

GENE LITTLER BREAKS 440 RECORD

Three New Records Set At Tech Relays

Illinois Tech Team Betters '40 Effort

By Don Keigher

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other competitors in a close decision. Illinois Tech's valiant team placed sixth in this event for one of the two events in which they placed.

Littler Wins Dash

The evening activities started with the dashes in which the crowd was keyed to a high pitch with the possibility of a new record by the red headed speedster of Nebraska, Gene Littler. Although garnering a first he was above his old time of :07.1. Wilson Junior's Lewis Taylor, a member of the winning junior college sprint medley team, led a large field all the way to cop the college division dash event.

Immediately after Littler's let-down performance in the dash the crowd was brought to its feet as Chicago's two mile relay team almost nosed out Kansas State in this distance. Kansas state led by a large margin until the anchor man, Ray Randall of Chicago, started his leg. He steadily closed the gap and finished about two feet behind the fast tiring Kansas State man, Frank Durham.

Tilden Sets Record

Not to be given a moment's rest the crowd watched breathlessly as Tilden's Blue and Gold thin-clads punched out a new mark in the half mile relay. This team of Stanley Gay, Earl Prince, Frank Montgomery, and Alfred Grochwalke set a new record with a time of 1:35.4 to top Austin's 1938 time of 1:35.7.

Littler became the evening's first double winner as he walked off with the 440 by a large margin. Shortly after Gene's record another double winner was crowned as Sommerfield of Michigan Normal took both ends of the hurdles in the college division.

Bob Kahler, of Nebraska, pulled a surprise in the university division hurdles as he beat out Joe Finch and Charles Horvath, of Northwestern in the lows. In the highs the predicted winners came through and here Finch and Horvath placed first and second, respectively. In the lows a new arrangement was used for the second time in an official meet. This set up has six flights of hurdles with three steps between instead of the conventional arrangement of three flights of hurdles with six steps between. Kahler equalled the existing American indoor record of :07.9.

Unknown Ties For First

The pole vault, as usual, furnished many thrills and above all many upsets. Ed Thistlethwaite, the Tech Relay's record holder at 13'11½" dropped out at thirteen feet six inches to gain a tie for first. His co-holder of first place was Bob Kincheloe, a cocky little lad from Chicago who had never gone over thirteen feet in his life till last Saturday night.

Bill Williams, the Big Ten's champion was off form because of a sore ankle, as he dropped out at thirteen feet for a third in the stick riders' event.

The crowd streamed out of the stands at the end of the last relay to watch Thistlethwaite and Kincheloe go for their last tries at the thirteen six mark and sighed with disappointment as both boys missed. So, ended a thrilling evening that saw two records broken and a new one set.

Another Tech Relays goes into the pages of sport history. Another group of outstanding college and university track men have matched strides and strength in the climaxing collegiate meet of the indoor season. Among these many athletes were a few of our own Illinois Tech fleet-footed competitors.

Competitor's Dream

From that bitterly fought college two-mile relay in the afternoon to the suspended final try of Bobbie Kincheloe in the pole vault the meet was a competitor's dream or should we say, nightmare. Every event had so many good men that it was truly a tournament of champions.

We Techawks didn't quite live up to genial John Schommer's buildups. He threatened Bob Osborne and myself in the afternoon by saying that every brilliant Techawk must be in the finals at night. Osborne took him seriously but this scribe wasn't in it after those two blistering heats in the hurdles. Dick Barry deserved the title "Lucky Boy" for the means he had of getting into the semifinals of the low hurdles.

Sprint Medley Outstanding

The various relays events were all one could ask for; not a mediocre one in the lot. The stretch drive of Ray Randall, Chicago ace runner really roused the crowd in the two mile relay.

