

# Connecticut Claims First Big East Indoor Track Title

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — The University of Connecticut took the lead in the opening event and was never headed as it romped to the first Big East indoor track championship here Sunday.

The Huskies scored in 13 of the 18 events to finish with 123 points. St. John's was second with 99 points, followed by Seton Hall with 85, Georgetown with 74, Syracuse with 73, Boston College with 72 and Providence with 30.

St. John's Ross Donoghue was selected the meet's outstanding performer. The junior turned in a 2:21.5 time for the 1000-meter run, the third-fastest time ever in the East by a collegian. He also anchored the Redmen's winning distance medley relay.

Bob Balcerski of Seton Hall accounted for the only double of the day, winning the long jump in 7.23 meters and the 50-meter high hurdles in 6.9 seconds. He also ran on the winning 400-meter relay team.

Seton Hall's Brian Denman was caught in 47.4 in the 400-meter dash, and was also a member of the winning 400-meter relay team.

Connecticut had four first place finishers — Steve Malavich in the 35-pound weight throw, Bob Rubega in the pole vault, Ray James in the 50-meter dash and James Hopson in the high jump. Hopson's winning jump was 2.13 meters, or about seven feet, the first time this height has been reached in the 18-year history of Syracuse's Manley Field House.

"Our winning effort was a result of us getting maximum performances from a lot of people in all the events," said Husky coach Bill Kelleher.

Providence picked up all but one of its points in two events. Dan Dillon was the winner in the 3000-meter run while Ray Treacy won the 5000-meter run.

Charlie Bevier accounted for Syracuse's only first, winning the 1500-meter in 3:52.2.