

Coaching strategy key to track relays victory

By DOUG FENKE

Strategy will play a big role in deciding the outcome of the sixth annual Observerland Relays this Saturday at Hillbert Junior High School in Redford Township. With 18 teams competing in one of the metropolitan area's largest outdoor gatherings and with each trackster limited to three running events, the manner in which coaches utilize their tracksters will be critical to their chances for a team championship.

Basically, a coach has two choices. He may stack all his talent in a couple of races, finish high, then hope the rest of his runners will scrape up enough points for the title.

The other option is to spread his best runners throughout all the events, score points in a majority of the races and hope that a consistent run of points will lead to a championship.

Either strategy is a risk. In any event, the Observerland Relays has assumed its place among the outstanding track and field meets of southeastern Michigan.

"I think a lot of good things come out of this competition," said Redford Union track coach John Mackenzie, who Saturday is serving as meet director. "The kids really get up for it."

The Observerland Relays capture the most attention as far as local interest is concerned, track coaches from outside the area have inquired about entering, but I have to tell them there's no room."

MacKenzie and Livonia Churchill coach Fred Fry, whose team has been compiling the best track efforts in Wayne County, say the times and distances of area tracksters have become quite respectable.

The RU coach said he figures that this year will be the favorite's role. Churchill merits the favorite's role. Churchill due to its tremendous team balance. Redford Bishop Groves will likely put up the

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biggest challenge, the meet director surmised.

With 12 events on the card and 18 teams participating, most squadswill show their class at one or more of the relays.

MacKenzie likes Churchill, Farmington, North Farmington and Redford Bishop Groves to be among the strongest in the distance relays.

He also said that Livonia Franklin appears to have the most talent in the sprints, while the two-mile relay stacks up

to be a dog fight between Churchill, Farmington City West and Redford Township. The field events are wide open."

MacKenzie said that Livonia Stevenson and RU are the favorites in the shot put relay, Farmington and Bishop Groves in the long jump relay, Churchill, Groves and RU in the high jump relay and Farmington City West, Churchill and RU in the pole vault relay.

Four meet records were shattered last year, and according to MacKenzie, the events to which to look for new standards Saturday are the four mile, the two mile and the long jump relays.

Since the relays were initiated in 1971, RU and Churchill have won twice and Farmington and Stevenson once. RU is the defending champion.

The closest meet was contested in 1973

when Churchill and Stevenson tied with 27 points and Bishop Groves totaled 26. The Relays will be held at Hillbert Junior High, 28400 Parkman, Redford Township. The school is located approximately midway between Five and Six Mile Roads and Foster and Beech Daly Roads.

Teams which will compete are Livonia Bentley, Stevenson, Franklin, Churchill, Garden City East, Garden City West, Farmington, North Farmington, Farmington Harrison and Northville.

Others are Plymouth Salem, Plymouth Canton, Southfield Lathrup, Thurston, Bishop Groves and West RU.

The field events will begin at 2 p.m. with the pole vault. The running portion of the relays will start at 7 p.m. Tickets, at 75 cents for students and \$1.50 for adults, good for all events, will be available at the gate.

With favorable weather, a crowd of upwards of 2,000 is expected.

Harrison runs past Southfield

Farmington Harrison lifted its track record to 4-1 with a 72-60 victory over non-league Southfield High on the Hawks track last Tuesday.

In other dual track meets last Tuesday, Southfield-Lathrup defeated Oak Park, 89-61, and Birmingham Groves dominated North Farmington, 101-31.

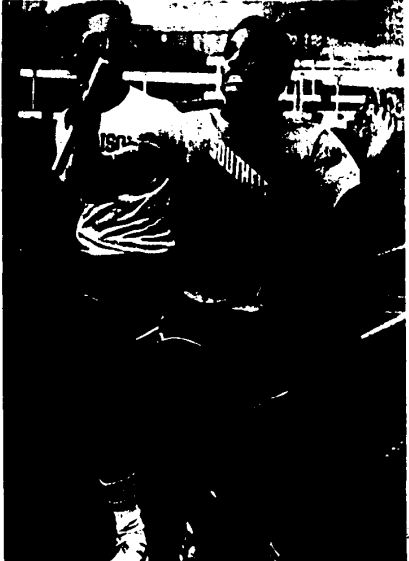
Harrison, which won seven of the 16 events, made a good showing in the field events. Harrison junior Mike Bowden won the discus event with a 127-4 heavy, and teammate Kerry Werborn was second, Jeff Thorne and Weithers went one-two in the long jump. The winning leap was 17-8.

Mike Colonna gave Harrison another first when he won the pole vault at 11-0. John Hileman took the 100 low hurdles

(22.5), Tom Reynolds won the 100 dash (10.4), and Rick Hrusky topped the 800 run (2:05.4). Reynolds, Bowden, Greg White and John Hausmann formed the Hawks' 440 relay, which won in 45.5.

