

Trackmen hone skills in Spartan Relays

By TOM BAEZ

For the area high school trackmen entered in the Spartan Relays at Michigan State last weekend, the story was much the same as it was a week earlier at Eastern Michigan University's Huron Relays.

Very few team points scored, but lots of experience gained.

"You have to place in the top five up there (Spartan Relays) to score any points, so it's a little harder than at the Hurons," said Farmington coach Gerald Young, whose team failed to score in the Spartans.

Farmington's two-mile relay finished seventh in 7:21.8, breaking the Falcons' indoor two-mile relay record by one-tenth of a second. The relay consists of Arno Sisti, Mike Gallagher, Larry Otto and Craig Bloomer.

Farmington sophomore Vance Gutierrez turned in a 19.7 long jump. That effort was good for "nothing but a measured jump" in Young's words, but it did break Farmington's indoor record by six inches.

"Those were our two best performances," Young said. "We didn't do much else except pray that the snow would go away."

Southfield High also failed to score, but junior Scott Stone finished the two-mile run in 9:53.0 for 10th place.

"THAT'S THE BEST he's ever run," said Southfield coach Chuck Balog. "It didn't score any points, but he ran a real nice race and it was an excellent time — a better time than any we'll see in competition around here in the Southeastern Michigan Association."

Southfield senior Steve Trowbridge made the semifinals in the 70-yard high hurdles (.00.0) and the 70-yard low hurdles (.00.8). Southfield's 800 relay team of Stu Brongold, Mitch Moses, Trowbridge and Scott Brickmeyer finished in 1:30.2.

"They cut a couple of seconds off their best time, so it was a pretty good experience for that crew," Balog said. "It looks like we might have some speed around the school."

Southfield-Lathrup's best effort was shown by its shuttle hurdle relay team, which finished 11th in .30.5. Andy Theodorou, Bob Goldschmidt, Jim Yee and Rich Shepard make up the team.

Yes, a senior, just missed the finals in the long jump and the 100-yard relay. Southfield's mile relay (Bill Breslin, Steve Sambar, Dave Smith and Mike Driscoll) finished in 3:38.9.

"We ran decent, that's about all I can say," said Lathrup coach Erad Minebauer. "In the past two weeks, we've set school indoor records in 10 of the 14 events we're run."

FARMINGTON HARRISON, which passed up the Hurons, didn't score at East Lansing. Harrison senior Ian Goldbaum finished fourth in the first heat of the 60-yard dash. His time was .06.8.

"We had a lot of younger kids there and they just got the jitters, I guess," said first-year coach Wayne Shalla.

"Our miler, Adam Wetzer, got boxed in way back. I think he had the jitters. And a couple of our good kids were in Florida."

"We didn't do very well at the Spartans, but the kids learned an awful lot. Next year, I'm sure they'll do better. One mistake we make is to get locked in, especially in the big races. There's a million kids in the heat. We just don't get out quick enough. I end up boxed in at the end of it, pack."

Grand Blanc compiled 22 team points to win the Class A title. Detroit Cass Tech and Taylor Center tied for second place with 16 points each. East Lansing was third with 12.

Birmingham Groves, a track powerhouse from the Metro Suburban Association, scored five points and tied for 10th place with Ypsilanti High. Groves' shuttle hurdle relay finished fourth in .29.9, while Falcon Jim Klesner took third in the low hurdles with an .08.1 clocking.

Bloomfield Hills Lahser's John Kretschmer took third in the pole vault with a 12.4 effort.



