

TRACK NEWSLETTER



also known as

TRACK NEWSLETTER

(OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF TRACK NUTS OF THE WORLD, UNINC.)



Published by TRACK and FIELD NEWS - PO Box 296 - Los Altos, California - Bert and Cordner Nilson, Editors

Vol. 5, No. 4, Sept. 24, 1958

Semi-monthly

\$6 per year by 1st class mail

NEWS

- Paris, Sept. 7: Agostini 10.4, Delecour 10.5; Agostini 20.9, Delecour 21.0; Spence, SA, 21.3; Spence 46.1. Halberg 3:48.3. Battista 51'11⁵/₈" HSJ;
Lille, Sept. 7: Verheuen 3:43.9. Bernard, France, 3:44.7. Husson 205'9¹/₄", FrenchR.
Budapest, Sept. 6&7. Czechoslovakia 112, Hungary 99. Steso, C, 10.5. Mandlik, C, 20.8, NR; Steso 21.3. Jirasek, C, 47.6; Szentgali, H, 1:49.8; Jungwirth, C, 1:50.0; Kovacs, H, 1:50.2; Jungwirth 3:44.0; Kovacs 3:44.1; Kiss 3:56.6. Jurek, C, 14:14.6; Iharis, H, 14:18.2; Szabo, H, 14:20.4; Pavelka, C, 14:22.4. Tomis, C, 30:53.8; Lansky, C, 6'10¹/₄"; Elbogen, C, 6'7¹/₂"; Foldessy, H, 24'3¹/₄"; Krupala, C, 50'5"; Skobla, C, 58'2³/₈"; Fliha, C, 56'1¹/₄"; Szecsenyi, H, 184'9"; Klics, H, 180'2¹/₄". Zvivotski, H, 209'5³/₈", NR; Csermak, H, 201'3". Czech. 40.8, Hungary 41.1; Hungary 3:09.9.
London, Sept. 9: Peter Clark 4:01.7, Radford 9.6.
Ljubljana, Yugo. Lorgler, 13.8, NR; Kiel, Sep. 9. Krueger, Germ, 25'3¹/₂"; Lingnau 54'10¹/₄". Berlin, Sept. 9: Ostach 3:46.0;
Pori, Finland: Vuorisalo 8:04.2 for 3000m. Hoekinpuro 8:05.0.
Athens, Sept. 10: Kauffman 48.0; Constantinidis, Greece, 1:50.6; Barris, Spain, 1:52.2; Lundberg, Sweden 14'1¹/₄"; Sept. 11: Papavassiliou, Greece, 8:51.4, steeple; Weber, Swiss, 21.0
Stockholm, Sept. 10: Waern, 2:19.8 for 1000m. Dahl 6'6³/₄". Bergen, 9/10: Boysen 2:21.
Rome, Sept. 14: Berrutti 10.4; Frascini 47.9; Baraldi 3:46.0; Rizzo 3:46.4; Mazza 14.3, equals NR; Morale 52.5; Bravi, 24'6¹/₂"; Consolini 171'10³/₄";
Lausanne, Sept. 14: Switzerland 115, Belgium 105. Weber, S, 47.4; Urban, S, 47.7; Verheuen, B, 3:49.1;
Leverkusen, Germany, Sept. 14: Hary 10.3, Agostini 10.4, Germar 10.5, Futterer 10.5, Agostini 21.1. Leverkusen Club 1:25.4 for 800m relay, German record.
Villmanstrand, Finland, Set. 14: Schmidt, Poland, 52'4³/₈" HSJ; Salminen 6'7⁷/₈"; Asplund, Sweden, 207'; Valkama 24'7¹/₄"; Orywal, Poland, 3:46.8, Salonen 3:47.4; Brenner, G, 3:47.8. Mandlik, Czech, 10.4; Jungwirth 1:49.1, Salinger 1:49.4. Skobla 57'2⁵/₈".
Paris, Sept. 13 & 14: Great Britain 124, France 88. 1st day: Farrell, GB, 52.0; Hewson 1:47.0; Rawson 1:47.0; Vervoort 1:49.3; Lenoir 1:50.0. Rowe 58'11¹/₈", British record; Radford 10.3; Delecour 10.3. Wrighton 46.6, Salisbury 47.0; Clark 13:53.8; Eldon 14.00.0. Bernard 14:08.6; Bogey 14:21.8. Fairborther, GB, 6'7¹/₈"; Battista 50'9¹/₂"; Husson 196'4"; GB 40.5; France 40.8. 2nd day: Hildreth 14.3. Matthews 14.5; Dohen 14.5. Lindsay 168'9⁵/₈"; Shaw 9:09.8 (Eldon 9:37.8). Radford 20.8, NR; Segal 21.0; Delecour 21.0. Hewson 3:41.5; Blagrove 3:42.2; Jazy 3:42.5, French record; Balastre, F, 14'1¹/₄"; Hyman, GB, 29:51.8; Rhadi, F, 30:19. Macquet 243'2"; GB 3:08.0.
Italy, Sept. 15: G. Lievore 245'10¹/₄".
Varkhau, Finland: Sept. 15: Rahkamo, 52'4³/₈", NR; Rantala 51'7¹/₄". Hellsten 47.1.
Lipsk, Poland, Sept. 15: Janke, E Germany, 13:59.4, Grodowski, 14:02; Koenicke 14:03; Thomas, Australia, 14:08. Stoklosa 1:49.6; Bruzskowski 1:49.9; Tsu Ling, 1:51.0, Chinese record. Herman, EG, 3:43.8; Franczak, 24/10". Porter, Australia, 6'6³/₄".
Bucarest, Romania, Sept. 15: Jakubovski, Pol, 1:50.6; Jonsson, Sweden, 1:50.6; Jezsensky, Hungary, 8:52.4 St.; Preussger, EG, 14'5¹/₄" Lukman, Yugo, 14'3¹/₄"; Tai Y Su, China, 14'1¹/₄"; Zvivotsky, Hungary, 207'9"; Rascanescu, Romania, 198'9⁷/₈".
Riga, USSR, Sept. 15: Lotchilov 58'. Krasnodar, USSR, Mikhailov 52'2". Medvedniuk 51'1"; Moscow, Bogatov 51.7, Ilin 52.7. Kuznyetsov 7068 points (without 1500m).