TABLE OF POINTS

UNIVERSITY			
1 Wisconsin	44½	6 Nebraska	23
2 Illinois	41½	7 Kansas	17
3 Marquette	31½	8 Drake	16
4 Chicago	29½	9 Mich. State	8
5 Northwestern	25	10 Wayne	2

COLLEGE			
1 Mich. Nor.	57	10 Ia. Tech.	8
2 No. Ill.	55	11 Lawrence	7 5/7
3 Coe	52	12 Lincoln	16
4 Milw'kee T.	19	13 C.St.Tech	2 2/7
5 Chl. Teach.	12	14 Knox	3 2/7
6 No. Central	12	15 Ill. Tech	3
7 Carleton	10	16 Loyola (Chi)	2 6/7
8 Yankton	9	17 Culver Sp'n	3/7
9 Wilson	8½	18 W. St. Teach	3/7

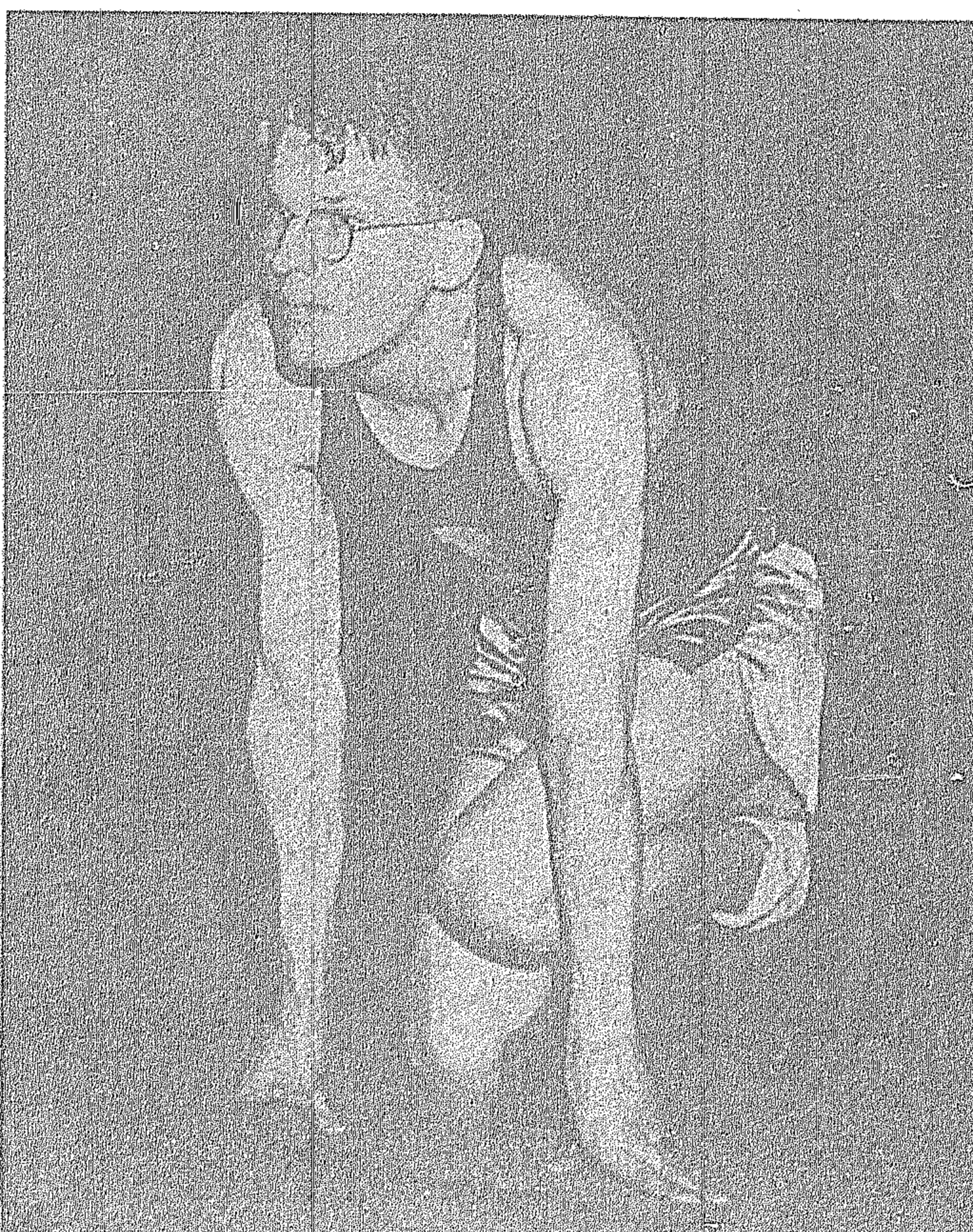
Of course, the big event of the evening for we Techawks was Bob Osborne's third in the college quarter mile. When he swung in to second place on the first turn we knew he would get a place. Before the race Bob was so nervous, manager Earl Huebner thought he might have to carry him to the starting blocks. This nervousness only made Bob faster because he ran that quarter in :52.2 which is only a second slower than the school record. Who says IIT does not have at least one good trackman, despite the fact that the red-headed Nebraskan, Littler, romped through a quarter mile in :49.3?

