

TRACK NEWSLETTER

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By Bert & Cordner Nelson (Track & Field News)

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NEWS

OUTDOORS Australia: Victorian championships, Jan. 26 & 28: Herb Elliott again ran 4:06, and then won 880 in 1:50.8, Baillie 4:06.6, Clarke 4:07.2, Murray 4:07.4, Roberts 4:11.6, Douglas 1:51.9, Murray 1:52.7.; Agostini 9, 8 from Hogan 9.9, against wind. Agostini 21.6 from Hogan 21.7, Randall 21.7; Gosper 47.6; Lawrence 14:00; 2 3 miles, Baillie 14:05.4; Warren 29:23.4; Rutherford 49'4" HSJ; Donath 53'1½"; Feb. 2; Marlene Mathews 10.1 for 100 yards, with wind.

INDOORS Philadelphia Inquirer, Jan 25: 50-Murchison 5.4, Sime, Kave, Williams; 600-Jenkins 1:11.9, Gaffney (5), Culbreath, Pearman; 1000-Sowell 2:09.5, Courtney (5), Matza, Bright; Mile-King 4:10.1, Tabori 4:10.8, Coleman (second) 4:10.7, Kopil 4:10.9, Seaman 4:11.0e. 2 mile-Ashenfelter 9:01.8, Macy 9:06.7, Smartt, Breckenridge. 50HH-Campbell-6.1, Calhoun, Pratt, Gilbert; Mile relay-Villanova 3:21.6, Morgan State, Manhattan, Syracuse; 2 mile relay-St. Josephs 7:53.4, Fordham, Manhattan, Syracuse. PV Bragg 15'¼", Welbourne 14'9", Schwarz and Gutowski 14'6". HJ-tie, Reavis, Barksdale, Dennis, Smith and Stead, 6'7".

Washington Star, Jan. 26: 70-Murchison 7.1, Sime (ill), Cager; 80Murchison, Sime, Spiegel, 8.0; 100-Murchison 9.9, Cager, Gordon (Sime disqualified, jumping). 600-Gaffney 1:14.2, Ingley, Tan; 1000-Courtney 2:13.6, Matza, Lockerbie (Sowell weak ankle, did not run); mile-Seaman 4:16.5, King, Grim; 2 mile-Macy 9:02.6 (meet record and best ever by college frosh), Ashenfelter (25), Smartt (9:17) (Tabori dropped out, stomach ache, 1½ miles); 70HH-Calhoun 8.2 (indoor record), Gilbert, Shankle, Campbell; PV-Richards 15', Gutowski 14'9", Welbourn and Poucher 14'6"; HJ-Barksdale and Smith 6'6¼", Herman and Wesley 6'4"; Mile relays won by Maryland 3:31, Fordham 3:30.3, Morgan State 3:27.2; 2 mile relays won by Georgetown 7:52.6 and Penn 8:06.1.

Boston AA, Feb. 2: 50-Murchison 5.5, Kave, Williams, Sydnor; 440 (new England colleges) Merritt 49.7; 600-Courtney 1:09.5, ties world indoor record; Gaffney (20), Jenkins 4th; 880 (New England colleges) Brew 1:56.3; 1000-Sowell 2:11.7; Mile-Delany 4:07.5, Seaman (5), Coleman; 2 mile-Dwyer 9:01.8; 45 HH-Calhoun 5.5, equals meet record; Pratt, Campbell, Knight. Mile relays won by NYU-3:24.3 and Villanova 3:19.2; 2 mile relays won by Yale 7:51.9 and Georgetown 7:42.3; HJ-Reavis 6'8¾"; PV-Richards 15'3"; BJ-Bensinger 22'1¼"; Shot-Bantum 55'2"; Marchiony 50'8¼", Winterbauer 50'1½", Aron 49'0¾"; 35 lb. W.T.-Bäckus 64'11", Hall 64'7½", Knorr 59'7½", Lawlor 55'10½", Harpel 54'4¾".

Michigan State Relays, Lansing, Feb. 2: 75 Wiebe, Mo. 7.7; 75HH-Davis, OS, 9.3; 75IH-Davis 8.3, Lewis ND 8.3; 300-Keegan ND 31.4; 600-Telford, Wayne, 1:13; 1000-Blumenthal, Purdue, 2:17.5; Mile-Sanders, Mo 4:18.4; 2 mile Dollwet, Mich 9:37.2; HJ-Booth Mich, 6'5"; PV-Englund Mo. 14'½"; BJ-Adkins, Cent. Mich, 22'5¾"; SP-Owen, Mich., 58'10½"; Relays: Mile, colleges, Loyola 3:24.5; universities, Notre Dame 3:23.2; 2 mile Michigan State 7:47.8 (Lean 1:51.6); sprint medley-Notre Dame 3:31.1; distance medley-Michigan State 10:16.8 (Lean 1:53.5); shuttle hurdles Missouri 29.8;

BULLETIN BOARD

Next Newsletter Feb. 19. February issue Track & Field News to be mailed February 28.

