The Herald's Sport Page

Zamperini Adds Another Mark to List

NEXT RACES MAY 7

Reports from Los Angeles today indicated that Louie will not run the two-mile in the dual meet between the Trojans and Stanford at the Coliseum May 7 but will enter the mile and the 880. This was confirmed by Coach Dean Cromwell who explained that he is developing Louie's speed for future tests in the I.C.4-A, the N.C.A.A. and against Glenn Cunningham in the national A.A.U. 1,500 meters.

Running with that effortless ease which has gripped attention of the whole Pacific Coast sports' world, Louis Zamperini breezed thru the two-mile in the U.S.C.-U.C.L.A. track meet at the Coliseum last Saturday to add another record to his lengthening list. He uncorked a display of his amazing reserve on the last half-mile to complete the final 880 yards in 2m. 6s. and flitted over the finish line 70 or 80 yards ahead of his nearest opponent.

The time was 9m. 18.9s.—the fastest ever turned in (by nearly 20 seconds) by a Far western intercollegiate runner.

Louie trailed Capt. Paul Van Alstine, Bruin ace, for six laps with no hint of his home-stretch threat. Then he turned on the heat and brought some 3,000 fans cheering to their feet with his burst of speed that showed he had only been loafing along to make the race interesting to others in it.

Sparked the Trojans

But let one of the Los Angeles' best sportswriters—Braven Dyer of The Times—recall that race. Here's what he had to say about it: "In one of the most amazing races ever run by a Pacific Coast athlete, Louis Zamperini, Southern California's super-star of the distances, sparked the Trojans to victory over U.C.L.A. before 3,000 fans at the Coliseum. The score was 96 to 35.

"Loafing the first six laps, seemingly content to let Paul Van Alstine, Bruin captain, show the way, Zamperini cut loose with terrific speed in the final 880 yards and crossed the finish at the end of two miles in 9m., 18.9s.

Best in the West

"This mark exceeded by several seconds anything ever done by any other western intercollegiate runner and was made with such amazing smoothness and absence of effort that old-timers were busy wagging their heads last night as they tried to gauge the limit of Zamperini's ability over this route.

"Safe to say he can substantially lower the time he made yesterday. During the first six laps he made no attempt to pass Van Alstine and most of us assumed that Louie had no intention of trying to bag a new record.

"But suddenly on the seventh lap Zamperini stepped out. So great was his reserve that he turned the last half mile in a shade less than 2m. 6s. without anybody there to extend him.

Fast and Versatile

"Two weeks ago the Torrance flyer chalked up the fastest mile ever run by a California distance man, negotiating the distance in 4m. 13.7s. On the same afternoon, thirty-two minutes after his mile race, he did the half mile in 1m. 53.2s.

"In the 1936 Olympics he was the first American to finish the 5000 meters, a shade more than three miles. Yes, Louie is well on his way to recognition as the nation's greatest distance runner. It is my opinion that he already deserves such rating."

Pistoleers Score 6 Straight Wins

Six matches and six victories!

That was the clean-sweep record of Torrance Pistol club teams late last week and Sunday at the local range and at Ventura. The best shooters of the Inglewood and Redondo Beach police departments, Santa Paula and Ventura were matched against the Torrance pistoleers and lost every event.

The wins over the beach city coppers were particularly pleasing to the local pistoleers because the Redondoans had boasted mightily of their lead-flinging prowess after defeating the Torrance club in the first match a week ago.

Sharpshooters Bennett, Ashton, Travioli, Haslam and Spcheger took the beach officers 1,251 to 1,208 and 1,231 to 1,178. The Inglewood matches were won by Freeman, Stanger, DeBra, Bennett, March and Medicus, 1,349 to 1,218 and 1,337 to 1,231.

Sunday the No. 1 Civilian team from here, Henry March, William H. Stanger, Ollie Medicus, Marvin Freeman and Ralph Grant, together with the Coline Gas team affiliated with the Torrance club, R. W. Moore, C. A. Brown, Russell Lamphear, D. R. Van Gorder and Loren Maddux, traveled to Ventura.

