

TRACK NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3, No. 6, October 17, 1956 P.O. Box 296, Los Altos, Calif.
By Bert & Cordner Nelson (Track & Field News) \$6 per year (24 issues)

NEWS

UNITED STATES Olympic team development meet, Berkeley, Oct. 13: 100m King 10.3, Murchison 10.4, Morrow 10.5. (Baker bad leg, did not run either sprint). 200m Morrow 21.4, Stanfield 21.5. 400m Jones 48.0, Lea 48.2, Mashburn 48.4, Jenkins 49.4. 800m Sowell 1:48.8, Stanley 1:49.0, Spurrier 1:49.0. 1500m Bowden 3:46.6, Walters 3:47.4, Zellers 3:53, Seaman 3:55, Reiser 4:08. (Courtney scratched 800, Wheeler 1500 on doctors' orders) 5000m Dellinger 14:25.5, American record; Stone 14:29.5, Smartt 14:31.8, Truex 14:32.6, Jones 14:47.6, Coleman 15:04.4. (Hart, McKenzie, Ashenfelter did not run). 110H Calhoun 13.8, Shankle 13.9, Campbell 14.2, Johnson 14.3, Cobb 14.8, Lawson 15.0. (Davis hit three hurdles, did not finish) 400H Culbreath 51.0, Southern 51.8, Davis 54.2 (bad leg) 400m Murchison, King, Stanfield, Morrow 40.0, equal second best ever. HJ Dumas 6-8 (6-10 3/4 4th try), tie Wilson, Reavis, Fehlen 6-4. PV Gutowski 14-8, Roubanis 14, tie, Mattos and Hightower 13-6. (Richards not present, Graham did not vault) BJ Bell 25-8 1/4, Bennett 24-4 3/4, Johnson 24-3 3/4. HSJ Davis 49-10, Sharpe 49-7 1/2, Hollie 47-10. SP O'Brien 6-6, Nieder 55-5 3/8, Kahnert 53-10 1/2, Vick 52-10 (Bantum absent) DT Oerter 182-5, Gordien 174, O'Brien 173-9 3/4, Koch 166-4 1/2, Vick 163-0 1/2. JT Held 256-2 1/2, Young 249-1 1/2, Garcia 235-8, Conley 231-3. HT Connolly 216-10 1/2, Hall 203-6 1/2, Engle 186-4, Blair 184-2.

Pasadena All-Comers Oct. 5: Davis 14.2m; Lea 48.8y; Humphreys 157-2 1/2.

AAU Marathon Yonkers, NY, Sept. 30: Kelley 2:24:52.2 (course record), Thackwray 2:31:14, Costes 2:31:52, Mendez 2:32:30, Lafferty 2:38:22, Corbitt 2:39:30, Cons 2:39:43, Borden 2:43, Ryan 2:43:36, Scandurra 2:44:13, Conway 2:48:13, Suito 2:49:18, O'Hara 2:59:55, Fay 3:01:55. JAPAN Kogage 54-0 7/8, 2nd best ever in hop-step-jump, betters official world mark, from Shibata 52-1 1/4 and Sakurai 50-11.

PAKISTAN Abdul Khaliq, 10.2 for 100m.

AUSTRALIA National shot put record fell to Donath 51-8 9/29, Hanlin 51-8 1/4 9/30 and Hanlin 52-5 1/2 10.7. 9/30 Sydney: Hogan 10.9, Land 21.7, Bailey 8:55.2 from Plummer 8:56.6 and Thomas 9:00.2, two-miles. Gipson 48.4m from Goodman 48.5; O'Connell 1:53.2m. 10/1 Sydney: Bailey 1:52.2y, Butchart 1:52.5. 10/4 Sydney Gale 48.8y. 10.6 Melbourne: Hogan 10.5 twice; Gosper 47.2m, Stanton 48.2, Price 48.2, Murray 2:23.6 for 1000m from Lincoln 2:23.8, Macmillan 2:24.2, Fleming 2:24.8; Blackney 8:20.4 for 3000m from Stephens (after illness); Doubleday 14.6m from Joyce 14.7; Jack 23-10 3/4; Grant 206-1 1/2; Donath 51-1 1/4. 10/6 Adelaide: Gregory 1:52.5m; 10/7 Sydney: Carragher 10.4w, Bailey 4:15.2, Morris 171-2 1/2 HT.

