

Grandstand Views



Threat to U.S. Track Supremacy

By Sandy Padwe, Collegian Sports Editor

Right now the United States is the track power of the world. U.S. teams proved it this summer, beating the Russians in a dual meet in July and winning the Pan-American games in a walkaway earlier this month.

But Uncle Sam's track supremacy is being challenged. So says Chick Werner, Penn State's coach.

The challenge isn't coming from one country in particular, he said, but all the nations combined.

Werner is in a good position to know, being a veteran of the international cinder set. He helped coach the 1952 Olympic team and was the head coach of the U.S. team in the Pan-Am games this year.

Werner says the Russians will be our main threat come Olympic time in Rome next year but he said Germany and the British Empire as well as Australia could cause trouble too.

The white thatched mentor (he's in the club with Engle and Bedenk) attributes the rise in foreign track to United States' clinics and coaching.

In the past, American coaches and track stars toured foreign countries teaching the Europeans the fine points of the sport and coaching top prospects.

"We taught many of our secrets to the foreigners during those clinics," Werner said.

A good example is the West Indies' George Kerr. Kerr, an Illinois trained athlete, led his country to a one-two-three sweep in the Pan-Am 400-meter run. Kerr and his teammates beat the United States' three great quarter milers Eddie Southern of Texas, Dave Mills of Purdue and Jack Yerman of the California Olympic club.

Then in the 1600-meter relay Kerr again led the West Indies to an upset over the same U.S. team which swept home ahead of the Russians last July. The other three runners on the West Indies' team all had American training too.

"I'm not taking anything away from the West Indies' team, but I don't think they'll win in the Olympics," Werner said.

"Southern came to Chicago way out of shape. He told me he went to Air Force ROTC camp for training in between the Russian meet and the Pan-Am games and didn't get a chance to work out at all. Even so the West Indies team was terrific."

Werner disclosed that the United States is now taking measures to develop long distance runners in hopes of catching the Russians in that department.

The NCAA, he said, is putting the three mile run, the 3,000 meter steeplechase and the hop, step, and jump in its national tournament this year.

Russian supremacy in these events was demonstrated in Philadelphia. The Soviet Athletes took first and second places in the steeplechase, 5,000 meter run and the 10,000 meter run. They also took the top spot in the hop, step and jump.

The Russians, in turn, are starting to develop some top flight sprinters to match the Americans, according to Werner.

Summing up the American team that faced the Russians and the one that ran rough shod over the Pan-American countries, Werner said he thought it was the

Egli Was Standout

Basketball coach John Egli was a standout performer during his undergraduate days at Penn State in the mid 40's. The veteran coach guided the Lions to an 11-9 mark last year.

Home Bred Athletes

Penn State depends almost entirely on Pennsylvania talent for its athletic manpower.

Of approximately 300 boys who engaged in inter-collegiate sports in 1958-59, 85 per cent were home-grown products.

And of the 45 from out-of-state, 40 hailed from bordering states.

Harriers Prep For First Meet

By DICK GOLDBERG

Something old, something new. So goes the old expression. The Penn State cross country team, under the tutelage of coach Chick Werner will be following this during their pre-season practice sessions.

The new innovation will be the use of heavy basketball shoes replacing the relatively light cross country sneakers. The use of the heavy shoe during practice will tend to make the harriers light-footed during the dual meet season.

The old feature is two practice sessions daily. This was introduced for the first time by Werner a few years ago and is now being used by a great many cross country teams.

Werner feels that by increasing the number of practices before the first meet, the team will be that much more prepared.

However, the Lion mentor does not think the practice interval before the first meet on October 3rd is enough to get the Lions in condition. According to Werner, no matter how many practice sessions are held, it still takes a great deal of conditioning to run five miles.

Werner added that he did not urge the harriers to do much running during the summer because the spring track season was a long one and the boys would come back overtired.

Therefore, the cross country coach will have to start from scratch in conditioning.

Things are not too dark, however because Cornell, Penn State's first opponent, will have problems like the Wernermen. Because of this, Werner believes the meet will turn into a "dog-fight" with the team in the best shape winning.



WERNER

Sox Near Pennant; Giants, Dodgers Win

NEW YORK (AP)—Chicago inched closer to its first American League pennant in 40 years by beating the New York Yankees 4-3 yesterday despite two home runs by Mickey Mantle.

The victory put the White Sox five full games ahead of the second-place Cleveland Indians who were playing a night game in Boston. Chicago has only eight to play and any combination of five Sox victories or Indian defeats would clinch it.

Mantle's 30th homer with Bobby Richardson on base in the first got the Yanks off to an early lead against Billy Pierce. However the stylish lefty settled down and pitched six hitless innings retiring 16 men in succession from the second to the eighth.

After Pierce threw two balls to Gil McDougald, leading off the eighth, Manager Al Lopez brought in Bob Shaw from his starting brigade. It was announced that Pierce felt his left shoulder tightening up. Shaw finished up, barely escaping in the ninth, after Mantle hit No. 31.



Billy Pierce

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Smashing out of their hitting slump with eight runs in the first two innings, the San Francisco Giants protected their National League lead by swamping Cincinnati 13-6 yesterday.

Daryl Spencer and Willie McCovey contributed homers in the 13-hit assault as the Giants finally supported young left-hander Mike McCormick. Mike had lost his last two outings by 1-0 decisions and hadn't won since Aug. 21.

The win helped the Giants maintain sole possession of first place going into today's crucial series opener here against the challenging Milwaukee Braves.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Don McMahon forced in the winning run with a bases-loaded walk in the 10th inning yesterday as the Los Angeles Dodgers popped back into a second-place tie with the Milwaukee Braves by defeating them 8-7.

