Zamperini Wins Mile, 880 in Trojan - Bear Meet

Sets New Records in Brilliant Races

Local track fans listening in on the broadcast of last Saturday's U.S.C.-U.C. track meet at Berkeley heard glowing descriptions of how Louis Zamperini won the mile in the new meet and Berkeley stadium record time of 14m. 13.7s and, just 32 minutes later, spurted to a new 880 mark of 1m. 53.2s.

The Torrance Olympian's brilliant performances put the meet on ice for the Trojans and furnished material for a general salvo of praise from sports writers that was continuing without appreciable decrease in volume even today. Some of the comments on Zamperini's day in Berkeley are published in the adjoining column.

"Louie the Great" as he is being dubbed on Bovard Field taking that title with the grinning embarrassment of one who refuses to let adulation go to his head, won the mile as he pleased. He allowed Powe of the California Bears to lead for two laps, took the lead as they started in the third round and maintained it right down to the tape. Mehlert started the final lap only two yards behind Louie and stuck it out until the final turn when the Torrance Flash poured it on and won breezing while looking over his shoulder.

Had Too Much Kick

Zamperini was a surprise entrant in the 880 just a half-hour later. His victory in that race was, according to Braven Dyer, L. A. Times sportswriter, "a masterpiece of running; both with feet and head." Fully aware that his team-mate Roulac might not have the kick to cope with the driving speed of California's Modisette and Wieman, Louie trailed for one lap, running last in the field of six. Spencer of the Bears was the leader, followed by Roulac and the two Berkeley men.

As they swept into the backstretch, 170 yards from the tape, Zamperini, who had moved up alongside Roulac to encourage him, broke out in a terrific sprint and swept past Spencer. Roulac also moved ahead and both Modisette and Wieman likewise started their sprint for home. Wieman made a heroic effort to overtake the flying Zamperini but it was no use.

Louie had too much kick, according to the northern reports, and sailed into the tape with a yard to spare as both Wieman and Modisette ran the tiring Roulac literally into the ground for he fell flat on his face at the finish.

Zamperini's time in the mile broke the Berkeley stadium record held by Fenske of Wisconsin by two-tenths of a second and it eclipsed the old meet record by 3.3 seconds. Benevidez of S. C. was the former holder of the meet mark. The Torrance distance ace's 880 record topped the old mark, hung up in 1926 by Boyden of California, by 2.7 seconds.

Sportswriters Rap Out High Praises

The flying feet of Louis Zamperini beat out a rhythm last Saturday at Berkeley that was only equalled by the rattle of sports-writers typewriters as they expressed their opinions of the Torrance boy who should climax his distance running by heading the American 1,500-meter team in the Tokyo Olympic Games of 1940.

To Torrance residents who have followed Louie's career from the day he won his first race for the Torrance high school Tartars back in 1933 the sportswriters' pacans of praise were pleasant reading this week. Here are some of the comments that were published:

Braven Dyer's "lead" in his L. A. Times story of the U.S.C.-California meet: "Paced by the great Louis Zamperini, who personally shattered half of the new meet records and wound up as the only double winner of the afternoon, Southern California's track and field forces came thru in customary Trojan style to defeat California, 74¼ to 56¾ before 12,000 fans."

Wins Going Away

Maxwell Stiles in the L. A. Examiner: ". . . . Louie came thru in the shorter race (880) where the Trojan favorite, Phil Roulac, failed. Trojans in the stands were happy that Zamperini had been in there pitching as few but he can pitch . . . Altho he had plenty of time in which to play his field and win almost as he pleased while saving his strength for his later effort, Louis steamed home . . . and won the mile going away and looking over his shoulder.

". . . . Feeling that the meet was well in hand, Coach Dean Cromwell crossed up the boys by using Zamperini in the 880 instead of the two-mile, Louie being sent in merely as 'protection' in case Phil Roulac found trouble. It was well that he did. Louie, doubtless under orders to take it easy providing Roulac had the race in hand, was forced to carry right on thru and win in 1:53.2. Louie appeared to be holding himself back while leading 40 yards from the tape, as if waiting for Roulac to draw alongside.

"Turning his head as a man drew close, Zamperini saw that it was the blue shirt of California Wieman rather than the cardinal of Roulac. And so he merely let out another kink and won going away by about two yards."