Bob Goldschmidt was part of Lathrup's shuttle hurdle relay

MSU Spartan Relays summary

<p>Team Scoring</p> <p>Grand Blanc 22 points, (tie) Detroit Cass Tech and Taylor Center 16 each, East Lansing 12, Groves Points North 11½, (tie) Pontiac Central, Jackson High and Flint Northwestern 11 each, Detroit Northern 10, (tie) Detroit Coolidge and Jackson Parkside 9 each, (tie) Livonia Churchill and Ann Arbor Pioneer 8 each, (tie) Westland John Glenn and Lansing Section 6 each, (tie) Birmingham Groves and Ypsilanti High 5 each.</p> <p>Individual Results</p> <p>100-yard Dash - Elliott (Pontiac Central) 4:14.8 (most recent), Calvert (Jackson High) 4:21.3, Stone (Bloomfield Hills) 4:22.4, Brown (Livonia Stevenson) 4:23.1, O'Neil (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 4:24.2.</p> <p>200-yard Dash - Elliott (Pontiac Central) 4:23.1, O'Neil (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 4:24.2, (Overhauer, Flinders, Kelley, Walker) 39.3, Flint Northwestern 39.3, Taylor Center 39.8, Birmingham Groves 39.8, Dearborn High 39.9.</p> <p>400-yard Dash - Grand Blanc (Barney, LaBelle, Mantus, Groves) 2:27.3, Detroit Cass Tech 2:30.4, Detroit Northern 2:30.8, Ypsilanti 2:30.9, Detroit Coolidge 2:31.7.</p>	<p>70-yard High Hurdles - Chisholm (Taylor Center) .06.4, Jakubowski (Westland John Glenn) .06.5, Wells (East Lansing) .06.5, Davis (Detroit Northern) .06.5, Cummins (Flint Central) .06.6.</p> <p>60-yard Dash - Huckleby (Detroit Cass) .06.3, Copeland (Detroit Coolidge) .06.3, Parker (Jackson Parkside) .06.4, Claxton (Detroit Coolidge) .06.4, Cummins (Flint Central) .06.7.</p> <p>70-yard Low Hurdles - Chisholm (Taylor Center) .06.1, Croucher (Grand Blanc) .06.2, Elam (Bloomfield Hills) .06.2, Wells (East Lansing) .06.3, Thomas (Flint Northwestern) .06.4.</p> <p>Two-Mile Relay - Grand Blanc 8:03.5, Grandville 8:15.8, East Lansing 8:17.7.</p> <p>Two-Mile Run - Bennett (Jackson High) 9:18.8, Burt (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 9:22.3, Kite (Garden City East) 9:36.8, Fisher (Groves Points North) 9:38.4, James (Highland Park) 9:43.4.</p> <p>Shot Put - Reardon (Livonia Stevenson) 36.9, Butler (Temperance-Bedford) 34.7, Smith (Monroe) 34.8, Wells (Warren Mot) 32.7, Kruger (Lansing Harry Hill) 31.10½, Pale Vash (Lehmann (Groves Points North) 31.4, Langston (Midland High) 31.4, Kretschmer (Bloomfield Hills Lahser) 31.4, McAuley (Grand Ledge) 31.4, Powers (Livonia Churchill) 31.4, High Jump - Wells (East Lansing) 6.4, Humes (Groves Points North) 6.2, Stein (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 6.2, Lohar (Livonia Stevenson) 6.4, Roney (Sterling Heights) 6.4, Rimmer (Grand Rapids Ottawa Hills) 6.4, Haight (Grand Rapids Central) 6.4, Long Jump - Thomas (Flint Northwestern) 22.8½, Ferversen (Oak Park) 21.3½, Jakubowski (Westland John Glenn) 21.4½, Chisholm (Taylor Center) 20.4½.</p> <p>Sprint Medley Relay - Grand Blanc 2:30.4, Flint Northwestern 2:31.5, Ypsilanti High 2:32.0, Detroit Northern 2:32.0, Jackson High 2:32.1.</p> <p>800-yard Relay - Detroit Cass Tech (Smith, Huckleby, Fraser, Seaborn) 1:22.3, Detroit Coolidge 1:33.6, Detroit Northern 1:34.0, Jackson Parkside 1:34.9, Pontiac Central 1:35.0.</p>
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Softball --a popular way to spend the summer

By RON HINGST

Softball players don't get old and retire — they keep on playing.

A survey of local recreation department offices in the Observer-Eccentric Oakland County area found that softball will once again be a dominant summer recreational activity for adults, at least in terms of number of participants.

An estimated 274 men women's teams will take the fields starting in May. With most squads carrying a maximum of 18 players, more than 4,900 individuals could conceivably be competing when the warm summer weather rolls around.

