

Plessas Captures Three Events As Lowell Grabs Prep Track Title

By Don Selby

Pressed only once, Jim Plessas romped to three first places and earned his relay team a tie for first to power Lowell High's Indians to their fourth consecutive San Francisco High School track and field championship at Kezar Stadium yesterday.

With Plessas spearheading a one-two-four drive in the low barriers and Don Carlson, George Abley and Bill Friedrichs running one-two-three for the Indians in the 440, Lowell won five first places outright and tied for another to annex its ninth City Meet crown in the last nine years with a 47½ point total.

Balboa's challenge fell short. The Bucs garnered two clear-cut firsts, two first place ties and wound up with 35 points for second place.

Lincoln was third with 24½, followed by Washington's 22, St. Ignatius' 18½, Polytechnic's 16, Commerce's 15½, Galileo's 12 and Mission's 4.

WASHINGTON NABS TWO.

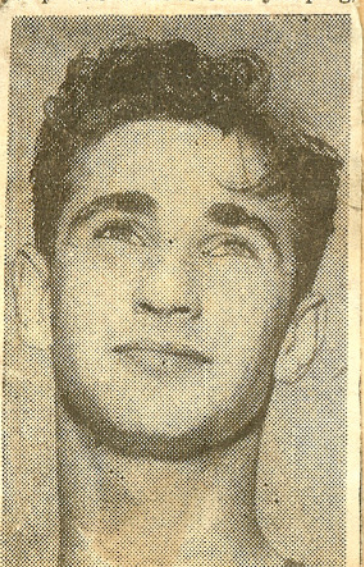
Washington High Eagles captured both lightweight division crowns, tallying 46½ points to Lowell's 36½ in the 130 exponent class and 23 points to 16 for Lincoln in the 120 exponent division. Also, Washington's Mike Fanzone accounted for the only record eclipse of the day. The 120 exponent whizz skipped over the 120 yard low hurdles in 14.5 seconds, a tenth of a second better than the record he established in the trials.

Balboa's unlimiteds hoped to get about nine points from Ward Wilson and Ralph DeLaTorre in the pole vault. Instead they garnered only three. That, plus a few minor disappointments, kept the Bucs from giving Lowell the battle that was advertised despite better than expected performances by Jimmy Van Zant, Francis Tull and the relay team.

PLESSAS STANDOUT.

Individually, of course, Plessas was the hero of the day. Incidentally, the Card sensation, who set two meet records and bettered a State standard in the trials, told us yesterday that he will enter University of California in the fall.

First off, he had the broad jump won without even jumping.



JIM PLESSAS

Three Victories Plus . . .

his record 23 foot 10 inch leap in the trials being more than good enough.

Then he coasted home in the 100, beating Washington's Al Jones by three yards. Again he breezed in the 180 low hurdles in 19.9. About ten yards separated him from Bud Warren, also of Lowell, who took second. Plessas set a record of 19.2 in this event during the trials.

BATTLE IN RELAY.

Finally, climaxing a brilliant performance that saw him become the sixth man in AAA history to win three events in one city meet, the smooth striding Indian ace had to go all out.

He was in third place, approximately 15 yards behind Balboa, when he took the baton for the anchor 220 lap of the 1,320 yard, six man relay.

Like Citation taking off in pursuit of a selling plater, Plessas started closing ground right now. His long strides veritably eating up ground, he ran wide on the turn, overtook Washington's Stan Seaman at the head of the stretch and began to close in on Balboa's Tull.

It was obvious he could beat Tull, but could he catch him soon enough? He did—right at the tape as they finished in a dead heat!

880 A THRILLER.

That race qualified along with the stirring 880 battle as the day's features.

Van Zant, who had earlier run second to Commerce's Ellwyn Stribling in the mile, was deep in the pack in the half mile until he hit the stretch. Then he made his bid. He overtook Lambert Rax of Commerce about seventy yards from the finish, and the pair raced neck and neck until Van Zant nosed out his foe at the tape in 2:03.6.

Plessas Is Team by Himself

By Don Selby

San Francisco track and field followers have their eye on a 17 year old busybody of the cinderpaths who has tasted defeat just enough to know he doesn't like it.

He is Jim Plessas of Lowell, student body president, scholarship society member and sprinter-hurdler-broad jumper.

With a record of nineteen victories in twenty-one starts, this 160 pound senior is regarded as San Francisco prepdom's outstanding track man of the season. He is almost a sure thing in the City Meet and the league's best bet for points in next month's State CIF event.

A team man all the way, Plessas competes in the events in which his coach, Elmer Harris, thinks he will do Lowell the most good. This sometimes means that Jim must pass up races that will build up his reputation. For Harris usually sends him against the opposition's strongest men.

Jim has won three first places in six of Lowell's seven meets. He took a first, a second and a third in the other meet. In addition, he has anchored the winning relay team in all seven meets.