NEWS (cont.)

Bucarest, Sept. 16: Schmidt, Pol, 21.4; Kliembt, EG, 47.7; Kiss, Hungary, 3:46.4; Varnos, Romania, 3:46.6; Ericsson, Sweden, 3:46.9; Lewandowski, Poland, 3:47.2. Kameer-beek, Holland, 14.5; Baltusnikas, USSR, 176'4 $\frac{1}{8}$ "; Kompaneiets, USSR, 174'4"; Ovnitzhik, USSR, 246'8 $\frac{3}{4}$ ";

La Corogne, Sept. 16: Amoros 29:37.4, from Perez 30:29.2.

Turku, Finland, Sept. 19: Dan Waern of Sweden lowered world 1000 meter record to 2:18.1, from Orywal, Poland, 2:18.8; Salonen, Finland, 2:19.4. Old record was 2:19.0 by Boysen and Rozsavolgyi. Passed 400m in 46.0, 800 in 1:52.4, covered last 200m in 25.7. Vuorisalo broke Finnish 5000m record with 14:01.6. Pettersson, Sweden, 47.0; Hellsten, F, 47.0. Schmidt, Poland, 53'4 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Geneva, Sept. 21: Bernard, France, 3:46.3; Herrmann, France, 6'7 $\frac{7}{8}$ ".

Sofia, Sept. 21: Roubanis, Greece, 14'7 $\frac{5}{8}$ "; Lorgjer, Yugoslavia, 14.0; Batchvarov, USSR, 10.4, 21.2; Murat, Yugo, 3:43.8.

Budapest, Sept. 21: Wrighton, GB, 46.7; Csutoras, Hungary, 47.2; Zsivotski, 210'3 $\frac{5}{8}$ ", Hungarian record. Szabo, Hungary, 14:07.6.

London, Sept. 21: Agostini 9.6; Omagbemi, Nigeria, 9.6; Radford, Eng., 9.7.

Goteborg, Sweden, Sept. 21: 1000m, Lundh, Norway, 2:21.8; Boysen, Norway, 2:22.0.

Augsbourg, Germany, Sept. 20 & 21. Germany defeated Russia 115 to 105. First day: Hary, G, 10.3; Germar, G, 10.4; Bartenyev, R, 10.6; Konovalov, R, 10.7. Kaufmann, G, 47.1; Kaiser, G, 47.4; Ignatyev 48.4; Rachmanov 50.0. Brenner, G, 3:45.4; Ostach, G, 3:45.5; Pipine 3:48.0; Momotkov 3:49.3. Muller, G, 14:06.8; Zhukov, R, 14:10.6; Artenyuk, R, 14:13.8; Roth, G, 14:30.2. 400H-Lituyev, R, 51.3; Janz, G, 51.4; Yulin, R, 52.1; Hoss, G, 53.5. HJ- Kashkarov, R, 6'9 $\frac{7}{8}$ "; Pull, G, 6'8 $\frac{3}{4}$ "; Richsenbau, G, 6'5 $\frac{1}{8}$ "; Stypenov, R, 6'4". BJ-Ter-Ovanesian, R, 24'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". SP-Lingnau, G, 56'9 $\frac{1}{8}$ "; Lipsnis, R, 56'2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; Wegmann, G, 56'7 $\frac{7}{8}$ "; Lotchilov, R, 55'10 $\frac{1}{8}$ ". JT-Kuznetsov, R, 269'9 $\frac{3}{4}$ "; Schenk, G, 248'8 $\frac{1}{4}$ "; Valman, R, 243'1"; Will, G, 239'10 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; 400R-Germany, 40.2; Russia 40.4. Score, Germany 62, Russia 48.

