, Mathia), 10:54.4; 2- Harrison, 10:59.1; 3- GC West, 11:01.0; 4- Southfield, 11:10.4; 5- Farmington, 11:18.5.

SHUTTLE HURDLE RELAY: 1- Borgess (DeBello, Cesarz, Sopko, Battle), :58.2; 2- Franklin, :58.3; 3- Stevenson, :59.7; 4- RU, :50.7; 5- NF, :51.2.

440 RELAY: 1- RU (Tullock, Prince, Biehl, Burk), :44.5; 2- Borgess, :44.5; 3- Franklin, :44.6; 4- Farmington, :44.6; 5- NF, :45.9.

MILE RELAY: 1- Franklin (Chester, Dawe, Quinn, Jinnett), 3:29.4; 2- Stevenson, 3:33.3; 3- Churchill, 3:37.0; 4- Thurston, 3:37.3; 5- GC West, 3:37.7.

MILE RELAY: 1- Franklin (Chester, Dawe, Quinn, Jinnett), 29.4; 2 - Stevenson, 3:33.6; 3 - Churchill, 3:37.0; 4 - Thurston, 3:37.3; 5 - GC West, 3:37.7.

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GRAND OPENING MAY 6 thru MAY 20 REFRESHMENTS

SPECIAL INVITATION
Message: From the Management of Nap's Shoes.

It is with a sense of humble pride and deep gratitude that the Management of Nap's wishes to reflect our thoughts to this community and the many surrounding communities of Metropolitan Detroit. Human beings (People) are the ingredients to the success or failure of any business. Satisfaction of People are what make customers, (or a better word, friends).

During the nearly twenty years in which we have been allowed to serve you, our greatest satisfaction has not been the fact that you have made it possible for us to become one of the Largest, Finest, and foremost Quality Family Shoe Stores under a single roof in the Nation. (You have built the store with your funds. While the policy of Quality and Service have been the ingredients used as the cornerstone in building the structure of confidence within the minds and hearts of those we are privileged to serve. Much more than any monetary return is the knowledge that so many look to this business with pride as being a part of your community. Building and working together in essence is the responsibility of each individual, and it is in this thought that we appreciate working for and with you toward the goal of a better Community, Nation, and World.

A second generation is now entering into this business. Three sons share this same desire of service. The announcement of our new expansion and extension of Nap's into the Men's Wear business is a great delight to us that we wish to share with you. We invite you to our Grand Opening May 6th thru May 20th. Again, thanks to each of you that have made this new venture possible. We shall always continue to serve you in a manner which will merit your respect and confidence.

Sincerely, Management Nap's Shoes and Men's Wear
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Here's How They Finished

SHOT PUT: 1-GC West (Green, Snyder, Holmes) 146'2½"; 2-Stevenson, 145'11½"; 3-Thurston, 139'3½"; 4-RU, 134'6½"; 5-Borgess, 134'1½".

LONG JUMP: 1-Thurston (D'Annunzio, VanAlsten, Westphal), 58'8½"; 2-Churchill, 56'½"; 3-Stevenson, 55'1"; 4-NF, 54'8½"; 5-RU, 54'8½".

HIGH JUMP: 1-RU (Schoof, Matthews, O'Grady), 17'3"; 2-Churchill, 17'2"; 3-Stevenson, 17'; 4-Thurston, 16'8"; 5-Borgess & GC West, 16'7".

POLE VAULT: 1-RU (Bjerke, Broquet, Bloomingburg), 32'9"; 2-GC West, 32'; 3-Groves, 32'; 4-Borgess, 30'; 5-Farmington, 25'1".

4 MILE RELAY: 1-Churchill (Shaw, Saletnik, Priebe, Kurtis), 18:37.1; 2-Farmington, 18:41.0; 3-Groves, 18:44.4; 4-Borgess, 18:54.8; 5-Stevenson, 19:10.1.

880 RELAY: 1-Franklin (McKindles, Quinn, Newman, Yuhasz), 1:32.7; 2-Farmington, 1:32.9; 3-RU, 1:33.0; 4-Borgess, 1:33.3; 5-Thurston, 1:33.9.

2 MILE RELAY: 1-Plymouth (Smith, Weber, Matthews,