Meets Millrose Games Feb. 9, New York AC Feb. 16.

Free Sample copies "Gaiete de Atletism", Romanian track magazine, while they last.

Special 1957 Track & Field Rules & Records (high school) now on hand. Priced at \$.75 but available to Newsletter subscribers at \$.50.

Questionnaires still coming in. Final deadline Feb. 15. Please send in yours.

WIND SPRINTS

Dave Sime was named the outstanding amateur athlete in the Carolinas over second placer Bill Barnes, Wake Forest footballer. The voting, believe it or not, was 128 to 123! Charles Bacon, Olympic 400 hurdle champion of 1908, is the new president of the New York AC Spiked Shoe Club... British distance ace Frank Sando is among the latest sufferers of achilles tendon troubles... Parry O'Brien had 10 puts over 62 feet in 1956, in three different meets. To the end of 1956 Parry had been over 60 feet 53 times.

ON THE INDOOR CIRCUIT

Dave Sime is going on a State Department trip, and will miss most of the indoor season. A virus attack kept him out of action last weekend, when he was scheduled to compete in the Lexington relays... the Longine Cinetimer will be used for all the New York indoor meets... behemoth of the season is NYU's Al Stein, 330 pounds and 6'9". He's a weight thrower... Saturday's Millrose Games will be the 50th... Kansas practice marks include 13'11½" by Dave Tams, 6'6½" by Bob Cannon, 6.1 for 60 and 6.8 for 60 lows by Charlie Tidwell. However, Cannon and Tidwell both are now ineligible for the indoor season... Arnie Sowell has an ailing ankle that bothers him on flat floor tracks, but apparently is all right on the banked tracks... Tom Courtney is still looking for his first indoor win over Sowell. He took Jenkins for the first time in his Boston record race... Fred Dwyer missed the Washington meet because he doesn't like the hard armory surface. He is concentrating on the two mile this winter, before an all out mile attempt this spring, but may be lured into mile battles with Delany... Freddie picked up a set of blisters in his first Boston two-miler...

After the Boston KC meet, Jenkins said he was satisfied just to win. "I'm far from top condition" he said after his slowest ever (1:12.4) time... Courtney, after losing to Sowell: "I don't like to lose but I don't feel too badly and I had trouble breathing. However, I was strong at the finish and should be much better within a couple of weeks. I'm also just getting adjusted again. I guess there is a natural mental letdown after coming back from the Olympics... Courtney told Tabori, after the latter's indoor debut: "You will have to run faster in the race itself. Just in a matter of two weeks now you will feel as if you have been running on boards all your life. You ran a great race..." Dwyer, after his 8:52.4 opener: "I ran a planned race and hoped to win, but I never dreamed of such wonderful time. It amazes me. I couldn't be any happier. I had hoped that I would have enough of a kick left - to outrun Tabori and Ash, and I did." Tabori said: "I am very much satisfied with my performance. I thought that anyone who ran under nine minutes would defeat me. I didn't think I could get under nine. My feet were on fire. They hurt me so much I couldn't feel the track under them. The smoke didn't bother me. It was a very good race and I hope to do better in other meets..."

After the Boston AA meet last Saturday: Courtney: "I didn't think I could go that fast (1:09.5). It was a pleasing surprise. I felt awfully good, didn't feel tired at all. It's hard to say if I could have gone faster, but I wish I had earlier. I thought I could have opened up a little sooner. It's the first time in six starts that I have won at 600 yards." Delany: "I had only two workouts on boards before coming here. I'm in good shape and it's good to get through the first race. I want to run in all the indoor meets I can. We're certainly getting fast miles early this season. But we'll know by the end of the season if it can be done in four minutes. I do think we'll be get down pretty low. I saw Seaman and Coleman starting to move with one and a half laps to go and I said to myself--there's no sense in hanging around, I'd better get out of there." Courtney again: "I said early in January that I'd be in top shape by the time of the Millrose Games, and that still goes. Between a cold and a natural letdown after the Olympics, I had my troubles. But I'm fine now and should be in my best form soon..."

