

GC West Splits In Track Meets

There were some outstanding individual efforts turned in by Garden City West trackmen as their team split in a pair of Tri Rivers League meets.

First West lost to Cherry Hill, 63-56, before rebounding to beat Kennedy, 69-49.

Against Cherry Hill, the meet went down to the closing event—the mile relay in which Cherry Hill won by less than a tenth of a second to take the race and the meet.

West led pretty much all the way in points against Kennedy.

INDIVIDUALLY, speaking, there was the 51.3-440-yard run by Chris McCollum for West against Kennedy that sparked.

So did Roger Becker's 5-8 high jump leap, the consistency of Dale Halliwell in the hurdles and 2:05 half mile Steve Wilcox turned in.

In the mile relay against Cherry Hill West was timed in the excellent time of 3:31 when nipped at the finish wire.

The West results:

CHERRY HILL 62, GC WEST 56
POLE VAULT: 1-Steve Wilcox, 17 feet, 1 1/2 inches.
SHOT PUT: 1-Steve Wilcox, 46 feet, 3 1/2 inches.

LONG JUMP: 2-Bill, 3-Middleton, HIGH JUMP: 2-Middleton, 5-8 feet, 1 1/2 inches.

TWO MILE: 1-Anderson, Time: 9:39.5
880-YARD RELAY: 1-West (McCollum, Gurney, Halliwell, Gurney), Time: 3:31.

HIGH HURDLES: 1-Graham, Time: 13 seconds.
100-YARD: 2-Wilcox, 3-Sylvester, Time: 23 seconds.

100-YARD: 1-McCollum, 3-Sylvester, Time: 23 seconds.
100-YARD: 2-Gurney, 3-Magdon, Time: 23 seconds.

LOW HURDLES: 1-Halliwell, 2-Graham, Time: 23 seconds.
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GC WEST 60, KENNEDY 49
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SHOT PUT: 1-Steve Wilcox, 46 feet, 3 1/2 inches.

LONG JUMP: 1-Becker, 3-Middleton, Height: 5 feet, 1 1/2 inches.

It's A Split For Bentley In Twinbill

Bentley High broke even in a doubleheader with Port Huron Saturday, losing the first game, 8-2, then winning the nightcap, 6-5.

Five runs in the first inning helped Port Huron take the first game.

In the second game, Bob Duncan had a no-bitter going for Bentley until the seventh when Port Huron rallied with four runs before Curt Ramsey came on to put out the fire.

Al Hernandez, Dan Boehm and Gary Battle each had two hits for the Bentley team in the victory.

Hernandez' single, an error, a Boehm single and another gave Bentley its final two runs in the fifth and what proved the deciding margin.

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440-YARD: 1-McCollum, 3-Gurney, Time: 11:22.
100-YARD: 2-Gurney, 3-Magdon, Time: 23 seconds.

MILE RELAY: 1-West (Burton, Swada, Sylvester, Wilcox), Time: 3:31.

LOW HURDLES: 2-Halliwell, 3-Graham, Time: 23 seconds.

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observing sports

Hello, Little League baseball!
The opening of the season is just around the corner...and for thousands of youngsters hereabouts, the cry of "play ball!" couldn't be a sweeter sound.

But while Little League is for the kids, there wouldn't be any such leagues if it weren't for their moms and pops and other adults in the neighborhood.

It's the mom and pop who do the work...they manage, they coach, they lug the kids back and forth from home to the fields, they wash the uniforms, they make sure the boys have hair cuts...and, perhaps, most important, they come up with the necessary cash to keep things going.

There are some adults who indulge in Little League for selfish reasons. They have a son in the league, so they figure by assisting, maybe son will play more than the next dad's kid...even though the coach's son may not deserve such a distinction.

But thankfully, most of those adults connected with Little League don't have selfish motives at stake.

We have in mind a guy like Ken Clover, the father of four and with No. 5 on the way.

KEN WORKS five nights a week. At least, that's what he tells us. He also bosses the slo-pitch team around the place he works.

He was in Little League last year, managing a team. It so happened that his son was a member of the team.

But son now is too old for Little League...and yet dad is out there, handling the same team.

To Ken it's fun to work with the youngster. And, believe us, he does WORK with them.

He has one dad assisting...and Ken figures that he really should have more men around when practices are going on.

So, he turned to fellow worker, Curt Sylvester, a father of only a month or so, and asked Curt if he would drop around the next time the team drilled.

Curt who lives on the east side and no place near Ken, agreed.

So, there they were, Ken and Curt—with no sons of their own on the team—trying to make better ball players out of somebody else's kids.

"It's tougher than you think putting together a Little League team," Clover was saying.

"You meet the boys for the first time and you have little idea of who can play where. So, you ask: Who's a pitcher? Well, just about everybody sticks his hand up. Maybe they think that's the easiest job.

"NOT TOO MANY want to catch and you don't find many boys who are eager to play the outfield.

"So you conduct some throwing drills. You watch and see who can throw. Who's got a good delivery and who's got a bad one.

"You pick the strong-armed kids and try them as pitchers. You find a boy who is willing...and has the desire...to catch. And, so it goes.

"When you have the boys assigned to a position, now you start working with them. That's why you need more than three or four adults around."

"If I stick with the infielders, you need somebody who'll hit to the outfield...somebody else to talk and help the pitchers...somebody else who can show the boys where to play under certain situations.

"It's a trying situation...but you do get some satisfaction in the long run, when you see the kids improve...not only as ball players, but as young men, too."

With no son of his own on the team, nobody can accuse Clover of playing favorites: He doesn't like a father or mother storming him and declaring: "How come this boy plays and mine doesn't?"

CLOVER TRIES to play them all. But he also feels that a kid of 10 or 12 must learn that in