2nd day: 200m-Germar 20.8; Hary 20.9; Konovalov 21.5; Bartenyev 21.6; 800m-Schmidt, G, 1:49.8; Missala, G, 1:50.8; Govorov, R, 1:51.8; Pipine, R, 1:52.2; 10,000m-Muller, G, 29:52.6; Pjdov, R, 30:01.6; Piarnakivi, R, 30:37.2; Hoerger, G, 30:42.2. 110mH-Lauer, G, 13.8; Mikhailov, R, 13.9; Steines, G, 14.6; Kuznetsov, R, 14.8. 3000St-Rzhishchin, R, 8:54.4; Hunecke, G, 9:10.4; Ponomarev, R, 9:14.6; Laufer, G, 9:33.2. PV-Petrenko, R, 13'9 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; Lehnertz, G; Bulatov, R; Mohring, G. HSJ-Ryakhovsky, R, 51'5 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; Scherbakov, R, 51'2 $\frac{5}{8}$ "; Strass, G; Weiser, G; DT-Trusseniev, R, 178'10 $\frac{1}{4}$ "; Bukhantsev, R, 174'9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; Burhle, G; Koppenhoefer, G. HT-Samotsvetov, R, 216'11 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; Rudenkov, R, 211'2; Glotbach, G; Wulff, G. 1600m R-Germany 3:14.2; Russia 3:17.4.

BULLETIN BOARD

Next Newsletters : October 8, 22; November 5, 26; Dec. 10, 24; Jan. 7, 21.

Bonus Features will be mailed before next Newsletter. Will include cover and label; British Coaching Newsletter (for those who have requested it); and Greatest Sprinter series and other missing material for overseas air-mail subscribers. And index of Vol. 4.

Backissues of various track magazines, and some used books, are available from TN AddisonAlton, 310 $\frac{1}{2}$ Concert St., Keokuk, Iowa.

Indexes for Track & Field News and Track Newsletter are frequently requested. We have indexed Vol. 4 of Track Newsletter, and will do future volumes. If any TN wants to index any or all volumes of Track Newsletter or Track & Field News we will mimeograph and distribute them. Please write.

Greatest Sprinter Series by Max Stiles is working toward an end. Why not try to figure out correct order of top sprinters. This issue's sprinters are ranked 9 and 8.

Weekly news bulletin was not wanted by more than a few. Idea has been dropped.

Note R. Earl Johnson, profiled in No. 1, was America's greatest Negro distance runner.

WIND SPRINTS

When Fortune Gorlien was in Minneapolis to be inducted into Minnesota Hall of Fame he tossed high school discus 202 feet...when Albie Thomas broke the two-mile record, he took over lead from Elliott in 5th lap, raced it in 61 seconds. But Elliott regained lead for a while on sixth before being outdistanced...spectators made off with souvenir portions of the Santry Stadium in Dublin after the record breaking spree...doctors found a "certain amount of muscle wasting" in the left thigh of Derek Ibbotson, but gave him an okay to run some more...Halberg's 8 fastest laps in Empire 3 mile totalled 8:37.0...

SO THEY TELL US

TN HERB BENARIO, Sweet Briar, Va.: "In the Australian all-time list Landy should have been listed for 3:41.8 in the 1500m. It's a remarkable list, from 1500 to 10,000, Cerutti's boys could beat any equivalent number of runners from any other country in the world."

TN EMERSON CASE, Fair Oaks, Calif.: "I cannot go along fully with the long standing statement that it was never known just how fast Paavo Nurmi could run, because 'he was never full extended'. He was beaten a fair number of times and I seriously doubt that he let Ritola and the others win on everyone of those occasions. His records, while sensational in their day, look slow today. It is hard to realize that his 4:10.4 at Stockholm in 1923 created almost as much of a stir as Bannister's 3:59.4 in 1954. His 8:58.8 indoors was more of an achievement. However, his 3 mile and 5000m records of 14:11 and 14:28 outdoors don't seem very impressive. Men have run 6 miles and 10,000 meters at faster rates of speed than the above records at half the distances. And Nurmi's 10,000 meter record pace has been surpassed by Zatopek at 20,000m."

