

# EX-TROJAN SETS MARK

## *Bill Shatters Own Standard*

*Leaps 14ft. 5 5-8in. in High  
Light of Annual Santa  
Barbara Open*

BY BILL HENRY

SANTA BARBARA, April 27. (Exclusive)—"You'd think that when a fellow cleared 6ft. 8in. in the high jump, as springy, skinny Cornelius Johnson did here this afternoon, he'd rate a little attention from a mob of track fans.

But he didn't.

### WORLD'S RECORD

Cornelius made the grave technical error of doing his stuff at the precise moment chosen by Mister William Graber of Ontario, Cal., to bust his own world's record in the pole vault by soaring to the unbelievable height of 14ft. 5 5-8in., an inch and a quarter higher than his own world's record made in the Olympic try-outs of 1932.

On any other day Cornelius Johnson would have been a hero and his colored buddy who spent the afternoon holding the great Negro jumper's sweat clothes would have had something big to brag about for Johnson's feat was one of the greatest jumps in history.

But he chose the wrong day and the wrong place to do it.

### GREAT CLIMAX

Graber's great vault was the climax of a series of magnificent efforts by the former Trojan track star who completed his college competition some time ago but will receive his diploma this June.

Going from one height to the next Graber cleared the bar on his first attempt at every height, and, after shaking off Massie and Valentine, the two U.C.L.A. vaulters, at the fourteen-foot mark, the bar was raised to the measured height of 14ft. 5 5-8in., while the crowd gasped at the audacity of a mere man attempting to scale such a dizzy height.

### NOT AWED

But Graber alone of all the folks gathered on the field and in the stands for the fifth annual field meet was not awed. Striding down the runway and gathering momentum he jabbed the long pole into the wooden slot at the foot of the vaulting standards and leaped toward the sky.

Under the pressure of his 180 pounds the thin pole seemed to bend almost double as, like a monkey on a stick, the pink-cheeked athlete swung his feet high above his head, arched his body in a graceful jack-knife and dropped into the heaping pile of sawdust, holder of a new world's record.

The crowd screamed, officials dropped everything and scurried over to the bar, Referee Bob Weaver scaled a teetering stepladder with a steel tape and finally announced that a new world's record had been made.

### GREAT SHOW

It was a great show!

As a matter of fact, he came close to having an even better mark for later on in the afternoon they put the bar at 14ft. 7 1-8in. and Graber came within a whisker of clearing it on his third trial. It was a big day for the ex-Trojan, whose entire preparation for today's performance consisted in half a dozen work-

# GRABER SETS VAULT MARK

*Bill Leaps 14ft. 5 5/8in.  
in Feature of Annual  
Santa Barbara Open*

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outs, about a week apart, during the last couple of months while trying to finish up his college work for a degree. It was really too bad for some of the other performers that Graber chose this meet for his new record as there were a lot of other very fine things accomplished by contestants of various shapes, sizes and colors in Peabody Stadium.

## LOSES THUNDER

Johnson, who as a schoolboy tied for first place in the 1932 Olympic high jump, was in wonderful form. He cleared 6ft. 6in. without even taking off the long wrauer that encased his bony legs and at 6ft. 8in. he had plenty of height but hit the bar with an errant arm and only a miracle kept the stick on the uprights. He even came very close in three attempts at 6ft. 9in. but Graber's great feat stole all the thunder from his marvelous leaping.

Another long lean colored boy by the name of Mack Robinson, an ineligible ninth semester student at Muir Teach in Pasadena, amazed the crowd with his sprinting. He dashed down the turf fairway in the 100-yard dash to beat all the college runners easily in 9.8s. and followed this with a furlong around a turn in 21.4s. one of the best marks ever made around a bend. He also jumped 23ft. 7 1/2in. for a second place in the broad jump. It was quite an afternoon for Mack.

## STRODE STARS

Still another mighty colored gentleman named Strode, who is taking some kind of an extension course at U.C.L.A. and hopes eventually to be a freshman there, gave the weight men an extension course in shot-putting when he heaved the 16-pound iron bulb 48ft. 10 1/2in. to beat the best varsity men in these parts.

Altogether it was a great afternoon for the boys running unattached and they piled up a point to more than swamp the best efforts of the college and high school athletes. Among the unattached athletes, however, were several of Dean Cronwell's Trojan varsity stars who for some reason or other were not representing their school today.

Johnson, Trojan varsity half-miler, won the 440-yard dash in 49.2s., beating Sam Eastman's record of 49.5 made a year ago and Carpenter, Trojan discus champion, took the platter event with a toss of approximately 156ft. He had one throw of better than 160ft. but for some reason decided that it wasn't very good and walked out of the front of the ring, automatically making the toss a foul.

## FIELD APPROVED

Along in the twilight a group of sharp pencilled surveyors completed an examination of the pole vault runway and after hearing their findings, Referee Weaver said that he considered Graber's vault a legitimate record and would make official application to the International Federation for recognition of the mark.

The runway was slightly down hill, dropping about a foot in 100 feet, and the ground from which Graber leaped was a fraction more than two inches higher than the vaulting box. Expert Weaver said that he did not consider these conditions of sufficient importance to nullify the new record.