

Modesto Takes Big Eight Track Championship

By Marco Smolich

The Modesto Junior College Pirates, capturing six firsts and placing in six other events, compiled 159½ points yesterday to walk away with the Big

Eight Conference track meet championship at Hughes Stadium.

Runnerup honors went to the City College of San Francisco Rams, defending titlists, who scored 106½. Then came Santa Rosa 59, Oakland 44, Sacramento 30, Stockton 20½, West Contra Costa 12 and San Mateo 3.

Sweet Revenge

The triumph was sweet revenge for the charges of Chuck Coker, who is scheduled to replace Stanford bound Payton Jordan as track coach at Occidental next season. Last month the San Franciscans trounced the Pirates to retain their dual meet crown.

Ray Hale accounted for two Modesto firsts, negotiating the mile handily in 4:34.7 and the two mile in 10:06.7. In the 880, won by teammate Chuck Winger in 1:57.5, he ran third after being boxed in the early going.

Other Pirate firsts were taken by Ray Pierce, 46-11 shotput; Jim Toepfer, 22-6 broad jump, and Milton Stewart, 138-5½ discus.

To demonstrate their balance and depth, Coker's men took the first three places in the mile and 880 and were first and second in the two mile, shot put and broad jump.

SF Man Tops

While Modesto claimed the team trophy, CCSF's Clint Redus was the individual high scorer with 28 points off record breaking firsts in the hurdles, :15.1 in the highs and :24.2 in the lows, and a second in the 100.

His loss to Oakland's Ray Norton in the 100 marked the first race Redus failed to win in two years of Big Eight competition.

Norton, equaling the meet mark of :09.9 in the 100, came back to set a new record, :21.5 in the 220. He tried to triple up in the 220 highs but, obviously dead tired, fell while going over the first hurdle and did not continue.

Sacramento picked up a first when Oroville's gift to the Panthers, Roger Biffle, cleared the pole vault bar at 12-6.

A meet record was broken in the high jump which ended in a tie when Oakland's Hal Theus and San Francisco's Leroy Thomas made 6-4.

Hosea Harper of Santa Rosa and Chuck McNeil of Modesto waged a couple of pretty duels with the former winning both.

In the 440 Harper beat the Pirate to the tape by a foot in :49.9. They were matched again on the anchor lap of the mile relay with Harper coming from behind to nip McNeil by six inches. The relay clocking was 3:23.3.

Qualify For Championships

The first four in each event qualified for the Northern California championships, slated for Saturday night in Santa Rosa. The state JC meet will be run May 26th in conjunction with the California Relays in Modesto.

Here are the conference results:

Mile—1, Hale, M; 2, Winger, M; 3, Jardina, M; 4, Putnam, Sac; 5, Webb, SF; 6, Gross, WCC, 4:34.7.
440—1, Harper, SR; 2, McNeil, M; 3, Richter, SF; 4, Martucci, SF; 5, Allen, Sac; 6, Moorehead, SF, :49.9.
100—1, Norton, O; 2, Redus, SF; 3, Marquis, St; 4, Ross, WCC; 5, Cortez, O; 6, Wilkes, SR, :09.9, ties meet record.
120 HH—1, Redus, SF; 2, Jones, SF; 3, Cobb, M; 4, Linn, SR; 5, Baird, SM; 6, Velez, St, :15.1, new meet record.
880—1, Winger, M; 2, Gasperi, M; 3, Hale, M; 4, R. Anderson, SF; 5, L. Anderson, SF; 6, Mooney, M, 1:57.5.
220—1, Norton, O; 2, McNeil, M; 3, Ross, WCC; 4, Catlett, SR; 5, Bates, SF; 6, Wilkes, SR, :21.5, new meet record.
2 Mile—1, Hale, M; 2, Cowles, M; 3, Castello, SF; 4, Capello, Sac; 5, Batz, SF; 6, Kidder, O, 10:06.7.
220 LH—1, Redus, SF; 2, Jones, SF; 3, Cobb, M; 4, Linn, SR; 5, Williams, St; 6, Velez, St, :24.2, new meet record.
Mile relay—1, Santa Rosa (Catlett, Evans, Pierce, Harper); 2, Modesto; 3, San Francisco; 4, Sacramento; 5, Oakland; 6, San Mateo, 3:23.4.
HJ—1, tie between Theus, O, and Thomas, SF; 3, Smith, M; 4, tie among Velez, St, King, SF, and Allen, M, 6-3, new meet record.
SP—1, Pierce, M; 2, Biber, M; 3, Gorman, SR; 4, Borders, O; 5, Smith, M; 6 Hayes, O, 46-11.
BJ—1, Toepfer, M; 2, Davis, M; 3, Chara, Sac; 4, Compagno, St; 5, King, SF; 6, McNear, WCC, 22-6.
PV—1, Biffle, Sac; 2, tie among Cox and Franchetti, SR; Walker, SF, and Tarver, O; 6, Backer, SR, 12-6.
D—1, Stewart, M; 2, Ross, SR; 3, Carroll, SF; 4, Quessenberry, St; 5, Atkins, SF; 6, Smith, SF, 138-5½.