Southfield's Gary Miles continued his impressive season, winning the 440 in 53.4, and anchoring the Blue Jays' 800 and mile relays. The 440 Miles, Scott Bremester, Mitch Moses and Stuart Bruggold, won in 1:38.1, and the mile relay (Miles, Mike Bruggold, Moses and Mark Volante) won in 3:50.0.

Bruggold won the 220 (24.3), and Bryan won the mile run (4:43.3). Sophomore Ken Ruby won the high hurdles (15.8). Southfield won two field events. Reynolds Auld took the high jump at 5-4, and Dave Walworth won the shot put at 41-4.



Southfield's Gary Miles ran a strong leg on the Blue Jays' 880-yard relay against Farmington Harrison last Tuesday. Southfield won the event with a time of 1:36.1, but lost the meet, 72-60. (Staff photo by Harry Maute)

Area's best track times

Listings of outstanding track and field performances by high school boys in the area, compiled by coach Jerry Minewasser of Southfield Lathrup High, will appear every Thursday in the Observer & Eccentric.

<b>100-YARD DASH</b>	
Churchill, Avondale	9.8
Zola, Cranbrook	10.1
Maiboney, Lahser	10.2
Reynolds, Harrison	10.2
Shaw, Cranbrook	10.3
Anderson, Groves	10.3
Gould, Lathrup	10.3
Leetsma, Seabolt	10.3
Moses, Southfield	10.3
<b>200-YARD DASH</b>	
Churchill, Avondale	22.5
Avondale, Groves	22.5
Gould, Lathrup	22.5
Stacyzynski, Lahser	22.5
Stacyzynski, Farmington	22.5
Wolnar, Athens	22.5
Schroeder, W. Bloomfield	22.5
Zola, Cranbrook	22.5
Higginsbotham, Avondale	22.5
Leetsma, Seabolt	22.5
<b>400-YARD DASH</b>	
Ferreri, Cranbrook	51.9
Carr, Groves	52.0
Smith, Lathrup	52.0
Jones, Troy	52.1
Driscoll, Lathrup	52.1
King, Groves	52.2
Levy, N. Farmington	52.6
Wilson, Cranbrook	52.7
Stacyzynski, Lahser	52.7
<b>600-YARD RELAY</b>	
Cranbrook	44.0
Harrison	44.0
Lahser	44.4
W. Bloomfield	45.4
Andover	45.7
Groves	45.7
Popp, Farmington	45.7
Farmington	45.7
Avondale	46.0
N. Farmington	46.0
Southfield	46.3
<b>800-YARD RUN</b>	
Giblin, Brother Rice	2:00.0
Swan, Brother Rice	2:00.2
Albrecht, Cranbrook	2:00.3
Levy, N. Farmington	2:00.3
Punk, Brother Rice	2:00.3
Morgan, Groves	2:00.3
Quasada, Troy	2:01.1
Sambor, Lathrup	2:01.1
King, Groves	2:01.2
Griffin, Lathrup	2:01.2
<b>MILE RUN</b>	
Washburn, Groves	4:23.8
Manza, Brother Rice	4:26.4
Morgan, Groves	4:26.9
Giblin, Brother Rice	4:27.3
Poston, Seabolt	4:29.0
Rutilla, Farmington	4:35.1
Kramer, W. Bloomfield	4:37.3
Levy, N. Farmington	4:38.4
Lesperance, Groves	4:39.2
Munger, Groves	4:39.3
<b>TWO-MILE RUN</b>	
Manza, Brother Rice	9:38.7
Menges, Groves	9:38.8
Washburn, Groves	9:40.3
Rutilla, Farmington	9:51.1
Giblin, Brother Rice	9:56.3
Stat, Farmington	9:59.3
Punk, Brother Rice	10:01.0
Good, N. Farmington	10:01.0
O'Connor, Avondale	10:06.0
Young, Andover	10:07.0
<b>800-YARD RELAY</b>	
Cranbrook	1:32.9
Avondale	1:33.2
Lahser	1:34.3
Andover	1:34.3
W. Bloomfield	1:34.5