Nurmi's race against Alan Helffrich outdoors in NYC at half a mile in the spring of 1925, and his consequent defeat, is rather like Vladimir Kuts racing Tom Courtney at that distance. Nurmi's times in 1925, on his second American tour, and those of all other runners during that and previous years, are worth more than their face value. The old Madison Square Garden track did not have banked turns. It was last used in 1925."

TN BUZZ SAWYER, Hagerstown, Md.: "Wow, how things have changed since I moved into the Baltimore area about 18 months ago. When I was home in Norfolk and out in Tulsa, Okla., I was just about ready to call it quits. I was getting pretty sick of getting in shape and then having no meets close enough that I could afford to travel to. Now, I have so many meets in the Baltimore area that my pleasant problem is finding time to get in shape between meets. In 1957 I compete in 23 races and I was out a month with an injury and skipped 4 cross country races. So far as the east is concerned, Baltimore and the Baltimore Olympic Club headed by Bill Jameson is tops for any trackman who wants to compete out of school."

TN CORDNER NELSON: "Fritz & Bim, the tiny tot distance runners, are still training with vigor and enthusiasm. They have been lowering their records for distances up to a quarter mile and seem to be enjoying unusually good health. Fritz played little league baseball this spring but insisted on getting in his workout. Last winter, to give them a mental change, their father allowed them to run some long, slow workouts. Bim, who was 8 on Nov. 9, started first. Fritz, 9 on October 16, started 20 laps behind. (A lap is still 108 yards, but they are building a 220 track). Fritz heard Bim go past 75 laps and asked his father how many he could run. The answer was 75. Fritz said, 'That's not fair. I'm older than he is, and I should get to run farther.' They each ran 100 laps, which is over six miles."

RINK BABKA: "I became interested in the discus by mistake really. In my senior year at Palo Alto (Calif.) high school I was very interested in playing college football and basketball. Track Coach Forrest Jamieson told me that he was going to have a strong track team that year but had no weight man. He talked me into coming out for the team and to try the shot and discus. Neither one of us knew if I could do it, but to my surprise both events were very easy to learn. At that time I was only doing it to help the coach. But as the season went on I became very much in love with the discus and wanted to be as good. From the first day I started there was a challenge, first to show my coach I could help him, and then to make the high school state meet. I worked very hard in the two weeks I had and made the state meet although I had no idea of winning it (which I did). From that time on each year I have a new challenge, and that is what keeps me throwing."

TN BOB OSBORNE, Endicott, N.Y.: "How about some sort of Track Nut contest on statistics, as an example? This could determine who is the best Track Nut going? (Ed. How about it? We could do it if anybody has an idea how to run it. Also, anybody that wants to work up some quizzes would be adding interest to the Track Nutsletter.)"

GEORGE GIBSON, Louisville, Ky: "Last fall we organized the Kentuckiana Cinder Club. One of our big plans is for an indoor track in the Freedom Hall of our Kentucky State Fair. It would be 8 laps to the mile. We hope to hold some big indoor meets and to promote a revival of interest in track and field in this area. "

BANK NOTES

By Dick Bank. Impressions and observations of an American observer at the European Championships.

I came away from the Championships having seen six never-to-be-forgotten days of superb competition under generally miserable conditions, holding an even greater admiration for Europe's finest and observing first hand that the Russian menace that was so loudly heralded from this meet four years ago (a menace to the U.S. supremacy, that is,) has not remotely begun to materialize. Nor do I think it ever will.

The stadium was full only for the final two days, a surprise to the organizers. Weather-wise it was downright poor. And I do mean downpour. The first two days the sun shone mid-afternoon. Days three and four ranged from very cold to frigid. On the fifth day it rained like this native Californian has seldom seen, and the finale was much the same but not quite as stormy. One must respect these Europeans for not letting the elements bother them. This goes for both athlete and fan. Most of Saturday's events were held in a constant downpour with the condition of the track swamplike. Almost half of the seats were not under cover yet all were filled and many sat bare-headed, enjoying the fare and not giving a second thought to the drenching they absorbed.

To my way of thinking, the stars of the meet included two Germans, a Pole and a Russian. True, virtually every winner was a great champion. But this quartet stood out. Manfred Germar is a great 200m runner. I doubt if any runner in the world can defeat him at 200m around a turn, save Morrow. This 23 year old student from Cologne runs the corner like he owns it. His style is fluid and effortless, his relaxation superb. He is not, however, a superior 100m man. His pickup is very average and I doubt if he'd run better than sixth in our championships. He comes like a bomb in the last 40 meters but by then he has given away too much. Whereas he is loose and easy in the 200, he is somewhat tight and straining at 100.