The Dodgers and Braves now

Steelers Trim Roster; Obtain Luna in Trade

PITTSBURGH (AP)—The Pittsburgh Steelers trimmed their roster to 38 players yesterday with the release of four linemen and two backs.

Released were tackle George Belotti of Brigham-Young; end R. K. Brown of Georgia; quarterback Dan Nolan of Lehigh; linebacker Claude Billingsley of Northeastern Oklahoma; fullback C. R. Roberts of the University of Southern California; and guard Bill Krisher of Oklahoma.

At the same time the Steelers also obtained Bobby Luna, a kicking specialist, from the San Francisco 49ers in exchange for a future draft choice.

Late Baseball

Baltimore, 2 Detroit, 1
Boston, 1 Cleveland, 0

greatest track and field team ever assembled.

And some of America's best stars were missing Decathlon champ Rafer Johnson had to miss both meets because of a back injury while sprinter Bobby Morrow, the triple gold-medal winner in the 1956 Olympics didn't make the team due to a leg injury.

While Werner was very pleased with his team's performance in the Pan-Am meet he did voice a little disappointment with the showing of Penn State's star miler Ed Moran.

Moran came in third in the 1,500 meter run, behind Oregon's two acres Dyrol Burleson and Jim Grelle.

Werner said Moran made some mistakes in the race which proved costly. "Eddie can still make the Olympic team and I think he'll do well too," Werner added.

Moran, by the way, is back on campus taking graduate work and may run for the New York Athletic club when the indoor season begins this winter.

While still on the subject of the Pan-American games, two other Penn State athletes fared well.

Bob Hoover, the captain of the baseball team last spring played shortstop for Uncle Sam's nine and stood out so much that Bill Veack, the owner of the Chicago White Sox made a statement saying Hoover would have been signed by any team if it weren't for his age. He's 27, having been in the Army before coming to Penn State.

Gregg Weiss, who is being groomed to take over Armando Vega's shoes as the top Penn State gymnast, took a first place in side horse competition. He'll be a sophomore this year.

Football Magazine Rates Lucas Tops

Penn State's Richie Lucas will be one of the nation's top 22 football players in 1959.

So predicts Stanley Woodward's Football magazine, which this month named the Nittany Lion quarterback to its Crystal Ball All-American team for the coming grid season. The magazine, compiled by Woodward, sports editor of the New York Herald-Tribune, in cooperation with veteran New York Times sports-writer Joe Sheehan, tabs Don Meredith of S.M.U. as the first-string All-American quarterback for 1959, with Lucas winning the second-team berth.

Woodward and Sheehan also select Penn State tackle Andy Stynchula for their 1959 All-East team, and name Lucas, Stynchula, fullback Pat Botula, and guard Bill Popp among the 65 best players in the East.

Weidenhamer Named Coach at High School

Ron Weidenhamer, former Penn State basketball and baseball ace, has been named head coach of basketball, baseball, and soccer at Greenwood Joint High School, third largest school in Perry County.

The 27-year-old Kutztown native was co-captain of the Nittany Lion cage team for two years, 1953-54 and 1954-55, and helped carry Penn State to a third-place berth in the N.C.A.A. tourney in 1954.

Wettstone Directs Clinic On Teaching Gymnastics

Genn Wettstone, Penn State gymnastics coach, directed a workshop at the University of Wisconsin for secondary and elementary teachers this summer on the methods of teaching basic gymnastics to boys and girls. The gymnastics clinic was held in conjunction with Wisconsin's annual physical education workshop.

MAJOR LEAGUES

By The Associated Press
By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
American League

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, G.B. Rows include Chicago, Cleveland, New York, Detroit, Baltimore, Boston, Kansas City, Washington.

Pitchers

Table with columns: Team, Record. Rows include Chicago at New York, Cleveland at Boston, Detroit at Baltimore.

National League

Table with columns: Team, Record. Rows include Pittsburgh at Chicago, Milwaukee at San Francisco, Cincinnati at Los Angeles.

Sammy's Billiards

Opens at 4 p. m.

Closes at ?

Underneath the Victory Diner on Rt. 322 N.

Seven Matches Scheduled By New Rifle Team

Penn State has added a new sport to its intercollegiate roster. Athletic Director Ernest McCoy announced that a varsity rifle team will compete this season.

Seven intercollegiate matches have been scheduled so far. Home matches will be held at the University rifle range in Recreation Hall.

The head coach is Master Sgt. Joseph Watson, U.S. Army. He will be assisted by Master Sgt. Robert Bradley, U.S. Marines and Staff Sgt. Paul Heide, U.S. Air Force.

Eligibility for the team will be the same as for all other athletics. All students excepting freshmen are eligible. The varsity will be composed of 40 members with the competition limited to the ten outstanding riflemen.

All eligible students interested should report to the rifle range during the first two weeks of school. The range will be open during the following hours: Mondays and Fridays from 4 to 5 p.m., Tuesdays from 1 to 5 p.m., and Thursday from 3 to 5 p.m.

Robertson Will Return To Play at Cincinnati

CINCINNATI (AP)—Oscar Robertson, the University of Cincinnati's two-time All-American basketball player, registered at the school yesterday for his senior year. Robertson's registration put at rest, at least for the time being, recurring rumors that he would withdraw from school and sign a professional contract with the Harlem Globetrotters.

Let's Roll Down To MORRELL'S

You'll find a foot-long Hogie awaiting! It has 10 ingredients applied 13 times—a full 1/4 pound of meat. We deliver until midnight to dorms and in town. Call—AD 8-8381.