A Great Competitor

Charley Paddock Saturday in the L. B. Press-Telegram: "Whether or not Louis Zamperini is good enough to beat all of these boys at Compton, including Lash, is a question which only that meet can answer. However, if Zamperini comes through against California today, as we think he will, he should be an odds-on favorite to take all the boys in the May 20 carnival.

"Zamperini is a great competitor. In spite of his youth and his first year of college varsity competition, the Torrance boy has plenty of experience under his belt. He is the logical man to head the American Olympic team in the 5000 meters at the next Olympic Games. That distance is a little more than three miles. But Zamperini also has the speed and strength to cut under even the mile distance."

On Monday Braven Dyer returned from the meet to write: "Hardly had the San Francisco sportswriters finished panning Dean Cromwell for deceiving (?) them as to strength of his track team than they recalled there was another matter for which the Trojan coach should be "berled in oirl." It seems that they had advertised a match race between Louie Zamperini and Stanislaus Sadaj. Nearly everybody thought they would face each other in the mile or two mile. Sadaj stayed out of the mile, his pet event, and Zamperini dodged the two mile, supposedly his strongest race.

"Some of the scribes were willing to admit under pressure that both Brutus Hamilton, Bear coach, and Cromwell were to blame for their failure to pit the boys against each other, thereby robbing fans of the meet's best natural. But others contended that Cromwell was the chief offender because "California had informed him that Sadaj would not run the mile." According to this method of reasoning Cromwell should have run Zamperini in the two-mile because Hamilton elected to keep Sadaj out of the mile and enter him only in the eight-lap jaunt. I suppose if Hamilton had entered Sadaj in the high jump it would have been up to Dean to switch Louie to this event.

"It sounds silly to me. Cromwell juggled his men to win the meet. Brutus juggled his in an effort to do the same thing. Cromwell got ten points out of Zamperini. Hamilton got five out of Sadaj. The decision goes to Cromwell—or should I say Zamperini?"

TORRANCE FLASH

LOUIS ZAMPERINI

Under the heading of "Zamperini, the Wonder Athlete," Charley Paddock, who once held that title in fact, had this to say about the Torrance Flash in his column Monday in the L. B. Press-Telegram:

"As a sophomore, not yet half way through his first year of varsity competition, Louie Zamperini has already proven himself the finest distance runner ever produced on the Pacific Coast.

"Handled carefully (and I am sure Dean Cromwell will watch out for him in this respect) Zamperini will be the best distance runner in the United States within a year and the best in the world by the time of the next Olympic Games.

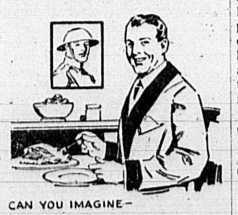
"Louie is capable of doing something which such distance greats as Joie Ray, Paavo Nurmi, Willie Ritola and the present Don Lash were never able to accomplish—run a half mile in close to record time.

"For Zamperini is essentially a DISTANCE runner. The mile is NOT his best race. Perhaps even the two miles will not be his pet event though he will probably break the world's record in the latter event before he is through. Zamperini feels and KNOWS that his best distance is the 5000 meters, which is just a little more than three miles. Zamperini has a fine chance of not only winning the Olympic 5000 meters in 1940, but he might also take the 10,000 meters (6¼ miles)."

SCOUTS IN FIELD

Several local Boy Scouts are participating in camping and hiking activities during this Spring vacation week.

CAN YOU IMAGINE!



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The Herald's Sport Page

MORRIS-MEN DEFEAT LOCAL CLUB, 9 TO 6

Torrance Merchants Fall Before Older Team in Thrilling Tilt

Experience won over youthful enthusiasm last Sunday in the first game between the Torrance Merchants and the Torrance-Lomita Merchants but the 9-to-6 triumph of Walt Morris' veteran baseballers came only after a game filled with thrills in every one of its nine innings. A large crowd of fans left the park hoping that the two local teams will meet again in the very near future.

The Lomita team scored five runs in the first frame after Bob Sleeth, third baseman for Manager Joe Sandland's Merchants, opened the engagement with a single and finally scored on Johnny Rowe's double. The Morris-men added four more in the eighth to finally take the contest.

