

Horton and Co. In Penn Relays

By RICK SAYERS

Four local high schools, led by McQuaid miler Chris Horton, hit the big-time this weekend in the Penn Relays at the University of Pennsylvania's Franklin Field in Philadelphia.

Entered in the track and field carnival, which expects 7,000 participants, including five Olympic gold medal winners, are Franklin, Aquinas, Rush-Henrietta and McQuaid.

Franklin Coach Trenton Jackson, a former Olympian himself, is taking his 440-yard and mile relay teams; Aquinas is entered in the mile relay; Rush-Henrietta in the two-mile relay and McQuaid in the mile and two-mile relays and Horton in the open championship mile.

The high school mile draws the best runners in the East, yet McQuaid Coach Bob Bradley figures Horton is in that class and ready to run under 4:15.

Horton, who did 4:19 last season, will have to do that or better tomorrow to qualify. The top seeds in the race are Bill Dabney of Boys High in Brooklyn, who's already run 4:13.6 and Matt Centrowitz of New York City's Power Memorial with a time of 4:14.

Last year's race was won in a record Relays time of 4:08.7 by Gordon Oliver of Maryland.

Horton will also anchor McQuaid's two-mile and mile relay teams that run Satur-



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McQuaid earned the right to compete in the championship two-mile relay with its time of 7:57.5 in last week's Queens-Iona meet as Horton ran a 1:55 anchor.

But the real surprise was Dave Seeger's 1:56.9 third leg that actually gave McQuaid the victory. The other two legs are Roger Key and Sean McGinnis.

They feel they can go about six seconds faster or in the low 7:50s, but Boys High has already done 7:46.8 with Dab-

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ney turning a 1:50.2 anchor and is the pre-race favorite.

Rush-Henrietta is also loaded in the two-mile relay with Mike Burke, Dave Cobb, Tom Morrell and Tim Burke and is capable of under eight minutes.

They ran 8:10.8 to win the State Indoor event at Cornell only to be disqualified after the race, while Tim Burke anchored last year's team that did 8:01 outdoors.

St. Joseph's of Buffalo won last year's Penn Relays race in 7:46.0.

Key, Seeger and Horton are expected to double for McQuaid in the mile relay and Bradley, still undecided on the other man, feels they can run in the mid-3:20s.

Jackson thinks he has a pretty good mile relay team,

too, with the Scott twins, Mike and Ed, Dwight Slater and Denny Jackson, who can all run around 50-flat quarter-miles.

Dan Izzo and Mark Whalen are the key members of Aquinas' mile relay team that is also capable of running in the mid-3:20 range.

Franklin, with possibly the best two sprinters in the city, is also entered in the 440 relay with Ed Brown, a 21.5 220-man, and Brian Fraine, a 9.9 sprinter as a sophomore.

The big name of the two-day meet will be Dave Wottle, who won the 800-meter title last summer in Munich. The other four Olympic champions are Gerald Tinker of Kent State and Bog Ouko, Larry Black and Julius Sang, all of North Carolina Central. All five will be honored in a special ceremony Saturday.