The other German star, Martin Lauer, could be a threat to American high hurdling supremacy in 1960. His greatest drawback is lack of competition. He thrives on Americans--Gilbert in 1957, Robinson in 1958--and could be the best at Rome if he had a steady diet of same. At 6'1½" he looks as if he has to stretch a bit over the hurdle. He definitely is not a stylist but then the present US crop isn't either yet they are getting there faster than their "prettier" predecessors. Lauer makes up for it in tremendous drive, excellent natural speed and his ability to get off the hurdle very fast. Needless to say, he is an excellent competitor with ice water in his veins--much like Germar. At 21 he has a great future.

Zdzislaw Krzyszkowiak, the Pole with the name fresh from a bowl of alphabet soup, is the heir-apparent to Kuts' distance running mantle. (Kuts, by the way, was not selected for the Russian team, running 8th in the Russian Ch. in 14:12.2 and not starting in a later meet to determine his fitness in the 10. Though no one has said so, his stomach condition must be ulcers and his career, which bloomed late at 27--he's 31 now--must be at an end.) Krzyszkowiak, a Zdzislaw-come-lately himself at 29, handled great fields with ridiculous ease. In the 10,000 he played with the greatest field ever assembled. Britain's young (22) comer Stan Eldon did most of the heavy work. He tried on three different occasions to pull away from the field but did not have the stuff to carry it off. When the pole, a surprise 4th in the Melbourne 10, decided to say goodbye to the field with 800m to go, he went. His last lap was a zippy 58. At that, though, he did not shake the pack, the sixth man doing 29:03.8 behind his 28:56.0. A fantastic race, the likes of which will not be seen again until the 1960 Olympics, if then. The weather was ideal and the runners were equal to it.

As for the 5000, it was raining so hard the race had to be run in the third lane, the pole lane being submerged. I didn't see the 5000m at London in 1948 but those who did say conditions at Stockholm were far worse. Britain's Peter Clark tried much the same tactics as did Eldon in attempting to break from the field but he had neither the stamina nor possibly the courage to pull it off. K. again showed that he could settle in behind a fast pace, make his move when he pleased, and speed away from his pursuers. A really hot pace in both races might have seen him close to world record figures.

The final athlete who impressed me most greatly was Russia's Igor Ter-Ovanesyan, a helluva broad jump prospect. This 20-year-old Armenian bounded 25'7¼ for his Gold Medal and what made him such a standout is that he was the only Soviet in the joint that possessed a highly desirable athletic commodity that the Rooskies no doubt would pay dearly for if it were available on the open market. The commodity? Natural ability. This guy has it. At 6'2 and 160, Igor is a very well built young man and a good looking one. He walks with a spring in his step, carries himself with the grace and poise of the champion he is. Before the Ameri-

BANK NOTES (cont.)

ican team came to Moscow, Ter-Ovanseyan sported the long, bushy mop of hair that is typical of the Russians. At Stockholm he showed up with an American type crew cut. He has a smooth run, gets off the board well and has fine lift. In addition to having a good idea of what he is doing, Igor is a top competitor. At 18, he jumped 25'4 $\frac{3}{4}$ " so his progress has not been rapid but he now exudes the confidence that one of such ability should possess. He'll be heard from in 1960 but as long as Ernie Shelby (and perhaps Greg Bell) is still in business we won't have to worry about losing the gold medal.

The high jumping was the best competition ever. The sixth man cleared 6'9". The take-off had to be burned before competition began and it rained intermittently through the afternoon yet the level of performance was the highest. The Swedes, starving for a win, had almost rooted Dan Waern home in the 1500, but he was out kicked. So it came to the last event and the task was in the hands of Stig Pettersson and Richard Dahl. At 6'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ " the former had gone out and it was up to Dahl to battle it with the Czech, Jiri Lansky. Both missed their first attempts. But when Dahl eased over on his second it set off an explosion that would have raised the roof had there been one. The Swedes have a favorite yell, "Heja, Heja, Heja." For all I know, it is still going on. All but Lansky of the six place winners are belly-rollers. Lansky uses the western roll. A real tribute to Ernie Shelton. When he came to Sweden in 1953 the Europeans still were struggling with the cutoff. Two meters was something to get hot and bothered about. Since the European standards have risen sharply (even without the Shoe) and now are every bit as high as ours. Dahl, incidently, is a carbon copy of the bent-legged, dive straddle that Bengt Nilsson employed so successfully.