Washington Star notes: Calhoun laid his defeats at Philly and at Washington (in a heat) to too much banquet circuit activities... Sime's disqualification in the 100 came as no surprise to those who hung around the starter's-corner. In both the 70 and 80 finals the Duke ace jumped the get set order. He was white-faced, perspiring heavily and showing the effects of a vomiting spell prior to the 70. Coach Bob Chambers said the nausea was not from nervousness, but apparently from something else... after Gilbert beat Calhoun in the heat he said "I've got Calhoun in my pocket from now on..." Kip Edwards, chief judge of the meet, said: "Last year when Sime swept the sprint series he ran like a frightened gazelle, like somebody was after him. He had zip and power at the finish. He was a changed man out there Saturday night. For running he was running with his head down, like a man plodding. He was ill, no question about it. Another thing, Sime never broke once here last year. He won those races while hardly breathing. He was putting out a lot of effort this time and getting nowhere..." a Washington writer revealed that John Macy had adopted that name "for the usual reason, fear of reprisal against relatives in the homeland if he used his own." Forgetting, of course, that Jan Miecznikowski ran under his own name in the AAU and elsewhere last year... Bob Seaman commented that he found the indoor tracks had very short straightaways.

TRACK GAME ANYONE?

An invitation from Corder Nelson: Dear Track Nuts, I hereby invite you to participate with Bert and me in a track game which I think is lots of fun. Briefly, this is how it goes:

Any number can play, from three to about a dozen. (If too many of you respond to this we'll organize more than one game.) First, we take turns choosing active, real-life track and field athletes until we reach 20 men. Then, whatever points your men actually score in the NCAA and AAU meets you get. Your team competes in both meets, with a third title going to the team which scores the highest combined total. Thus you will "own" your favorite athletes, just as baseball clubs own their players, only it will not cost you a cent (except for postage). You will be permitted to trade athletes with other teams, trade one you don't want for one nobody else has chosen, and, in general, pit your skill against the rest of us in weighing the future.

To qualify for participation in this game, you must: 1-Be capable of making your choice and quickly forwarding the list by mail to the next chooser; 2-believe that your interest will be sustained over a period of many years.

In order to be ready for next June's meets, we must hurry. If you want to join us, write immediately. In case of too many applications, the first to write will be accepted. When writing, give us a number between 1 and 100 which will be used in determining the order in which we choose. (A non-interested person will name the winning number. If 12 people play, the 12th chooser will also get 13th choice, and the 1st chooser will have 24th choice.) Additional details and rules will be supplied contestants.

SO THEY TELL ME

TN JAMES HEARTWELL, Long Beach, Calif.: "Would it be fun to have a write-in contest of track fans to see how many books, magazines, guides, etc., each person has in his track library? Just on track and field and the Olympic Games. I would be very interested to see what others have. My library is quite modest, but I'd send the figures for a starter." (Okay, send them in, everybody. Prize to the winner.)

TN JOE GALLI, Australia: "Herb Elliott is the goods, no doubt, or so it looks. The boy looks the class. That is, he's got it. Now everything depends on his own approach to it, to his remaining in Melbourne, and sticking with Cerutti. The foot still worries Elliott a bit. I feel sure, though, that now he could run under 4:04. He looks the type can take the racing. There is plenty of time, and Cerutti is keen to keep the brakes on a bit yet awhile."

TN MARV ROTHENSTEIN, White Plains, N. Y.: "Think 'Stampfl on Running' is great but one obvious error appeared: He calls for 6 x 60 in 6.0. Record is 6.1 as we all know."

TN HUGH GARDNER, Indianapolis: "In the walks for the 1960 Olympics I pick Eijmyjwnci and Wkchneoz--in other words, I don't try it."

TN SYD DE RONER, So. Orange, N. J.: "The Inquirer meet is a real circus. With the small space it is rough on the athletes. I thought Sime had won with his lean and the fact that he was coming at the finish. I think it is a crime that there is no photo machine for these short indoor races. King was a real surprise with about 3½ to go I thought he was through, but with about two to go he went into the lead and was never headed. Seaman was never in the race and was obviously unable to handle the turns in his first appearance on the 12 lap track. Bragg looked excellent as he always does indoors and out. However his tries at 15' 5½" were not close. On his last two he got up but came down on the bar. You wouldn't have believed it was the same Tom Courtney if you saw the ease with which Sowell won the 1000, but Tom won the big one in Melbourne. Villanova had a real surprise in Charley Stead, a sophomore high jumper and 440 man who had a best of 6'4" until Friday when he did 6'7" and looked good trying 6'9". Willie Sharpe got over 6'5" very nicely. ...I still like Sime's chances in the 220 race at Austin if it is run on a straightaway, but Morrow to win the 100."

TN ART HOFFMAN, Los Angeles: "Last Saturday night on NBC Radio Monitor I heard the 600, 1000 and one mile runs from the Washington meet. They will probably have a pickup each Saturday night for the meets in New York. After their news capsule at 7 pm PST which lasts about 5 minutes the monitor sports follows and they will announce then."