Track summaries

<b>Harrison-Southfield</b>	
800 Relay-Southfield (Scott Bremester, Mitch Moses, Stu Bruggold, Gary Miles)	1:38.1
100 Run-Rick Hrusky (H); 2:05.8, Bob Church (S); Al Dubiel (H)	1:34.4
150 High Hurdles-Ken Ruby (S); 15.8, John Hileman (H); Jeff Thorne (H)	1:34.4
100 Run-Mike Bryan (S); 4:43.3, Mark Evans (H); Bob Ture (H)	1:35.4
100 Dash-Tom Reynolds (H); 10.4, Mitch Moses (S); Jeff Seides (S)	1:35.4
440 Dash-Gary Miles (S); 53.8, Rick Hrusky (H); Steve Martin (H)	1:35.4
100 Low Hurdles-John Hileman (H); 22.5, Ken Ruby (S); Jeff Thorne (H)	1:35.4
100 Run-Scott Stone (S); 10:20.9, Adam Writzer (H); Art Hurdak (S)	1:35.4
220 Dash-Stuart Bruggold (S); 24.3, Bill Hausmann (H); Steve Martin (H)	1:35.4
100 Mile Relays-Southfield (Gary Miles, Mike Bryan, Mitch Moses, Mark Volante)	3:50.0
440 Relay-Harrison (Tom Reynolds, Bill Hausmann, Greg White, Mike Bowden)	4:43.3
Discus-Mike Bowden (H); 127-4, Kerry Werborn (H); Dave Walworth (S)	4:43.3
Long Jump-Jeff Thorne (H); 17-8, Kerry Werborn (H); Jeff Seides (S); 17-8	4:43.3
Shot Put-Dave Walworth (S); 41-4, Mike Bowden (H); Moss (S)	4:43.3
Pole Vault-Mike Colonna (H); 11-0, Rick Hrusky (H); Jim Kurylo (S)	4:43.3
100 Dash-Brian Gould (S); 54.8, Greg White (H); Mike Colonna (H)	4:43.3
<b>Groves-N. Farmington</b>	
800 Relay-Birmingham Groves	1:35.7
100 Run-Dave Levy (N. Farmington)	2:03.7
100 Run-Brian King (BG); Chris Gregorich (BG)	2:03.7
150 High Hurdles-Dan Noakes (BG); 14.3, John Otter (N); Jeff Forham (BG)	2:03.7
100 Mile Run-Joei Merges (BG); 4:27.9, (H); Mike Spengler (N); Ron Lesperance (BG)	2:03.7
100 Dash-Ken Anderson (BG); 10.3, Paul Ruck (N); Ron Loretta (BG)	2:03.7
440 Dash-Jones (BG); 54.8, Dave Levy (N); Mike Hestley (N)	2:03.7
100 Low Hurdles-Dan Noakes (BG); 21.6, Bob Mc (N); Bill Liddle (BG)	2:03.7
100 Mile Run-Jeff Washburn (BG); 4:28.0, Dan W. (gan (BG); Dave Good (N)	2:03.7
220 Dash-Jon Anderson (BG); 24.4, Brad Miller (H); Lewis Hartman (BG)	2:03.7
100 Mile Relay-Birmingham Groves	4:41.1
440 Relay-Birmingham Groves	4:42.2
Discus-Ron Loretta (BG); 128-9, Andy Liddle (BG); Tim Galt (BG)	4:42.2
Shot Put-Ron Loretta (BG); 51-3, Gary Getwell (BG); Mike Morrow (N)	4:42.2
100 Pole Vault-Phillip Harvett (BG); 12-4, (H); Jim Urrin (BG) and Doug DeHoff (N)	4:42.2
Long Jump-Dan Noakes (BG); 19-4, Groves jumper, Brian King (BG)	4:42.2
High Jump-Bob Reed (N); 54, John Welch (N); George Pouchard (BG)	4:42.2
<b>Lathrup-Oak Park</b>	
800 Relay-Southfield Lathrup (Tony Pecoreo, Mike Driscoll, Dave Smith, Brian Gould)	1:35.4
100 Run-Road Griffin (S); 2:07.9, Steve Sambor (S); Grossbart (Oak Park)	1:35.4
150 High Hurdles-Jeff Goforth (S); 17.0, Rick Winston (S); Gama (S)	1:35.4
100 Mile Run-Warner (S); 5:00.8, Howard Labe (S); Burford (S)	1:35.4
100 Dash-Brian Gould (S); 10.4, Green (OP); Tony Pecoreo (S)	1:35.4
440 Dash-Lathrup (OP); 53.0, Dave Smith (S); Mike Driscoll (S)	1:35.4
<b>IGH JUMP</b>	
Kreichtner, Lahser	6-2
Allen, Seabolt	6-0
Castello, Lahser	6-0
Hawthorne, Lathrup	6-0
Paulsen, Groves	6-0
Frederly, Lahser	5-10
McKibbin, Farmington	5-10
Ryan, Brother Rice	5-10
<b>DISCUS</b>	
Smith, Cranbrook	120-1
Karlson, W. Bloomfield	120-5
Wiedrich, Andover	120-5
121-4 Bowden, Harrison	120-7
Welborn, Harrison	120-4
Kreichtner, Lahser	120-4
Basso, Brother Rice	120-4
Lewin, Country Day	120-0
Jones, Troy	118-4
Popp, Farmington	117-4

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