Pole vaulting competition, too, was as good as you would find at home. Qualifying eliminated only one man. The event began at 1 p. m., ended 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours later. It was bitterly cold and the few floodlights atop the roof helped not at all. Landstrom won on fewer previous misses but he actually looked the poorest of the three at 14'11 $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Preussger had it, only to brush it off after clearing it cleanly. Bulatov showed himself to be a fine competitor as he was against the USA in Moscow. At Melbourne he looked like a second rate schoolboy.

The 800 started on the turn and Britain's Mike Rawson was shoved off the track, came back to win, was disqualified, and then, like Brasher at Melbourne, was reinstated by the Jury of Appeals.

Britain's Brian Hewson produced the form his many backers had long held for him when he came like a bomb in the last 80 meters to nail down the 1500. Hewson said a cheer from his Mtcham A.C. buddies just before the race brought tears to his eyes and that he had decided right then and there he couldn't let them down. What I'd like to know is where has their vocal support been all these years when Hewson has sorely needed it? Delany lay back as usual, had to race wide on the final turn and didn't have it when Hewson blew by, giving up when he saw Brian breeze past.

The 400m hurdle situation in Europe is appalling. The field was pitiful and for tired, old (32) Yuriy Lituyev, overstriding as ever to get his 13 steps all the way, to come off an uncontested winner was a bit disappointing. Of course, it takes ability over the 400 flat to run a good flight of hurdles and since Europe has virtually no quarter milers I guess its no surprise that it has no medium hurdlers. At any rate, it was a sorry group. The Swede, Troll-sas, did quite well to run 51.0 in his heat for he is short with no apparent speed. Somewhere in the low 48's. One newspaperman expressed amazement that such a shortied (about 5'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") could run the race so well. "Have you ever heard of Josh Culbreath" I asked him?

Britain's Derek Wrighton and John Salisbury outclassed a poor 400m field. After only fair showings at Cardiff, the pair looked like world beaters next to their continental foes. Wrighton was an upset winner to be sure and he deserved every bit of it. For a guy with little swift, he got around the track pretty fast.

Janusz Sidlo of Poland reaffirmed his claim as the world's best spear tosser. Sidlo is always over 260', knows exactly what he's doing with his javelin all the time. True, Daniel-send caught one at Melbourne that took off like a bird but he isn't the finished thrower that the Pole is. Danielsen still has that tremendously fast whiplike arm. He still has his lousy run, too. Looks like he has been eating well since we saw him in Australia, too.

European platter tossers seem to lack something, though I cannot put my finger on it. Consolini, trying for an unprecedented 4th win, was sixth but less than three feet out of first. Hungary's Szecsenyi, one of the favorites, got the collar on and choked good. He's the "Yul Brynner" of the discus set.

BANK NOTES (cont.)

(Speaking of choke artists, Mikhail Krivonosov has turned into a big one.) Evidently Hal Connolly has given Mischa a real complex because he looked like just another ball and chain man in the ring. Coming up to his last trial in which a good Krivonosov throw would have taken it all, he did a retake of his Melbourne finale in which he fell out of the ring before he had gotten his piano wire whirring overhead. Teammate Samotsvetov, bronze medalist at Melbourne, looked like he'd been up late the night before. Either that or he's taking the gas, too.

Art Rowe, a 22 year old British blacksmith, is a coming shot put prospect. I don't know who has been coaching Artie but he has a good idea of what makes the O'Brien form work. He's got fine speed across the ring, a fast arm and is a heckuva competitor. After his foul fifth put, which was farther than that of the leader, Russia's Lipsnis, he came back on his final throw amid heavy rain, a slippery ring and such to nail down the win. Lipsnis, feverish competitor that he is, was last up and dribbled one out 48'7". Rowe should be knocking at the door of 60' next year.

Vassily Kuznyetsov was on his way to bettering his short lived world record of 8014 in the decathlon but strained a groin muscle on his first javelin throw. He lost many points there, was forced to limp through the 1500, and his chances went out the window. Most European decathlon men look like American distance runners -- pretty sad. Sergei Popov, a Russian marathoner, trotted the fastest course on record and made a shambles of the field. His countryman, Ivan Filin, the guy who took the wrong turn at Bern in 1954, followed him in likewise rapid time. Sergei, who looks like he is running in a hole, ran the last 300 meters with a huge wreath over his neck. It kept bouncing off his knees but he pretended not to notice it. For some reason, Russian and Britain have cornered the marathon market.