EUROPE Dresden, 9/29, Harbig Memorial Meet: Savel 52.6; Niklas 195-7 5/8, Maca 194-4 1/4, Strandli 193-8 3/8; Urbach 164-4 3/8 DT; Lewandowski 2:21.2, Polish record; St. Aioanei 9:00.4. 9/30 Rahkamo 49-3 3/8 HSJ; Skobla 57-8 1/2, Urbach 54-2 3/4, Wegmann 53-10 1/2, Lingnau 53-4 1/8; Kin-sella 14.3; Knorz 10.4, Pohl 10.5, Futterer 5th in 10.7; Janke 14:04.6, German record, Prbadnik 14:12.6; Mann 48.3; Kovar, Dahl 6-6 3/4; Soter 6-5 1/2; Richtzenhain 1:49.2; Kopyto 246-10 1/4, Kauhanen 243-4 1/2; Poland 40.7, Germany 41.0. Germany 3:12.8; Preussger 14-3 5/8. Prerov 9/30, Brlica 8:48, Czech record, Takac 8:51; St.Boleslav, 9/27: Jung-wirth 2:19.1, 3rd best of all time, Czech record; Salo 9/30: Hellsten 9.9, Finnish record; Pori 10/4, Hoffren 195-1 3/4, Finnish record; Jena 9/30: Klick 55-6 1/8; Wuppertal 10/6: Steinbach 10.5, Knorz 10.6, Pohl 10.6, Futterer 5th in 10.9; Leva 1:50.2, Stracke 1:50.3; Richtzen-hain 3:47; Mugosa 14:10.8, Lauffer 14:13.0; Koschel 244-5 1/2; Wegmann 54-2 3/4; Preussger 13-9 3/8.

Algiers 10/7: 20,000m Mimoun 1:01:56.4, French record; also 19,364m in one hour. Prague 10/7: Zatopek 29:33.4, Tomis 29:42.6, Ozog 29:44.6, Havenstein 29:51.4; Jungwirth 3:46, Zvolensky 3:46.6, Cikel 3:47.2; Valent 174-5 3/4, Merta 167-9 3/8; Skobla 57-0 1/4; Rome 10/7: Chiesa 14-3 1/4, Italian record; Barcelona, 10/7: Errausquin 243-10, Spanish record. Karlovac 10/7: Racic 206-0 3/8, Yugoslav record; Karlstad 10/6: Einarsson 51-11 1/4, Icelandic record; Johnsson 52.0. Stockholm 10/7: Uddebom 54-10 1/4, Swedish record. Also, Chromik 8:55.0, Polish Chs.

BULLETIN BOARD

Next Newsletters October 30, Nov. 13, Dec. 11 & 31; T&FN mailed Nov. 12
SPECIAL OFFER to TN subscribers: "Who's Who in Olympic Track & Field" is a complete press information book on 170 top athletes, prepared for the world press at a price of \$10.00 per copy. TNs may have it for \$2 on all orders received prior to Nov. 1, but in fairness to the press purchasers the 32 page booklet cannot be mailed to you until just before the Games.

WIND SPRINTS

Stella Walsh will hang up her spikes after trying for her 42nd national title in the AAU pentathlon...Gordon Pirie, on arrival in Melbourne, offered a cure for Landy's sore tendons: "I'm certain I can fix Landy and I'm going to do it even if it means he beats me in the Games". He refused to explain the nature of the cure but said it was painful...Landy's only exercises for a two week period will be light jogging...Dick Hart has had a long layoff with sinus trouble...Jim Beatty, who spent several weeks in Finland with the other American distance trainees, reports he worked harder than ever. The schedule consisted of intervals of 200 to 1000 meters, and sometimes morning workouts of an hour's jogging through the woods...

