

San Mateo cops PAL relays

By DODE WINSLOW

San Mateo High's track team put on a storybook finish to come from behind in the last event and win the ninth annual Peninsula Athletic League Relays on the Paly High track yesterday.

Coach Wag Jorgensen's Bearcat varsity 880 team beat second-place Burlingame and third-place Lincoln by a scant few yards to nail down their first relays title since 1943 with 26 points. Burlingame, which led the meet until the last event, was second with 25. Lincoln was third with 22, Palo Alto fourth with 13, and Sequoia fifth with 12.

Goose-pimpled runners battled a strong headwind in the stretch and only one record fell. In the most exciting race

of the 10 relays, Sequoia smashed the mile record with a 3:37.3 effort. It broke the previous mark, set by Lincoln in 1947, by 1.4 seconds.

Three teams—Palo Alto, San Mateo, and Lincoln—had held the lead before Sequoia's Larry Broeren came from behind to overtake a Lion runner in the stretch and win going away. Sequoia's first three runners were Tim Bell, Byron Bumbaca, and Bill Rupp.

Mainly responsible for San Mateo's triumph were four Class C runners, Mel Kani, Elmer Yamada, Ted Adkins, and Lee Ridgeway, who won both the lightest lightweight events. Jorgensen figures that they, together with about four others, should win the PAL Class C crown.

Al Tinker, Louis Bourtlín, Bob Rodolf, and Tom Guidry formed the winning varsity 880 combination for the Bearcats.

With a sizzling 2:04.5 half-mile, Paul Bowen brought Palo Alto home first in the varsity two-mile. His teammates were Don Malinoff (2:16.0), Charlie Hoppe (2:15.7), and Dick Hanna (2:10.5).

Coach Hod Ray's Class B sprint team—given the essential boost by Don Hodgkin's gather in the first leg and Bob Brand's smoking finish—ran to a good 880 win. Floyd Kumagi and Joe Ikeda added neat interim turns.

Paly's Ole Holsti hit the finish line in front in the first lap of the mile relay and stopped watches at :52 flat.

Burlingame jumped to an early lead with wins in the shuttle hurdle and Class B 440 relays. The Panthers placed in every event but the mile relay. They should be top PAL varsity and Class B contenders.

Lincoln's varsity team was strong in both sprints and middle distances, as usual, and the Lion Class B team won an exciting medley relay.

Jefferson showed surprising strength in the middle distances. San Jose followed San Mateo in the Class C events, and South San Francisco failed to place.

Class A shuttle hurdles — 1. Burlingame (Van Der Beets, Hamilton, McIndoe, Rittenmeyer), 2. San Mateo, 3. Lincoln, 4. Palo Alto. Time, :59.8.

Class B 440 — 1. Burlingame (Morgan, Redmond, Moore, Vlasis), 2. Lincoln, 3. Sequoia, 4. Palo Alto. Time, :46.8.

Class C 440 — 1. San Mateo (Kani, Ridgeway, Yamada, Adkins), 2. San Jose, 3. Burlingame, 4. Jefferson. Time, :47.3.

Class A 440 — 1. Lincoln (Bruno, Purdy, Robinson, Griffith), 2. Sequoia, 3. San Mateo, 4. Burlingame. Time, :45.8.

Class B 880 — 1. Palo Alto (Hodgkin, Kumagi, Ikeda, Brand), 2. Burlingame, 3. San Mateo, 4. San Jose. Time, 1:39.8.

Class A two-mile — 1. Palo Alto (Malinoff, Hoppe, Hanna, Bowen), 2. Jefferson, 3. Lincoln, 4. Burlingame. Time, 8:46.6.

Class A mile — 1. Sequoia (Bell, Bumbaca, Rubb, Broeren), 2. Lincoln, 3. San Mateo, 4. Palo Alto. Time, 3:37.3. (New record; old record 3:38.7 by Lincoln in 1947.)

Class C medley (50-100-220-440) — 1. San Mateo (Yamada, Ridgeway, Kani, Adkins), 2. San Jose, 3. Burlingame, 4. Sequoia. Time, 1:38.9.

Class B medley (100-220-440-880) — 1. Lincoln (Coutinho, Webster, Keller, Green), 2. Burlingame, 3. San Mateo, 4. Sequoia. Time, 3:44.3.

Class A 880 — 1. San Mateo (Tinker, Bourtlín, Rodolf, Guidry), 2. Burlingame, 3. Lincoln, 4. Jefferson. Time, 1:34.9.

Final scores: San Mateo 26, Burlingame 25, Lincoln 22, Palo Alto 13, Sequoia 12, San Jose 7, Jefferson 5, South San Francisco 0.

Mateo also won the Class
et by a 60-35 verdict.

Last week's PAL relays were plenty exciting

Peninsula Athletic League track opened officially Friday with the annual PAL relays, and what an opening! The finish of the meet could hardly have been more dramatic.

Going into the last event, the varsity 880 relay, three teams were in a position to win the meet. Burlingame was leading with 22 points. San Mateo was second with 21, and Lincoln third with 19.

San Mateo won the race, with Burlingame and Lincoln just behind. With 5-3-2-1 scoring, the Bearcats snatched the meet away from Blingum by one point.

Two wins by their Class C teams put the Mateans in the position for the final coup, so the strength of the varsity teams can't accurately be judged by relays results. Besides, there were no field events, and coaches had juggled their lightweight stars into varsity races in certain spots.

Who'll do what in the PAL championships probably won't be known exactly until the meet

itself, although dual meet results will clarify results somewhat. Coaches will be switching their top lightweights back and forth through the dual meet schedule to find out where they fit best.

Coach Ray Allee of San Mateo, however, does figure that his Class C thinclads look pretty good. Four teamed up in two races and won them both Friday. Ted Adkins, one of the quartet, broad jumps close to 20 feet, high jumps 5-7, and runs a mean 330, Allee says. The others are good sprinters, and with about four more boys the coach expects to win in Class C.

The Bearcats' winning 880 team had an unusual—but very effective—makeup of one man from each class, frosh, soph, junior, and senior. By the way, the San Mateo track team is billed—wouldn't you know it—as the "Allee 'cats" in Burlingame Advance headlines.

San Mateo's win came as a blow to Burlingame for the Panthers had defeated the

Bearcats handily in the same program of events the previous Friday.

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Although about 300 boys ran in the meet, the performances of several top-notchers really stood out. Paly's Paul Bowen ran a neat 880 with plenty of kick at the finish to overtake a stubborn Jefferson anchor man



in the two-mile relay. Sequoia's Larry Broeren turned in a blistering quarter to lead the Cherokees to a new record in a hard-battled mile relay. Bob Green of Lincoln, who tied Bowen in the PAL mile last year, anchored the Lion Class B medley team with a strong 880.

Ole Holsti, who may find himself the fireman on Coach Hod Ray's Paly squad, toured the 440 in about 52 flat in the first lap of the mile relay. Ole, who made weight for Class B, is probably the most improved runner on the Norse squad. Last year he had endurance, but this year he also has speed. He's good enough now to score points in, if not win the 440, 660, 880, 1320, and mile against most competition. And he's done :10.7 in the 100. Oh yes, he throws the shot, too.

Sunnyvale's Fremont High closed the basketball season by winning the Carmel Invitational Tournament. The Indians topped the Carmel Padres in the finals and their all-around star, Johnny Mesa, was named the outstanding player of the tourney. . . . Bob Henderson, end on Sequoia's 1948 football team, is a ski patrolman and tow operator at Peddler Hill—and one of the best skiers on the hill.