The relays were quite interesting. In the 400, the German team was stuck with the muddy pole. Britain, on the other hand, had the outside. Lest some of my British friends write to tell me that the outside is a handicap, I shall direct their wails to one Oliver Jackson of Abilene, Texas. Mr. Jackson has coached some fair country baton units in his day and he says the advantage is in the next-to-the-outside lane. Britain, by virtue of fine exchanges, was 3 meters to the good when Breacker took over from Segal on the last exchange. Germar proceeded to blow him down. Why the German team was not five meters up when Germar took over I shall never know. The British best, Peter Radford, is not better than equal to Futterer and Herr Futterer is Germany's third best. Move Hary to leadoff, put Lauer in the second leg and with decent exchanges the German's can break our 39.5 world record. Of course our Melbourne team, or our best national team at this moment for that matter, should have run 38.5. Radford, by the way, is a real comer. For an 18-year-old he ran like a cool, experienced veteran. With American training and competition he could be running 10.2 by 1960. As it is he will be close to it. He was offered scholarships to U.S. universities but turned them down because, he says, a degree from an American University would mean little in Britain (he's an art student) and, besides, "I'm sure athletes must be much more fun in Britain". As one veteran and respected English newspaperman told me: "Someone should take Mr. Radford aside and acquaint him with the facts of life."

The competition in the 1600m relay was rather uneventful until Germany's Karl-Friedrich Haas got the stick. Now 27 and considered on the downgrade, ol' K-F ran what was probably his greatest race. Starting off 10 meters behind Britain's Salisbury, Haas proceeded rapidly down the backstretch, building up gradually. Coming off the final turn he opened it up full throttle and started to cut down Salisbury slowly but surely. Salisbury hung on for the win but K-F returned a stirring 45.5.

It was a meet to remember. Biggest surprise was the come through performances of the British team, after falling flat at Cardiff. As for rabid fans, the English must rate at the top. Not only are they faithful to the last but British track "nuts" are filberts, cashews and pecans rolled into one. There must be something they don't know about European track but I wasn't able to find out what it was. They read Track & Field News from the masthead to the Adidas ad and can recite the staff box, too, if you wish.

For those of us on the Track & Field News tour fortunate enough to be present, we saw a truly memorable exhibition. It was an affair to remember and we won't soon forget it.

HAROLD DAVIS (U.S.A.)

172 points

Harold Davis of Salinas and the University of California, on ability, was one of the great sprinters of all time. He was the most unbeatable of the Titans. He never lost a race at 220 yards or 200 meters. Only four men ever defeated him in the 100, at which distance he lost but three races and in one of these he fell flat on his face at the start, scrambled to his feet, set out in pursuit of the field and still defeated a few men in that race.

This curious incident took place in the Finnish Relief meet at Los Angeles in 1940. Moselle Ellerbe, Mickey Anderson and Payton Jordan finished ahead of him in that race. He also lost to Jordan in a dual meet 100 early in 1943 when Jordan was running for Del Monte Pre-Flight. The only major race Davis ever lost was to Barney Ewell in the 1941 AAU 100m at Philadelphia. In that same meet he defeated Ewell in the 200 meters.

Hal competed indoors in the short dashes in 1941 and never lost a heat or a final. His standing in these ratings would be much higher than it is had he not been washed out of two Olympiads (1940 and 1944) by World War II. Davis thus never had an opportunity to show great he really was on the world scene. There is no doubt in the author's mind that Davis would have won at least three and probably four Olympic gold medals at 100 and 200 meters had the Olympic Games been held in 1940 and 1944. Had he been able to do this his total points in my system would be a little over 100 more than the 172 he wound up with, and such a total would have placed him in a virtual dead heat for second place among my great sprinters of all time.

Hal Davis is a prime example of a man losing points in this system under the category of "opportunity to prove one's greatness".

<u>Achievement Points:</u>		154	
6	Won 1940 AAU 100		8 Ran 100 meters in 10.3 in 1940 AAU
6	Won 1940 AAU 200		9 Tied world 100m record of 10.2 in 1941
6	Won 1941 AAU 200		9 Ran 100 yards in 9.4 in 1942
6	Won 1942 AAU 100		8 Ran 220 yards in 20.4 in 1942
6	Won 1942 AAU: 200		8 Ran 100 yards in 9.5 in 1943
6	Won 1943 AAU 100		6 Best 100 man in world, 1940
6	Won 1943 AAU 200		6 Best 100 man in world, 1942
4	Second 1941 AAU 100		6 Best 100 man in world, 1943
6	Won 1942 NCAA 100		6 Best 200 man in world, 1940
6	Won 1942 NCAA 200		6 Best 200 man in world, 1941
6	Won 1943 NCAA 100		6 Best 200 man in world, 1942
6	Won 1943 NCAA 200		6 Best 200 man in world, 1943

<u>Victory Points:</u>		24
3	Barney Ewell	
1	Mozelle Ellerbe	
6	Payton Jordan	
3	Ed Conwell	
3	Cliff Bourland	
2	Eulace Peacock	
2	Herbert Thompson	
1	Clyde Jeffrey	
1	Buddy Young	
2	Billy Brown	

<u>Defeat Penalties:</u>		6
1	Barney Ewell	
1	Mozelle Ellerbe	
2	Payton Jordan	
(2)	Mickey Anderson	

Score:
154 AP
24 VP
178
- 6 DP
172

MEL PATTON (U.S.A.)