TN HAL BATEMAN, East Lansing, Mich.: "The big news at MSU is Dave Lean. The Aussie looks fabulous clocking 1:11.7 and 1:10.8 in two 600s. Will be a tough customer to beat."

TN HAL HIGDON, Chicago: "Last summer in California you accused me of not warning you of Thackwray's promise, when I had written you of him in the winter. Not wishing to be accused of this again, I am giving you another list of look-fors'.

Jerry Joiner--went to college at U of Vermont where he was incapable of breaking 4:30 or 2:00. Trained with me last spring in Nurnberg but still wasn't too capable, but showed a tremendous desire to work. He ran 33:01 for 10,000 in the spring and 4:00 for 1500 in the summer. He's training hard this winter and will be out of the army in May. Should be capable of 4:10 mile this year.

Walter Hollfelder--19 year old German also ran with us in Nurnberg. Ran 1:52 for 800 and 2:26 for 1000.

Elwood Robinson and Al Griffin: Both at Winston-Salem Teachers College now. Robinson is frosh, Griffin senior. Both were running with us last spring. Griffin ran 47.1 to win CISM 400. Robinson came to us as sprinter, but McBride converted him to 400 man and he hit 47.6 his first time out. Lack of experience in the distance hurt him out in California last summer, but he did get third in the all army 400 against a fair field headed by Lou Jones.

Al Jacobs--didn't run in high school. Ran last year for the U. of Illinois branch at Navy Pier. No past record at all, yet he's run 6.2 and 7.0 for 60 and 70 yards indoor already this season. A student at U of Chicago.

Roger Reynolds--9:35 for 2 miles already this season, but probably 5 or 6 years away from his prime.

And another thing. I feel left out. All my friends are getting engaged to Australian girls. Think Ferris has any more tours planned to go there in the next couple of years?"

NOTED WITH INTEREST

Olympic Alphabet (by anonymous):

A is for Arnie of the gliding stride.
 B is for Bantum and his catlike glide.
 C is for Connolly, king of the hammer throw.
 D is for Davis, watches those hurdlers go.
 E is for Eddie, the baby of the team.
 F is for Fortch, so broad in the beam.
 G is for Greg, who jumps like hell.
 H is for Horace, who steeples so well.
 I is for Ira, Davis and Murchison.
 J is for Jones & Jenkins and Johnson.
 K is for Koch, with muscles to last.
 L is for Leamon, he runs so fast.

M is for Morrow, king of them all.
 N is for Nieder, who heaves the ball.
 O is for Oerter, who spins the platters.
 P is for Parry, and the marks he shatters.
 Q is for Quency, its Calhoun's middle name.
 R is for Richards, he vaulted to fame.
 S is for Spurrier, the record half-miler.
 T is for Truex, the half pint smiler.
 U is for USA, the Russians they thumped.
 V is for Verne, with goatee he jumped.
 W is for Wheeler, so tall but not broad.
 X is for Xcellent, which describes the squad.
 Y is for Young, he gives the spear a blast.
 Z is for Zounds, this is over at last.

(Any other amateurs care to try their hands?)

DEREK IBBOTSON, in Athletics weekly. Born June 17th, 1932; 5'9½", 151 pounds; started cross country in 1947, track in 1948, at 440 and 830. Favorite events all the way from 880 to 5000. Got most personal satisfaction in the AAA 3 miles, proving that he could lead all the way and still match a fast finish (Chataway's) from behind. Trains six days a week the year long--evenings in summer, after 3 p.m. in winter. About two hours a day. Typical summer week's work: Monday, 2 mile warm-up, 10 by 440 in 62.0, 4 x 220 in 25.0, 4 x 440 in 62.0, mile warm down. Tuesday: 2 mile warm up, 16 x 440 in 62.0, mile warm down; Wednesday, as Monday; Thursday: as Tuesday; Friday, fast 440 bursts on flat golf course; Saturday, race; Sunday, on golf course, or play tennis. Winter training consists of fast and slow running over all distances to a mile for about 1¾ hours on downs and golf course. i. e., 440 fast, 220 slow, mile fast, 880 slow, 440 fast, 220 slow, 880 fast, until 1¾ hours are up. Warms up before competition by jogging for about 20 minutes, then 1 or 2 100 yard strides. Normally rests one day before competition, but takes 2 or 3 days before very important races. Advises young athletes to not take it too seriously too young. Train hard, but within capabilities. Is an electrical engineer. Would like to study electrical engineering at a U.S. university. Recently out of Royal Air Force. And recently married.