

LOCAL OLYMPIC TIMBER

BY FRANK FINCH

Roy Staley, gaunt and gangling timber topper from Santa Monica, is hopeful of winning a berth on the American Olympic track-and-field team this summer, but he's going to run into the toughest kind of competition, for America has an imposing array of high hurdlers.



Roy Staley

The stolid U.S.C. junior, co-holder of the unofficial world's record of 14.2s., must match strides with not only his great team-mate, Phil Cope, but such formidable foes as Sammy Klopstock, Sam Allen, Tom Moore and Leroy Kirkpatrick.

Cope, Moore and Kirkpatrick are the other three co-holders of that sparkling 14.2s. mark.

Although Staley generally chases Cope into the tape by a matter of inches, Roy comes through with a winning effort on his own hook once in a while and he must be reckoned as a potential Olympic point-winner.

Before coming under Dean Cromwell's wing, Staley was a great prep hurdler and his coach was none other than that peerless Pomona College athlete of years and years ago, Charley (Farmer) Daggs.

At Samohi Staley set a Bay League hurdle record and won both highs and lows in meet after meet for several years. He trimmed Kirkpatrick, then a member of El Centro's four-man State championship team, to win the State high hurdle crown in 14.8s.

Staley's college efforts include a third in the 110-meter highs of last year's I.C.4-A. meet and a fourth in the N.C.A.A. 110-yard event. He and Cope ran a dead heat in the Ohio State-S.C. meet and were clocked in 14.2s.