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Kansas City, Mo.



May
Eighteenth,
1940

Mr. Dolph Simons
Manager,
Lawrence Daily Journal World
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Dolph:

This will serve as a tardy acknowledgment of your letter of May 8th requesting information relative to a feature story which you suggested about my breaking the worlds record during my freshman year at K. U.

I have delayed writing you due to the fact that I have been trying to get some data and clippings from the Kansas City Journal which carried the story of this meet and gave entire details of same. However, we went through the 'morgue' and were unable to find the article that was featured on Sunday February 28, 1915 which carried a complete story of this event.

Modesty forbids me going into great details but since you have requested it I will be glad to give you all the information that I recollect.

I did not break the 50 yd low indoor hurdle record but tied the then existing record of Joe Loomis, of the Chicago Athletic Club, the worlds record at that time being $6 \frac{2}{5}$ seconds for this event. The Journal Post however on Sunday February 28th, as above mentioned, carried a two column headline to the effect that a Kansas City boy breaks worlds record. This was due to the fact that several Judges timed this heat which I had run in $6 \frac{1}{5}$ seconds which would indicate that several of the watches had shown that the record had been broken.

The date of the track meet, at which this record was tied by me, was Saturday February 27, 1915. I was a freshman at K. U. and it was necessary, due to this fact, that I was entered in the track meet by W. O. Hamilton, then K. U. track mentor, as running unattached.

This event was run during the old Kansas City Athletic Club Invitational Meet. These meets had been sponsored by the Kansas City Athletic Club for many years and were open to all Universities, Colleges and Athletic Clubs in the Mid-West.

A most unusual thing happened during the run of the 50 yd low indoor hurdle. The previous record at that time was $6 \frac{2}{5}$ seconds, held by Joe Loomis, the 'Phantom Flyer' representing the Chicago Athletic Club. The first heat of this event was won by myself in $6 \frac{2}{5}$ seconds, thereby tying the existing worlds record. The second heat was won by Bob Simpson of Missouri University, who was quite outstanding trackman and hurdler from Bosworth High School. His heat was timed at $6 \frac{1}{5}$ seconds, clipping