His best times are 9.9 in the 100, 21.9 in the 220, 26 flat in the 180 yard low hurdles and 22 feet 11½ inches in the broad jump. Last year Jim ran a 49.9 quarter mile and took third in the State meet in this event. But Lowell has a good 440 man in Don Carlson this year, so Plessas usually passes up that race in favor of the sprints and hurdles. Rules prevent him from entering any more than two track events in addition to the relays.

Prep Summary

- UNLIMITEDS**
- 440—Nicola (P), Hilmoe (W), Lualthali (W), Cantalupo (B), Galli (Li) and Keefe (Lo); :54.4.
- 120 Low Hurdles—Washington (W), Peterson (La), Austin (W), Costamanga (SI), Buckowatz (B); :14.6.
- 220—Shibata (W), Lomeie (G), Gordon (M), Horito (La), Jargoyhen (B); 22.2.
- High Jump—Hagler (M), Gilbert (Lo), tie for third among Peters (P), Berensmeier (M), Fouché (W), Summerfield (M); 5-8.
- Shot Put—Stone (Lo), Wong (W), McSweeney (SI), Meister (Lo), Saxe (La); 48-1 1/2.
- 880—Lester (Lo), Risbrough (Lo), Reno (W), Cummings (B), Dickson (Lo); 2:07.6.
- 880 Relay—Washington, Mission, Lowell, Galileo, Polytechnic; 1:36.2.
- 120 DIVISION**
- 100—Williams (M), Isoye (Lo), Lee (Li), Pennington (Li), Hall (Li); 10.9.
- 120 Low Hurdles—Fanzone (W), Shum (P), Parish (C), Uang (Lo), Martinez (C); 14.5. New record; old record set by Fanzone in trials, 14.6.
- High Jump—Morris (W), Martin (C), Grady (SI), Parker (B), Gage (C) and Felix (C); 5-7.
- Broad Jump—Haan (M), Isheda (W), Murray (W), Cecchi (Lo), Sparling (P); 19-7 1/2.
- 220—Quon (P), Weintraub (W), Kellogg (Li), Thomas (Lo), Baumsteiger (SI) and Luxenberg (C); 23.6.
- 880 Relay—Lincoln, Mission, Polytechnic, Washington, Lowell; 1:39.5.
- FINALS**
- Unlimiteds—Lowell, 47½; Balboa, 35; Lincoln, 24½; Washington, 22; St. Ignatius, 18½; Polytechnic, 16; Commerce, 15½; Galileo, 12; Mission, 4.
- 120's—Washington, 23; Lincoln, 16; Mission, 14; Polytechnic, 13; Commerce, 9½; Lowell, 9; St. Ignatius 3½; Balboa, 2.
- 130's—Washington, 46½; Lowell, 36½; Mission, 20; Polytechnic, 7½; Balboa, 6; St. Ignatius, 5; Lincoln, 4½.
- 100—Plessas (Lo), Polster (Li), Sampson (P), Glin (C), Oliver (M); 23-10 (new meet record, set in trials; old record 23-5 by Hare (W) in 1948).
- Discus—Cook (Lo), Kreuzer (SI), Chandler (B), Amour (G), Kujawa (SI); 122-9.
- Mile—Stribling (C), Van Zant (B), deLormer (Li), Jordan (B), Hofman (Lo); 4:31.4.
- 100—Plessas (Lo), Jones (W), Howard (B), Seamon (W), Burnett (Li); :10.0.
- 120 High Hurdles—Tull (B), Wilkie (Li), Topham (Lo), Parina (SI), Piperakis (G); :15.8.
- Shotput—Merritt (P), Bologna (G), Rubie (M), Martin (SI), Huxley (Li); 49-3 1/2.
- 440—Carlson (Lo), Abley (Lo), Friedrichs (Lo), Clarke (Li), Rushing (P); :52.3.
- 180 Low Hurdles—Plessas (Lo), Warren (Lo), Walsh (W), Topham (Lo), Paoli (B); 19.9 (Plessas set new city record of :19.2 in trials).
- 220—Tie for first between Howard (B) and Jones (W); Burnett (Li), Seamon (W), Vogel (Lo); :22.4.
- 880—Van Zant (B), Rax (C), Stribling (C), Bauer (W), Rushing (P); 2:03.6.
- 1320 yard, six-man relay—Tie between Lowell (Abley, Friedrichs, Warren, Vogel, Topham, Plessas) and Balboa (Howard, Moore, Elkin, Fields, Williams, Tull); Washington, Lincoln, St. Ignatius; 2:21.5.
- Pole Vault—Tie for first between Abella (P) and Lindner (Li); Wilson (B); tie for fourth between Tafoya (G) and Glin (C); 10-9.
- High Jump—Schoenstein (SI), tie for second between Bragg (G) and Neumayr (SI); tie for fourth between Thomas (W) and Sampson (P); 5-11 1/2.
- 130 DIVISION**
- Broad jump—Stone (Lo), Wong (W), McSweeney (SI), Meister (Lo), Saxe (Lo); 48-1 1/2.
- 100—Casarez (La), McKenna (M), Holmes (W), Mitchell (W), McNeil (M); :10.3.