

Section 8 Romps, Section 4 Last

By MARK DeCOTIS

The outcome of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association's second annual Indoor track and field championships at Barton Hall Saturday was of little or no surprise to the 1,000 spectators.

They may have surprised some, and it did, was the feeble Section 4 showing. The Southern Tier representatives managed by 5½ points, for a dismal last place finish.

Section 8, the perennial track and field powerhouse from Long Island, won by a whopping 49-point margin over its nearest competitor, Section 1, Westchester County. Section 8 garnered 107 points, an improvement of 11 from its 1972 showing of 96. It managed this in a larger field too. Eight sections competed this time around, compared with six last Winter.

Section 1 had 58 points, Section 11, 31½, Section 9, 20, Section 3, 18, Section 2, six and then there was Section 4.

Scott Bierman of Ithaca High, who managed a tie for third in the 1,000-yard run grabbed three points for Section 4, while Maine-Endwell's 880-yard relay team, which was fourth and M-E's Wally Yelverton who was fifth in the shotput were responsible for the other Section 4 points.

It was a frustrating day for the upstate sections, as had been expected. Section 8 was just too strong. Of the 16 events held in the seven-hour long meet, Section 8 won 10, with Section 9 winning two and Section 1, four. Section 8 had a one-two-three finish in the shotput, a one-three-four in the long jump, one-two-four in the 60-yard dash, and a one-three in the long jump. All that spells just plain Domination, with a capital D.

The outcome of the high jump, which featured Section 8's Jay Meisler, who cleared 7-0 in a meet with the Russian Junior Team, and 6-11 in various meets on the Island, was over really before it began. With the lanky, Farmingdale performer sitting among his competitors munching on sandwiches, and sipping Cokes, which has become more or less his official trademark throughout the state, while the remainder of the performers labored and dropped out, nobody had a chance.

Meisler used his psyche early. He cleared 6-0 with a mere step before things really got under way, and then watched until the bar reached 6-6. He missed once at that height, but then cleared it. He now holds the state indoor mark of 6-6. But he wasn't satisfied with his jumping. He looked unsure, and subsequently missed three times at 6-8, in an attempt to set a new state indoor mark. He passed at 6-7. He did set a new meet mark of 6-6, erasing the previous one of 6-3 set by William O'Connell of Bethpage, Section 8.

While Meisler captivated the

fans, Steve Mitchell of Section 1, who cleared 6-5 and Dan Bell of Section 8, who also cleared 6-5 and who were excellent high jumpers in their own right, waged a battle for the second spot. Mitchell prevailed.

The pole vault, won eventually by Section 9's Ed Pimm, also provided some excitement to which was a rather dull time of watching Section 8's green shirts after green shirts cross the finish line, or be the last man to mount the victory stand. The awards were presented in reverse order, 5-4-3-2-1.

Pimm won the event at 13-7 after defeating Jeff Chumas of Arlington, Section 1 in an eye-catching dual. Pimm then tried to clear 14-0, but missed three times. He did establish a new state indoor mark of 13-7, eclipsing the previous mark of 13-5¼ set by David Rogers of Arlington, Section 1. Pimm also set a new meet mark topping the mark of Gary Pelland also of Arlington. That was 12-6.

Otherwise it was the 'luck' of the Green on St. Patrick's day for the downstaters.

The only defending champ in the meet, Dave Meyer of Berner, Section 8, won the 60-yard dash, but not before beating back a strong challenge of Section 5's Devon VanVechten of Rush Henrietta.

Meyer, who has a state indoor record and meet record 6.2 to his credit, and won had 6.1, kept his two-year unbeaten streak alive, barely.

VanVechton turned in slow 6.6 to win his heat, and then was second to Meyer in the semis. Meyer won in 6.3.

In the finals, Meyer got his usual strong start, but had to beat back the determined Van Vechton at the wire. Meyer set a meet record with his 6.3, while VanVechton ran a 6.4.

Bierman, Section 4's strongest hope won his 1,000-yard section in 2:18.6, his best time ever, which tied him for the third spot overall with Joe Frank of North Babylon, Section 11. Bierman ran a strong race in the second section, taking an early lead, and stretching it out as the race progressed.

The other Ithaca High entries, though, didn't fare nearly as well as expected. Dave Pannell, running in the second section of the 600 was a dismal fifth, in 1:18.6, while in the two-mile run, Clyde Rollins was a poor sixth in his section in 10:11.6. The winning time was 9:49.3. Jessie Shaw, a poor finisher in his.

Ithacan Jack Mazza turned in a 6.6 performance in his 60-yard heat, and progressed to the semifinals. He was nosed out of a berth in the finals, though, as his 6.5 wasn't good enough to crack the top five times.