181 points

Mel Patton may have been the fastest man at 100 yards who ever pulled on a pair of spikes. His blazing 9.1 (with a 6.5 mph wind at his back) in 1949, and with four or five watches showing 9 flat, suggests that here was the fastest race ever run by man. My own watch showed 9.0, and so, though the runner was aided by a moderate but illegal breeze, I have always believed I know what the legendary 9 flat 100 looks like.

Curiously enough, Patton also held the world 220 record at 20.2 but never achieved very much of note at 100 meters, a mark lying between 100 yards and 220.

Patton was the first to run an official 9.3. His 20.2 was run the same day as his 9.1, but the wind had died down to about 3.3 mph at that time and was legal in every way. Mel won the 1948 Olympic 200 meters over Barney Ewell in a magnificent display of fighting spirit after having finished a heart breaking fifth in the 100. This was one of the great track comebacks of all time.

"Pell Mel" as he was known, was a bundle of nerves and these nerves at time caused him to blow up in an important race. He also had a bit of leg trouble at inopportune times. He hated to work himself up emotionally for a major race, finding the experience to be a torment of body and soul, and so he failed to compete in a number of championship meets he might have won. He was a much better sprinter than his score of 181 indicates, largely because he had no desire to be any better.

This aversion to competition, particularly in the National AAU meets, cost him perhaps 50 to 75 points. He never won or even placed in a National AAU sprint. I seem to recall that he never even ran in one. At the close of his career he sat in the stands at Fresno and watched others compete in two races he probably would have won. The points he would have score in that one meet alone could have zoomed him up to around fourth or fifth place in my all-time standings. But, as I have said before in this series, I rate a man on what he did, not on what I think he might have done or on what he was capable of doing. They all wrote out their own ticket. My job was merely to record it all.

Achievement Points: 173

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 6 Won NCAA 100 in 1947 | 8 Ran 220 in 20.4 in 1947 |
| 6 Won NCAA 100 in 1948 | 9 Ran 100 yards in 9.4 in 1947, Salt Lake City |
| 6 Won NCAA 200 in 1948 | 9 Ran 100 yards in 9.4 in 1947, Modesto |
| 6 Won Olympic 200m team trials, 1948 | 8 Ran 100 yards in 9.5 |
| 4 Second in Olympic 100m trials, 1948 | 7 Ran 200m on turn in 20.7 in 1948 |
| 4 Made Olympic 100m team, 1948 | 8 Ran 100m in 10.3 in 1948 |
| 4 Made Olympic 200m team, 1948 | 10 Ran 100 yards in world record 9.3, 1948 |
| 2 Made Olympic relay team, 1948 | 10 Ran 100y in 9.1 (6.5mph wind=9.3), 1949 |
| 5 Reached Olympic 100m final, 1948 | 10 Ran 220y in world record 20.2, 1949 |
| 5 Reached Olympic 200m final, 1948 | 6 Best 100 man in world, 1947 |
| 10 Won Olympic 200m, 1948 | 6 Best 200 man in world, 1947 |
| 6 Won NCAA 100, 1949 | 6 Best 100 man in world, 1949 |
| 6 Won NCAA 220, 1949 | 6 Best 200 man in world, 1949 |

Victory Points: 37

- 5 Barney Ewell
- 4 Lloyd LaBeach
- 4 Bill Martineson
- 2 Bill Mathis
- 2 Herb McKenley
- 1 Harrison Dillard
- 1 Ed Conwell
- 5 Charles Parker
- 2 Andy Stanfield
- 2 John Treloar
- 1 Rafael Fortun-Chacon
- 1 Les Laing
- 1 E. McDonald Bailey
- 6 Cliff Bourland

Defeat Penalties: 29

- 2 Barney Ewell
- 4 Lloyd LaBeach
- 2 Bill Martineson
- 2 Bill Mathis
- 1 Herb McKenley
- 1 Harrison Dillard
- 1 Ed Conwell
- 1 Alistair McCorquodale
- 1 Buddy Young
- (4) Allen Lawler
- (2) Kjell Qvale
- (2) Henry Guida
- (2) Crowson
- (4) Trout

	<u>Score</u>	
	173	AP
	37	VP
	<u>210</u>	
	-29	DP
	<u>181</u>	