Pole Vault Sparkles

The pole vault was again a sparkling event on the program. When brush-headed Bobbie Kincheloe made that terrific jump every fellow on our team was as happy as if "Kinch" was our own team mate. Johnnie Elwood narrowly escaped injury when the jinx of all vaulters occurred. Johnnie's vaulting pole broke as he attempted to clear 11'6".

It was a great meet and a real spectacle. The only thing lacking were some gorgeous beauty queens. From the viewpoint of our own team. We think the improved showing of our Techawks in this year's Relays only points to a much better squad for next year. If you don't think we're an improved group loop up the 1940 Relay's showing. We were really bad then.

ON YOUR MARK!



Tech's Bob Osborne

Staff Photo by Anderson

TABLE OF SUMMARIES

UNIVERSITY DIVISION

70-yard dash: (1) Gene Littler, Nebraska; (2) Howard Millen, Marquette; (3) David Sorgel, Wisconsin. Time, :07.3
Two mile relay: (1) Kansas State (James John, Rufus Miller, Wilfred Burnham, Loyal Pane); (2) Chicago; (3) Wisconsin. Time, 8:03.4
Sprint medley relay: (1) Illinois (Don Bailey, Jack Turner, Bill Lewis, Park Brown); (2) Wisconsin; (3) Marquette; (4) Drake. Time, 3:32.8
70-yard high hurdles: (1) Charles Horvath, Northwestern; (2) Joe Finch, Northwestern; (3) Robert Kahler, Nebraska. Time, :08.9.
440-yard run: (1) Gene Littler, Nebraska; (2) Byron Zolin, Wisconsin; (3) Sam Johnson, Kansas State. Time, :49.3 (New record. Old record of :49.4 set by Wagner of North Central in 1939.)
Shot Put: (1) George Paskvan, Wisconsin; (2) Robert Bierle, Wisconsin; (3) Hugh Rendleman, Chicago. 47 ft. 9½ in.
70-yard low hurdles: (1) Robert Kahler, Nebraska; (2) Charles Horvath, Northwestern; (3) Clyde Hale, Illinois. Time, :07.9 (New record, because this is first time six flights of hurdles have been used.)
880-yard run: (1) Park Brown, Illinois; (2) Don Johnson, Northwestern. Time, 1:59.6.
One mile relay: (1) Marquette; (2) Michigan St.; (3) Illinois. Time, 3:24.8
High jump: (1) Ray, Chicago; Tied for second Don Smith, Northwestern and Dick Moreau, Wisconsin. 6 ft. 2 in.
Pole Vault: Tied for first, Ed Thistlethwaite, Northwestern and Bob Kincheloe, Chicago; (3) Bill Williams, Wisconsin. 13 ft. 3 in.
One mile run: (1) Robert Ginn, Nebraska; (2) Ely Francis, Marquette; (3) Howard Schoenike, Wisconsin. Time, 4:19.0.