SOFTBALL HAS grown by leaps and bounds over the last decade and most recreation administrators said the problem was finding enough facilities. Most area leagues use residency rules which give the resident priority in playing over outsiders. While many of the leagues are filled to capacity at this point, openings were still available in Bloomfield Hills, Troy, Farmington, West Bloomfield and in some recently formed women's leagues.

"The expansion in softball has been tremendous," said Doug Gaynor, Farmington recreation commission director. "We might expand again next year."

"We probably could have started another league," said Birmingham recreation's Roger Fausch.

Most communities require anywhere from 60-75 per cent of the play-

ers of each team to live or work within the city.

IN ROCHESTER, where the softball program is just starting to feel the growing pains, a more liberal residency rule had been used to build interest. "We are slowing this down, because the purpose of the program is to serve the community," said Ed Gutman, recreation director of the Rochester-Avon recreation authority.

"We can't expand too much because we have only one lighted field," Gutman added.

Bloomfield Hills has no residency rule, but the program there is run by volunteers and the league receives no subsidy from the city. Resident teams are given priority, but according to volunteer John Dalek there are "still openings."

"The population in our area has leveled off, but softball is still a dominant summer activity," said West Bloomfield's Jerry DiPaola, director of community education.

TROY OFFERS the largest program in the area with that city's softball program numbering an estimated 85 teams.

"We expanded 24 men's teams and added three women's teams," said John Anderson, Troy recreation supervisor.

A spokesperson at the Southfield recreation office noted that once the city had signed all the returning teams and opened its registration to other teams, "a whole line of managers

were standing outside the doors to register their teams and many had been there all night."

The following includes a capsule description of softball programs being offered by each city. For further information, call the respective city's recreation offices.

• Birmingham: A 16 team men's league has been organized, but there is a waiting list for another 16 teams. The teams will play one night a week at Eton Park. One team was organized which will play in an Inter-City League.

• Bloomfield Hills: Men's league is being organized by volunteers. The group has 12 teams, but has room for 16. There are still openings and registration is open to teams from any area, although priority will be given to local squads. The group is in its second year of operation and the number of teams represents an increase of four. For further information call John Dalek 689-9111.

• Farmington: There are two men's leagues and registration started April 9. Participants must be 21 years of age in the 30 team group. There are some residency rules. An eight team women's league is also being organized with room for 10 teams.

• Southfield: There is a Class A and B industrial and residential leagues for men, but they are all filled at this point. There is a waiting list. A women's league is also offered of 20 teams divided into two divisions.

• Rochester: A 16 team men's league has been divided into two divisions. The teams are filled, but a wait-

ing list is being compiled. A six to eight team women's league is being formed and a manager's meeting will be held on May 6, at 7:30 p.m. at the Rochester Board of Education office.

• Troy: The area's largest program has expanded to 24 men's teams and

three women's teams. In men's competition, there is a Class A, B and C, an East League, a West League, and two Sunday night leagues. There is an 11 team women's league with openings for 14 teams. To register call 689-6800.

• West Bloomfield: There are two regular men's leagues and one Over-30 group. Team registration will begin next week. The women's league has been expanded from four to six or eight teams. For further information call 851-7600.

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Squaws to play in 1st national girls' tournament

The Spectrum Ice Arenas in Romulus will be the sites for the first-ever National Invitational Girls' Hockey Tournament April 10-12.

The tournament field includes seven girls' teams from the Detroit area as well as squads from Massachusetts, New York and Minnesota. The teams will play in three age divisions: Junior (12 years and under), Teen (13-18 years), and Ladies (19 and over limitations). Only the Teen and Junior divisions are included in the national play-offs.

Southfield will be represented by the Southfield Squaws, a Teen division team. The Squaws have been in existence for two years, winning the Inter-City Girls' Hockey League championship both years.

The other Michigan team — Westland, Melborn, Ecorse, Taylor, Allen Park and Fraser — are also members of the 11-member Inter-City League.

Southfield meets Taylor at 8:00 p.m. on April 10. Southfield is scheduled for two games on April 12. The Squaws meet Boston A at 10:10 a.m., and then take on Minnesota B at 4:40 p.m. All of Southfield's games will be played in the Spectrum's Red Arena.