Pannell also ran in the one mile competition, but his injured right ankle and the strain of the competition got to him as he was sixth in the first section with a

4:33. The winning time was 4:25.7.

The Ithaca two-mile relay team of Shaw, Rollins, Bierman and Tim MacNeil was lapped in the finals, (there were no heats or sections), but did figure in the outcome of the race. Rush-Henrietta of Section 5 had the race won as an over-zealous member of the team raced onto the Barton Tartan, oblivious of Bierman who was crossing the start-finish line to start his last lap, and congratulated the anchor man for winning. The result of his action cost Section 5 the race as it was ruled he ran on the track before the race was completed.

Section 1 was awarded the race in 8:12.4. Section 4 finished the race in 8:42.1.

Jim Tate of Uniondale Section 8, set a new meet and state mark of 22-6½ in the long jump, while Jarman Granger also of Uniondale established a new meet record in the triple jump. His leap measured 46-0 ¼, erasing the old mark of 45-1¾. The old long jump record was 21-3½ for the state and 20-11½ for the meet.

Craig Masback of White Plains, Section 1, set a new meet mark of 1:13.1 in the 600, erasing the old mark of 1:14.0.

Meet records were also set in the 1,000 and the 300-yard runs. Mark Belger of Mephram, Section 8 ran a 2:14.1 1,000 to erase the old meet mark of 2:15.9, while Bill Smith of Uniondale ran a 31.3 300 to top the old meet mark of 31.7. He missed the state mark by one-tenth of a second.

Team Scoring				
Section 8	107	Section 3	18	
Section 1	58	Section 2	6	
Section 11	31½	Section 5	6	
Section 9	20	Section 4	3½	

FINALS	
60-yd. run	— Dave Meyer (8) : Devon VanVechton (5) : Bob Gregory (8) : Bill Baldwin (8) : Mike Feeley (2) : 6.3 (meet record)
60-yd. high hurdles	— Cornelius Addison (1) : Bob Adler (8) : Joe Costello (11) : Devon VanVechton (5) : Mark Goodrich (11) : 7.5 (set meet record 7.4 in trials)
300-yd. dash	— Bill Smith (8) : Keith Davidson (1) : Tony Basile (3) : Dick Cincotta (11) : Mike Willis 31.3 (new meet record)
1000-yd. run	— Mark Belger (8) : Ken Murphy (1) : Scott Bierman (4) : Joe Frank (2) : Bob Delle (8) : 2:14.1 (new meet record)
1 mile run	— Franke Brown (8) : Ken Murphy (1) : Bob Cavaliero (11) : John Rayo (3) : Mike De Micco (1) : 4:24.4
Two Mile Run	— Howie McNiff (9) : Ken Moliski (3) : Jack Rose (8) : John Evans (3) : Mickey Yardis (1) : John Cabell (1) : 9:27.9
600-yd. run	— Craig Masback (1) : Howie Singer (8) : Rick Wild (11) : Mike Wright (9) : Fred Gruba (11) : 1:31.1 (new meet record)
880-Relay	— Section 8 : Section 11 : Section 2 : Section 4 : Section 5 : Section 9 : 22.9
1 mile Relay	— Section 1 : Section 8 : Section 2 : Section 11 : Section 9 : Section 4 : 29.7
Two-mile Relay	— Section 1 : Section 3 : Section 11 : Section 9 : Section 4 : 8:12.4
Pole Vault	— Ed Pimm (9) : Jeff Chumas (1) : Dan Prunty (1) : Tom Kovic (8) : Jerry Byrne (1) : 13-7 (new meet record)
High Jump	— Jay Meisler (8) : Steve Mitchell (1) : Dan Bell (8) : Bill Williams (8) : John Jeffery (9) : 6-6 (new meet record)
Long Jump	— Jim Tate (8) : Wayne Goldstein (11) : Rick Wagner (8) : George Brown (5) : Mike Willis (1) : 22-6½ (new meet record)
Shot Put	— Joe Kassell (8) : Steve Millard (8) : Greg Llewellyn (8) : Mark Domanico (3) : Wally Yelverton (4) : 40-7
Distance Medley	— Section 8 : Section 11 : Section 9 : Section 3 : Section 2 : Section 4 : 8:11 (new meet record)
Triple Jump	— Jarman Granger (8) : Barney Murray (1) : Ronald Elsmar : William Williams (8) : Greg Joseph (1) : 46-0 (new meet record)



Journal Photos by Leo Charpentier

Jubilation

Ed Pimm of Section 9, exults after clearing winning height of 13-7 in the pole vault.