COLLEGE DIVISION

Two mile relay: (1) Michigan Normal; (2) Coe college, (3) Milwaukee Teachers; (4) Northern Illinois Teachers (DeKalb); (5) Central State Teachers; (6) Illinois Tech. Time, 8:16.3.
One mile relay: (1) Northern Illinois Teachers; (2) Coe; (3) Michigan Normal. Time, 3:30.9.
70-yard dash: (1) Lewis Taylor, Wilson; (2) Henry Springs, Chicago Teachers; (3) Daniel Roberts, Knox. Time, :07.4
440-yard run: (1) Bill Terwilliger, Northern Illinois Teachers; (2) John Affillisch, Coe; (3) Bob Osborne, Illinois Tech. Time, :50.6
70-yard high hurdles: (1) Don Sommerfield, Michigan Normal; (2) Vorn Bredow, Iowa Teachers; (3) Warren Grunert, Carleton. Time, :09.0
70-yard low hurdles: (1) Don Sommerfield, Michigan Normal; (2) Richard Gaarde, Carleton; (3) Tetzlaff, Milwaukee Tchrs. Time, :08.3
Shot put: (1) Vincent Jones, Lawrence; (2) Thad Kawalek, Northern Illinois Teachers; (3) Henry Kneil, Northern Illinois Teachers. 45 ft. ½ in.
One mile run: (1) Bill Davis, Coe; (2) Virgil Grace, Yankton College (South Dakota); (3) Frank Durham, Michigan Normal. Time, 4:31.5
880-yard run: (1) Verl Heiter, Yankton; (2) Arthur Willis, Michigan Normal; (3) Irwin Nelson, Coe. Time, 2:01.3
Sprint medley relay: (1) Michigan Normal; (2) Chicago Teachers; (3) Northern Illinois Teachers. Time, 3:42.2
High jump: (1) Winston Rogers, Lincoln; (2) Henry Bledsoe, Wilson Junior and Robert Eckenrod, Milwaukee Teachers. 6 ft. 3½ in.
Pole vault: Tied for first, Harold Stein, Michigan Normal and Jack Preston, North Central. Height 13' 0"
Chicago City High school half mile relay: (1) Tilden Tech; (2) Englewood; (3) Schurz; (4) Lake View. Time, 1:35.3 (New record; old record, Austin 1938; 1:35.7)
Junior College sprint medley: (1) Wilson; (2) La Grange; (3) Maine Township. Time, 3:48.9

Compiled by John Butkus.

NOTABLES REVEAL MANNERISMS TO TECH REPORTER

By Morgan Fitch Jr.

Gene Littler was on the rub-down table when asked for a picture of himself running. He said he would be glad to pose and reached down to the floor for his shoes. Up come the shoes, a small pair of cowboy boots. When asked if they would fit, he replied, "They ought to, I have been wearing them since I was seven years old." So, with the cowboy boots the Relays had the western touch.

Drake Man Breaks Leg

On the tragic side, Hal Nugent of Drake broke his left leg in the pole vault event. He could not get straightened out coming down and the left leg got twisted under him. Hal is a graduate of Senn high and is now a junior at Drake.

Nebraska Has Rooters

The men from Nebraska had a small but noisy delegation in the stands. The group consisted of boys from Nebraska in the navy. They were on liberty from Great Lakes Training station and "Uncle John" Schommer gave them passes. One of the boys gave a good explanation why the Kansas State men won the two mile relay. He said the Kansas boys go out and race jack rabbits every morning. Maybe there is something to it.

Ray Randall of the University of Chicago pulled the thriller of the evening. The former Bowen high lad closed a five yard gap in the two mile relay and almost won the event.

John Schommer, 'King of the Relays' added to his list of experiences Saturday night. He also kept the officials posted as to the best stories of the year. The impossible is to find John without an appropriate story for any occasion.

Sonny Weissman turned prophet Saturday night. The funny thing is that he picked the university mile right, but missed the time by several seconds. He was probably in cahoots with Ginn of Nebraska, the winner.

Pole Riders Reach 13'3"

When Bob Kincheloe of Chicago went over the pole vault at 13'3", the explosion after that was indescribable. For the sake of the field house ceiling it was almost a good thing that he did not clear 13'6". Bob is about five feet nine with short cropped black hair. He is a sophomore at U. of C., majoring in industrial relations. Private school, Oak Park, and U. high pole vault records are held by him. Kincheloe also holds many hurdle records, too. His tie for first place with Ed Thistlethwaite made him the happiest man in the world.

Bibb Hard Worker

Mr. Sam Bibb should be given the award of the hardest working judge. Why? Well, he watched the pole vault event all evening.

There were no cups in the university division. Three cups were offered to the colleges. The first place trophy was about two feet high with an athlete on top with an olive wreath upraised. The trophy was all silver plated. The second and third place awards were about the same only smaller. "The Thirteenth Relays were one of the most successful events ever run," says Alexander Schreiber. All those who saw the events will back up that statement.