SO THEY TELL US

JOE GALLI, Australian TN: "Pirie has arrived and is training well. Not too willing to put himself out to answer press questions, but can't say I blame him. Landy definitely is in trouble with ankles, and worried, too. Although trials don't definitely decide team, unless he can make some showing he might be out. His position could be serious, especially if times for trials are top world class. He had to miss the 5000 trials Oct. 13, may not make it for the 1500 on Oct. 20."

DR. JAMES BARGER, TN, Phoenix: "Is it not true that the U.S. record for 440 yards on a grass track is held by Binga Desmond and was made in 1916 or so? Does anyone have grass track records for the U.S.?"

DON WINTON, Pasadena: "Bud Held really looked sharp on his 270 footer. It had the most beautiful 'attitude' in flight of any javelin I've seen. Bud threw off the track diagonally across the football field and consequently over the pole vault pit. In order to measure accurately we had to cut a trench through the sawdust. The javelin checked in and out almost on the nose. It was 5 grams heavy, 1/16" longer than required, and balance was about 5 cent. within the allowable. Bud said he had a lot of shoulder in the throw. He is just now getting in shape and I'll not be surprised at what he does. Gordien has been laying off since the Eugene meet because of his knee, which is fine now. He is throwing from a cement circle, as will be used at Melbourne. In his first toss since Eugene he had four over 180 with a best of 183.

MAX TRUEX, distance man: "I'm not the smallest on the Olympic team. Ira Murchison makes me look like a giant."

JERRY SMARTT, Olympic alternate: "Our training trip to Finland was great. I learned how to train...Watch our John Macy at Houston. We just don't see that kind of distance man in the U.S."

BOBBY MORROW, sprinter: "No, I'm not worried about losing to King. There is plenty of time to get into shape."

TOM COURTNEY, half-miler: "I can't believe it, yet it's true that some of our Olympic team members completely laid off for two months this summer."

HAL CONNOLLY, hammer thrower: "We have been practicing on the cement circle and I like it better than any other. I feel I will continue to improve."

DON BOWDEN, miler: "I let down on the second lap of my 3:46.6. I have been hitting 3 minutes in practice and wanted to do that today. Now I know I can hold that pace in a race."

HAL HIGDON, TN, U.S. Army, Germany: "They're still talking about the three 10.1s. People all over Scandinavia kept asking me if I believe the times are accurate. When I tell them I witnessed all three races, and that there is no doubt whatsoever in my mind regarding the reliability of the clocking they are incredulous. Apparently their minds can't function on such a feat being possible. One 10.1 at first seems amazing and three in as many days seems astonishing on first thought, but actually after consideration you begin to wonder. Why not? 49.5 is a fantastic time for 400 hurdles, yet I think they'll go as fast as 48.5 and maybe within a few years."

"Frank McBride and I argued the race for an hour one night. He claimed that Willie had beaten Ira out and I said otherwise. We finally came to agreement that Willie did get out of the blocks first, but Ira recovered so fast that by 15 meters he was out in front, then Willie picked him off about half way with Ira closing the gap at the finish line. But all this is water under the bridge, and Morrow probably is running 10.0 somewhere."

"Lauer's 13.9 seems doubtful to me because Steines ran 14.0 in the same race, and he doesn't seem that good. Germar will be tough in the sprints. It wouldn't surprise me to see him in the top three in the 100 (maybe 2nd behind Morrow) at Melbourne, and he should make the finals in the 200 also. Haas, outside of his win in the German Chs., hasn't been too great. Some of the athletes tell me he hasn't been training too hard."

"My dark horse pick for the Olympic 1500 all along has been Siegfried Herrmann, but now I understand he has his feet in casts. A lot of the German runners have had leg miseries--Futterer, Brenner and Lueg for example. The most consistent of the German runners is the old distance great, Herbert Schade. He's turned in some great 10,000s and should make the first six at Melbourne. He could even conceivably win but only if the pace is slow. My personal pick is Stephens, merely because he's running on his home ground."

"Rinteenpaa looked magnificent running 8:47 against Sweden, so I'm putting my money on him for Melbourne. Of course I haven't seen the Hungarians or the Russians. Chromik (and I) were all set to run a steeplechase at Copenhagen, but the promoter made him run 5000 instead so he would pull the Dane Thorgerson to a new Danish record, which he had already broken twice this year. Chromik was quite unhappy over this since he wanted to attempt a new world's record in the steeplechase."

