

Championship Swim Meet Adds New Event ^{7/28}

The third annual Town of Amherst swim championships have been again set for the Park School outdoor pool, August 18 and 19. Entry blanks were published for the first time in last week's BEE and again today. In addition, blanks will be distributed throughout the town at neighborhood stores where the swim poster is displayed, and at all of the village and town playgrounds.

Marta Weast, 39 S. Union Road, Williamsville, and Don Sherer, 275 Ayer Road, were the first to get their entries in to director of the meet, Herbert J. Mols. Plans are under way to handle as large an entry as the entries warrant. Time trials and semi-finals will be held on the 18th with the 19th set aside for all of the Finals.

In addition to the Town meet, the committee in charge has been at work assembling a team to represent the town in the Junior Olympic championships for Erie County and Buffalo pools which will be held at the Kensington pool, Saturday, August 13. Amherst swimmers entered the meet last year for the first time and brought home the championship banner. Anyone interested in representing our Town should contact Mr. Mols, Mr. Bedell at the Island, or Mr. Tierney, A. C. H. S. swimming coach.

The new event scheduled in the Senior class this year is the Exchange club 160 yard individual medley in which a swimmer will swim 4 legs, including the breast, back, butterfly and free style. This is considered the most arduous test in swimming and fills a request of last year's competitors.

Entry blanks must be received by Mr. Mols by August 12.

Buffalo's NYAC Star, Berst, to Perform In Meet Tonight ¹⁰

Frank Berst, probably Western New York's most muscular man, will throw the 16-pound hammer throw this evening in the second of the three Olympic development track and field meets being held on the Williamsville High School Field. The first event at 5:30 o'clock will be the 3000-meter walk.

Berst, who lives at 592 Minnesota Ave., is one of Buffalo's most unsung athletes. That's because he competes for the New York Athletic Club, commuting all over the nation to big track meets which feature the hammer and weight throws.

But it was in Buffalo that the former Bennett High and Manhattan College behemoth, now a 39-year-old 260-pounder at 6 feet 5 inches, set a world 56-pound weight throw record of 41 feet 10½ inches. That was in the 1947 Buffalo Firefighters' Games.

Berst's mark since has been broken. It now is 435½. But if you like to watch "picture" athletes in action, then Berst is your man as he whirls his big frame round and round before he looses the 16-pound hammer.

Olympic Development Track Meets Scheduled ^{9/28}

As part of a nationwide plan of the AAU to stimulate interest in the coming Olympic games of 1956, to be held in Australia in November, 1956, Herbert J. Mols is organizing three twilight track meets for the track and field enthusiasts of the Niagara district of the AAU.

The first meet will be held at Kenmore Jr. High School field, next Wednesday, August 3rd, at 5:30 P. M. The second will be held at Williamsville the following Wednesday, August 10 and the final will be held at the Park School, Wednesday, August 17.

The first two meets will be divided among all of the Olympic events, both track and field. All events will be run from scratch, and will be run at the Olympic metric distances. In addition, a decathlon will be contested with three events being run off at each of the first two meets and the final four events finished at the Park School. The meet will include such events as the usual track and field events plus javelin, hammer throw, hop step and jump and steeplechase. Walking events and special events for women in the dashes and jumps will be included.

The decathlon is expected to attract the best all-round athletes in the area and school coaches have been asked to line up such potential "Bob Mathias" prospects.

Entries for the first meet and for the decathlon will be due to Mr. Mols Saturday, July 30. Entry blanks may be obtained at the Buffalo Evening News; Downtown YMCA and at 99 Chateau Terrace, telephone CI. 1651.

Also on this evening's 15-event program will be three decathlon tests—the 110-yard high hurdles, the 100-meter dash and the 16-pound shot-put.

ENTRIES TO CLOSE WEDNESDAY NOON FOR TRACK MEET

Entries will close at noon Wednesday for the Olympic Development Track and Field Meet to be held at 5:30 o'clock Wednesday evening on the Kenmore Junior High School Field. This is one of three such meets being sponsored by The Buffalo Evening News and the Niagara District AAU to develop talent for the 1956 Olympic Games in Australia.

Besides the first three of ten decathlon events — broad-jump, pole vault and 400-meter run—other events on Wednesday's program are: 100-, 400- and 1500-meter runs; 10,000-meter walk, 400-meter low hurdles, high-jump, running hop-step-and-jump; discus, 16-pound shot-put and the women's high-jump and women's 100-meter dash.

Entries close with Herb Mols, 99 Chateau Ter., Snyder, CI. 1651.

Buffalo's Olympic Threat; Witherspoon In Hop, Step, Jump

Want to see the Buffalo-area's best bet for the 1956 Olympics in Australia?

Then attend tomorrow evenings first of three Western New York Olympic development track-and-field meets on the Kenmore Junior High School field.

And look for a respected, scholarly-looking fellow named Ben Witherspoon. He'll be competing in the running hop, step and jump.

This is an event seldom seen hereabouts but a fixture in the Olympic Games.

Blazin' Ben's emergence as a hop, step and jumper will raise eyebrows because he first gained fame as Emerson High School's record-breaking all-vocational sprint champion. Then Ben went away to the Army. Last year he not only won the interservice hop, step-and-jump title, but he also posted the best American mark in 1954—48 feet, 3¼ inches.

The first event tomorrow, according to Meet-director Herb Mols, will be the 10,000-meter walk at 5:30 o'clock. This will be followed by 13 other events, including two for women—100 meters and a high-jump—and three of the standard ten decathlon tests—broad jump, pole-vault and a 400-meters run.

One of the decathlon entrants is Walt Gibbs, a 16-year-old Nichols School student who towers 6 feet, 1 inch and weighs 170 pounds. The meets are sponsored by The Buffalo Evening News and the Niagara District AAU.



B. Witherspoon

1500-METER RUN TOPS PRE-OLYMPIC TRACK MEET HERE

The 1500-meter run looms as one of the outstanding events in the Western New York Olympic development track meet this afternoon and evening on the Kenmore Junior High School field. The first event is scheduled for 5:30 o'clock.

Four entries from the Downtown Y Track Club, including Frank Finnerty, the all-high mile champion from Tech, and Ed Moran of Kane, Pa., are in the 1500-meter event. George Burghen and Willie Gagnon also are entered. The meets are sponsored by The Buffalo Evening News and the Niagara District AAU. The complete program follows:

5:30 P. M.—1000-meter walk; 6 P. M.—women's high jump, decathlon broad jump; 16-pound shot-put.
6:15 P. M.—400-meter low hurdles, 100-meter dash, women's 100-meter dash.
Following in order are: Running hop, step and jump; decathlon pole vault; high jump, discus; 1500-meter run, 400-meter run, 100-meter dash final, decathlon 400-meter run.