The Civilians defeated a Santa Paula squad, 1,298 to 1,276. The Coline Gassers won 1,255 to 1,206. Ralph Grant of the Civilians turned in the best performance, shooting a 264.

The last meeting before election of new officers will be held by members of the local Pistol club Tuesday night, May 3, 7:30 o'clock at the police station, according to Capt. John Stroh, president.

Would Louie Have 'Taken' Cunningham?

Many a track fan is wondering what Louie Zamperini would have done to famed Glenn Cunningham had the Torrance boy been permitted by his alma mater, U.S.C., to compete against the flying Kansan last Sunday at the Coliseum.

Cunningham holds the world's competitive mile record of 4m. 6.8s. and the world's indoor mile mark of 4m. 4.4s.

Louie already holds the state record of 4m. 13.7s. in the mile, which is roughly eight seconds better than Cunningham ran it Sunday against Venzke, Ross Bush and Johnny Wall.

More than 1,200 letters and telegrams were received by U.S.C. authorities as last week drew to a close from sports lovers demanding that Louie be permitted to race with Cunningham. But the university turned a deaf ear to the requests, maintaining that "it was against the rules" for a varsity track athlete to compete in unauthorized exhibitions.

In addition to the western collegiate two-mile record he set in Saturday's U.S.C.-U.C.L.A. meet, Zamperini holds the following honors: World's high school mile, 4m. 21.2s.; Trojan half-mile, mile and three-quarter mile; Berkeley Stadium and U.S.C.-Cal. meet marks in the mile, 4m. 13.7s., and 880-yd. run, 1m. 53.2s.

Pedro, Banning Tie for Ball Title

As result of a 3 to 1 victory over Gardena in the final hardball game of the Marine league season last Friday, San Pedro shares the 1938 championship with Banning. Torrance high was not in the league this season having played as a "free-lance" in a softball circuit.

School Has 6 Sets of Twins

LA SALLE, Mich. (U.P.)—A school here has six sets of twins ranging from 6 to 14.

Pirates Sink Local Athletes in First Meet

MEET HERE FRIDAY

Gardena high's track team will come here tomorrow (Friday) afternoon to meet the Torrance Tartars in a dual Marine league meet which is scheduled to get under way about 2:30 o'clock.

Outclassed by the San Pedro varsity, the Tartars from Torrance high school lost the opening track and field event of the Marine schedule 74 to 28 at the port city last Friday. San Pedro also captured the Class B and C events, winning the B 85 to 9 and C 72 to 5.

The Tartars made their best bid in the varsity high jump when Bill Stewart cleared the bar at six feet. Bob Klink took third place to account for a majority of the Torrance points. Five meet and three school records were established as San Pedro took 10 of the 12 first places and walked away with second and third positions.

Individual Winner

Yasuo Tatsumi, Pirate ace sprinter, won three of the 12 first places and ran the anchor lap of the relay to take individual honors of the meet. He set three new school records in brilliant performances and shattered meet marks for the 100-yard dash, 180-yard low hurdles and the broad jump.

San Pedro made its best showing in the 100-yard dash capturing all three places with Tatsumi turning a new school and meet record time of 10 seconds flat. In the lighter divisions, Pirate entries were a standout, winning all first place points in all events.

The only Torrance varsity place winners, in addition to High Jumpers Stewart and Klink, were: Hall, second in the 180-yard dash; Smith, second in the 440; Kirkpatrick, second in the 880; Nagle, first in the mile; Klink, third in the 180 low hurdles and second in the 120 high hurdles; Long and Beadle, tied for second in the pole vault; Kalina, third in the broad jump, and Richhart third in the shotput.

BELL, EL SEGUNDO WIN DUAL MEETS

Bell high school's trackmen scored a 57 to 47 upset track victory over Jordan last Friday in a Marine league dual meet. At the same time El Segundo was winning another Marine meet on its home field when it handed Gardena a 55 to 49 defeat.

Merchants Drop Double-Header to Montebello

The Torrance Merchants lost both games of a double-header against a Montebello nine last Sunday in the rain at Montebello. The first contest ended 4 to 2 and the nightcap closed 7 to 2. Next Sunday the Merchants play the Jadrans at San Pedro's Sports Field.

