LOCAL OLYMPIC TIMBER

BY FRANK FINCH

Following in the footsteps of the immortal Bud Houser, one of the greatest weight stars of all time, is Kenny Carpenter, the Compton Hercules, who appears to be a lead-pipe cinch to make the American Olympic team this summer.

Dean Cromwell has had few great weightmen at Troy, but the boys he has developed certainly could pick up a pack of points in anybody's track meet. Houser was supreme in the discus and shot when in his prime; Carpenter, while no shucks as a shot putter, stands head and shoulders (literally and figuratively) over the country's platter pitchers.

A physical giant, Carpenter is 6ft. 3½in. tall and has 225 pounds of brawn spread over his Herculean frame. Just a mere lad of 21, he'll be a whopper when he grows up.

DEAN BOOSTED HIM

Kenny became interested in the discus event while attending Compton High School; his best prep mark was approximately 135ft. Under the Cromwellian influence, however, he has heaved the saucer well over 160ft. on many occasions, his best mark being 167.55ft., made in the recent Long Beach relays. Carpenter is said to have exceeded 170ft. in practice several times, but I guess 167.55ft. will do until he officially passes the 170ft. mark—the dream of all discus heavers.

The Cherokee-German giant won the I.C.4-A., N.C.A.A. and national A.A.U. championships last year, and as a reward was invited to tour Europe with the American A.A.U. team. He'll be making his second voyage across the Atlantic to Berlin this summer unless all sign fail.

TRIED GRID SPORT

Kenny once aspired to be a football player but his grid career was cut short when he suffered a neck injury during his freshman year. Gamely he reported for varsity football the next season, but was advised to drop out of football and carry on with his ability as a weightman.

Like his cousin, Tay Brown, former captain of the Trojan grid varsity, who now is head coach at Cincinnati University, Carpenter wants to be a track coach when he graduates this year.

Kenny Carpenter