"Nilsson said he jumped 2.11 and Salminen did 2.08 the morning following the meet against Finland, where they did 2.00 and 1.96... You asked about American Indians in track. Grant Scruggs of Michigan is a full blooded Indian, who got a scholarship because of his ancestry...Hope to be out of the Army by Thanksgiving and run my first civilian race in the AAU cross country."

MORE WIND SPRINTS

As of now formal application for world records have not been submitted to the AAU for Dumas' $7\frac{1}{2}$, Jones' 45.2, Davis' 49.5, Connolly's 218-10 $\frac{1}{2}$, Southern Pacific AAU's 7:25.2, Simo's 9.3, Agostini's 9.3, or Bailey's 3:58.6 American record. Records will be considered at the AAU convention in Los Angeles Oct. 30-Nov. 2...West Germany broke the European 400m relay record with 40.0 Oct. 14 at Cologne, running Knorz, Steinbach, Pohl and Gormar...Fanny Blankers-Koen, who won 4 gold medals at London, has retired from track...Derck Ibbotson beat Tabori and Iharos in 3:49.2 in London Oct. 10...Jess Mortensen says the U.S. distance men will have a good trip to Melbourne, except that Horace Ashenfelter has a good chance in the steeplechase as he doesn't like the color of that red shirt"...the U.S. Olympic squad flies on first class accommodations this time...Gordien took a dozen or so practice throws at Pasadena Oct. 6 and had marks of 184-1 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 183- $\frac{1}{2}$...UCLA coach Ducky Drake says the way we pick our Olympic team is the fairest way for a majority of our athletes. There will be politics and many arguments if you try to pick the team any other way, he says...Australia's first day Olympic trials saw Jim Bailey win the 800 easily in 1:51.2, Murray Halberg lowered the New Zealand 2000 record to 5:17, Barry Donath put 52-6 $\frac{1}{2}$ and Graham Thomas steeplechased 8:56.2 for Australian records...

NOTED WITH INTEREST

ADOLFO CONSOLINI "was first discovered in Verona, the renowned city of Romeo and Juliet" says Dr. Giovanni Brera. "This modern Hercules went to Verona to take part in a tamburalla tournament (a rustic form of tennis) in the spring of 1937 and was picked out by trainer Bovi to try his skill in the stadium. In spite of his lack of knowledge of athletics, he was tried out in several forms of sport, from jumping to javelin throwing and weightlifting. Finally, the discus was put into his toil-worn, horny hands, and the peasant from Costermano established a record for Verona of 111-7. Adolfo's aspirations gave rise to much uneasiness at home when his family came to learn of it. They were farmers. For them, goodness came only from the earth; and aspirations beyond that spelt ruin and disaster. Old man Consolini raved that he had to employ five men to take the place of his Herculean son, but all in vain. Adolfo's mind was made up, and he won the Italian Championship at Florence in 1937, establishing a new mark of 146-11. This feat drew the attention of Giorgio Oberweger, himself a discus star, who pointed Consolini out to American trainer Boyd Comstock. 'He is a 55 meter man' was Comstock's instant opinion."

NEW JAVELIN STYLE has been invented by the Spanish. On Oct. 12 Felix Errausquin threw 273-6, and on Oct. 14 Miguel de la Quadra Salcedo reached 245-4. Under the new system the throwers whirl three times along a distance of about six paces before letting the javelin fly out of their hands. Each had a pail of soapy water on hand so the spear would slip easily from his hands. Sometimes the javelin went sailing way out in front; other times it went whirling off to the side endangering spectators, and sometimes it just skittered along the ground 10 or 20 yards. Foreign observers predicted that this combination discus-javelin style probably will be outlawed because of danger to spectators, unless it can be controlled. Errausquin, who is 49, and one of his compatriots will compete at Melbourne with the new style. He says that good javelinists could throw 120 meters (almost 394 feet) if they used his form, which originated from the Spanish "barra", an implement thrown during folklore events in the Basque region.