Montebello is regarded as one of the strongest teams in the league, having just finished a play-off for a championship. Pat Malone pitched the first inning, allowing four hits, three of them in the third. Jackson started for the locals in the second game and was knocked out of the box in the first inning when he gave out four hits for five runs. Palica was inserted by Manager Joe Sandland to finish the contest and he held the Montebellans to two hits.

READ OUR WANT ADS

WRITERS BEAT OUT SALVOS OF PRAISE FOR ZAMPERINI

Los Angeles sports writers this week beat out staccatos of praise for Louie Zamperini's sterling performance in the record-breaking two-mile run last Saturday in the U.S.C.-U.C.L.A. meet. Typical of their type-tributes were:

MAXWELL STILES in the Examiner: Referring to the May 7 meet with Stanford: "There is little doubt that Zamperini will beat Burrows at any distance they may run but the strong Stanford boy is the first man he has met this year who is capable of making Louie open up and show us what he really can do.

"The Trojans can win the meet without needing a double victory by Zamperini, as was required at California. This means that Louie can open up wide in the mile, needing to save nothing in reserve.

"The Stanford meet being Zamperini's last appearance in the Coliseum this year, under the present schedule, here's hoping that Cromwell allows his great miler to cut loose and give the fans a demonstration of how fast he REALLY can run the mile. Don't wager very much that the time will be over 4:10. Louie can do it."

GEORGE T. DAVIS in the Herald-Express: In an interview with the famed Glenn Cunningham after the Kansan's exhibition race last Sunday in the Coliseum: "Zamperini was in the dressing room with us and Cunningham added: 'There's the next mile champion. When he concentrates on this distance he'll be unbeatable, and even the four-minute mile is not outside of his possibilities. He has the speed of a half-miler and the endurance of a two-miler. What more could you ask?' Louie, somewhat embarrassed, admitted that the mile was his favorite distance.

"It's fortunate for Cunningham and the field of yesterday that Zamperini wasn't in the race, for, despite the cold weather, he'd have made 'em travel a lot faster than they did."

MARK KELLY in his Examiner column: " . . . it begins to look as if they've really done something about this long-whiskered crack about 'improvin' the breed.' But I'm not referring to the bangtails but to the fact that Louis Zamperini, a Trojan, comes up with the fastest two-mile effort ever turned in by a West Coast performer . . . Bravo Zamperini—maybe you'll get the United States flag run up the pole at the next Olympiad for distance effort."

T-L Nine Splits Double-Header

Dividing a double-header oill at the city park diamond last Sunday the Torrance-Lomita Merchants won the first game, 4 to 2, but lost the seven-inning closer, 5 to 3 to the Richfield Oilers. Kenneth Watts, young port sider, pitched the first contest for Manager Walt Morris' squad, allowing the Oilers but seven hits and keeping them widely separated.

The T-L players touched Ferguson for nine bingles. Morris and Palica each had two hits to lead the opening attack. Willard Collins, another youthful hurler, was scheduled to take over the mound in the second game but he failed to appear. Babbey got off to a bad start and Patalano relieved him in the fourth. Seven double plays were turned in by the T-L team with five of the twin-killings occurring in the first game.

Next Sunday, the Morris-men will take on the Alhambra Merchants who, last January, gave the T-L club its second shut-out in the local park, 2-0.

Anglers Prepare for Trout Season

Weather conditions between now and May 1 will determine if Southland anglers return home with good, fair or poor catches on the opening day of the 1938 trout season.

The High Sierra country holds the spotlight for fishing this year, a late survey reveals, and opening day will see many eager anglers in the Owens Valley side. Although there is still a heavy snow pack in this section, the Owens river, Hot creek, June lake and Grant lake will be accessible. Unless continued warm weather causes heavy runoff, the prospects look good.

Despite recent flood damages to Southern California streams and lakes, the Waltonian should be rewarded with some fair catches of trout locally. First reports indicated that fishing would be confined to the lakes but last-minute inspections show that a good number of sizable trout are still in Bear creek, Deep creek and Upper Santa Ana although these streams are high and roily.

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