

On the Rebound

By Fred Nicholas

SC Sports Editor

The name "Riverside" usually connotes one meaning to Trojan sports fans—Jesse Mortensen. As coach of Riverside junior college, Mortensen has made the city famous on the University of Southern California campus. Rated by Dean Cromwell, SC track coach, as the greatest athlete to attend Troy, Mortensen has left a record at the Los Angeles institution that will never be forgotten.

He enrolled at SC in 1927 and during the ensuing years earned varsity letters in four major sports—football, track, basketball, and baseball. Mortensen's favorite sport was track and in 1930 was elected captain of the team. His greatest feats in athletic competition were accomplished as a javelin thrower on the track squad. Consistently over 200 feet, Mortensen garnered a string of championships a mile long.

Outstanding championships on the Mortensen bid for fame were the senior AAU championship in 1929—AAU decathlon in 1931—NCAA in 1929—In the same year he was the only Trojan winner in the IC4A as SC took fourth place.

JAYSEE NOTES—It's the exception rather than the rule when a junior college athlete makes the grade on a large university football team, but it seems the Orange Empire conference jaysees may provide a couple of those exceptions next year.

For instance, there's Paul Taylor, one of the few bright lights in San Bernardino's rather drab season last year, who has been making the coaching staff at SC sit up and take notice every time he steps back to throw one of his left-handed bullet passes.

He incidentally has been alternating on the first team with Troy's all-American candidate, Bobby Robertson, during the spring practice sessions.

Santa Ana jaysee makes quite a contribution to the Trojan cause with Tackle Jimmie Crowther, and Ends Dick Gunther and Bob Schildmeyer have been on the receiving end of a large number of Taylor's passes.

RED FRANKENSTEIN—It has been rumored along the grape vine that Clark Shaughnessy, Stanford football coach, has started his grid worrying early this year. It seems that Shaughnessy has come to the conclusion that he may have created a football Frankenstein that will menace his Stanford Indians this season. Because of the success his "T" formation enjoyed last year, the Indian coach believes that many of the coast conference teams will shift to this brand of play and consequently, Stanford will be stacked up against its own system.

Shaughnessy credited Howard Jones and his Trojan football team with the most ingenious defense of the year. SC used a five-man sliding line against the Indians in which the linemen screened rather than attempted to break through the defense.

DIAMOND DIRT—Pepper Martin, although not enshrined in baseball's Hall of Fame, nevertheless has won a niche in a museum. A portrait of Martin, former St. Louis Cardinal star and now manager of the Sacramento Solons, hangs in the St. Louis Art museum. Critics call it a great piece of work.

Baseball, not bull fighting, is Mexico's major sport. There are more than 1000 diamond teams in Mexico City alone. From now on sports fans, when a native of Mexico rattles off baseball terms, he's not throwing the bull around.

Boston's National League baseball team used a unique method of acquiring the nickname "Bees." The name was selected by a committee of sports writers who acted as judges of a list of cognomens submitted by fans back in 1936. The names included things from Ajax to Zebra.

LINING 'EM UP

(Guest columnist Fred Nicholas, U. S. C. Daily Trojan sports editor)

Mutterings from a reporter who watched the Redlands high school track team in action for the first time yesterday . . .

With the grim determination of a neophyte journalist on his first assignment, this reporter blazed out of the Facts office headed for the Terrier field. Perhaps the fates led him astray because the next thing he knew he was watching little boys high jump.

A young man with blond hair attracted our reporter's attention, and upon closer scrutiny it proved to be Payton Jordan, '39 U. S. C. track captain. After a period of reminiscence with the former Trojan, he informed us that we were watching Redlands junior high school in action.

CLEWETT STARS

After this reporter finally reached the scene of the high school meet, he watched with great interest the performances of Bud Clewett, local sophomore sprinter. Clewett ran two beautiful races in the 100 and 220-yard dashes and should make a welcome addition to Coach Worden Nollar's varsity squad next year.

One of those embarrassing moments occurred after the running of the 100-yard dash. Clewett breezed in about five feet ahead of his nearest rival and all three timers caught him as he streaked across the finish line. When the timers compared watches they found that only two watches had actually recorded the speed of the event. One watch read 10.8 and the other one registered a phenomenal 10.1. The third timer had neglected to start his watch at the beginning of the race. The result was a compromise and the time for the race was listed as 10.4.

After the century was run, this reporter walked over to the judges desk and met another Trojan alumnus. This time it was Ernie Paine, coach of the Chaffey track team. Coach Paine was captain of the U. S. C. track team in 1931 and for several years held the Bovard field record of 23.4 in the low hurdles. His mark was smashed two years ago by Earl Vickery, former IC4A champion.

CROMWELL THEORY

Coach Paine was instructing his 220-yard dash men on how to run the race. His advice was to sprint the first 50 yards, stride the next 100 yards, and sprint the last 50 yards.

That seemed like good advice to this reporter, and he questioned Coach Paine on the theory. He answered, "Heck, that isn't my theory, Coach Dean Cromwell of U. S. C. taught me that 11 years ago, and it still works."

The mile race provided a laugh. On the second lap, a Redlands runner was in first place and one was in last place. When the last-place man passed the starting mark for second time, about 25 yards behind the field, he cupped his hand to his ear and yelled, "What was the time on that lap?"