J. Venable, who was to have met Ky Patalano in a footrace to settle a long-standing dispute as to who is the fastest, was denied an opportunity to humble his rival but he took consolation in his batting performance—three blows in as many trips to the plate.

Race Next Sunday

After that hectic first canto, the Torrance Merchants came back to add up a total of six runs. Then the T-L club produced a couple of squeeze plays, climaxed by Ray Chambers' home run in the last of the eighth to give the Morris club the victory.

Despite the absence of several stars, the T-L team came thru nicely against the Torrance Merchant' stiff opposition. Patalano was absent because he was working, Riley Hamilton, ace first baseman and relief hurler, was called away to Oregon by the sudden death of his father, and Ray Olsen, infielder, has departed to join the Bisbee team of the Arizona State league.

Walt Morris pitched for his club until the seventh when Sandland's boys got to him. He was relieved by Watts. Both allowed the Torrance team 11 hits to lead in this department. Malone pitched for the local club with Al Coast, a regular outfielder, serving his first time as catcher.

The much-hailed foot race between Venable and Patalano will be a feature of next Sunday's game at the city park.

Voting Machines in College

NEW YORK (U.P.)—Hunter College girls are soon to get some first-hand experience in the use of voting machines.

Korean Girl Top Scholar

SILVER BOW, Mont. (U.P.)—Rose Hahn, 13, born of Korean parents won the Silver county scholarship.

Double-Header Here Sunday

A double-header with the fast Bank of America team will be played next Sunday afternoon by Walt Morris' Torrance-Lomita Merchants at the city park diamond.

The Torrance Merchants, managed by Joe Sandland, will travel to the Hermosa stadium to take on the Hermosa Beach city club.

A return game between the two local clubs is scheduled for May 22. The first of the two games here Sunday will start at 1:30 and will be for nine innings. The night-cap will will go for seven cantos. Morris plans to use Patalano, Hamilton and Watts on the mound with Duncan and Kincannon catching. Watts is a local portsider and will probably get the call for the second game.

He Lost the Bet

VALLEJO, Cal. (U.P.)—Charles T. Harris, city employe, bet he could put a lighted match in his mouth while it was filled with gasoline. Immediately following the demonstration, he was rushed to the city hospital.

BASKETBALL

In Merchants' League

Results of basketball games played by teams in the Torrance Merchants' league during the past week were:

Last Thursday: Gardena won from Paxman's Hardware, 42 to 35; the National Supply defeated the A. & P., 42 to 30, and Merrill's eased over the National Home Appliance, 35 to 34.

Tuesday night: Paxman's topped Merrill's 22 to 19, and the National Supply beat Gardena, 36 to 32.

Woman, 96, Makes Lace

CLEVELAND (U.P.)—Mrs. Martha Kennedy Code is 96 years old but she still is active enough to sew fine Irish point lace.

Sentenced to Church

BELLINGHAM, Wash. (U.P.)—A longshoreman here has been sentenced to regular church attendance on an assault conviction.

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TO ALL VOTERS:

• I wish to thank all of those who gave me their support in my candidacy for city council. Their loyalty is worth far more than the number of votes they expressed. To Councilman James Hitchcock and Councilman-elect John V. Murray I extend my congratulations and best wishes for a continued harmonious municipal adminstration.

(Signed) Wallace H. Gilbert

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Blue Grass STRAIGHT BOURBON 3 Years Old Pt. $1.25 Qt. $2.45

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SAVE MORE NOW!

Reg. 98¢ Split Bamboo LUNCH BASKET 77¢ 15x12½x10¼ inches. Strong and light, with double handle, fasteners, clip and peg

Reg. 44¢ DUTCH OVEN 29¢ Pressed steel. 13¼x8½x5 inches over all. Drip top. Steam escape. Roasts, stews, steams, boils. C392

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PENN SUPREME Finest 100% Pure Pennsylvania De-Waxed, Double Distilled, Specially Filtered. Equal to 35c per quart oils, in your can. Per Gallon 56c

Wear-well 100% Pure Pennsylvania Efficient lubrication. In your can. Per Gallon 48c

LONG RUN Carefully refined . . . finest Western oil, in your can . . . 27c Gal.

Empty Cans Loaned on Small Deposit. EMPTY CANS LOANED ON SMALL DEPOSIT

Prices slightly higher in some localities because of freight.

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4-Door Sedan ..... $3.18 to $3.78
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