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THE TIMES



FANWOOD

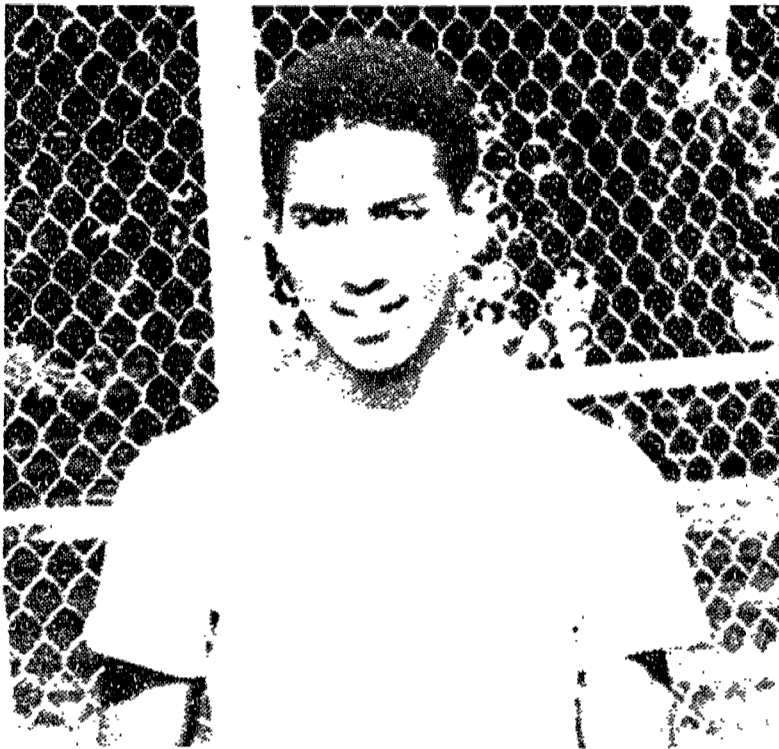
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SCOTCH PLAINS • FANWOOD, N.J.

THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1977

20 CENTS

"Skeets" - Off To Europe After Win In U.S.- Russian Meet



"Skeets" lived up to all the local expectations — and then some — during the past week, as the outstanding SPFH hurdler turned in a performance that broke a meet record in the U.S.-Russian competition held at the University of Richmond over the past weekend. Renaldo "Skeets" Nehemiah ran the 110-meter high hurdles in 13.5 seconds. The time broke the meet record by four-tenths of a second. More important — the time also broke the 1969 high school 110 high hurdles record set by Rod Milburn.

Next stop for Skeets? Europe. Within two weeks, he'll be off on a month's tour of European countries, traveling with Olympic runners and competing against Olympians. The surprise European tour came as a result

of his outstanding performance last weekend.

Nehemiah was running over 42-inch hurdles in the U.S.-Russian meet. This was only the second time he's competed over the higher hurdles used in international competition. During the spring track season, as he smashed record after record week after week, he was competing in the 39-inch schoolboy height hurdles.

Although he was pleased with his performance, Skeets feels he might have done even better if there had been trials in advance of the race last Saturday. Trials would have enabled him to top the time. He likes the 42-inch hurdles. "They're better for my size," he said.

Nehemiah was also the leadoff leg on the winning U.S. 400 meter relay team. He was named as the outstanding American male performer by the Russian team, and was a key to the 214-163 American upset of the Russian junior team.

The U. of Richmond meet yielded a lot of valuable competitive experience for the 18-year old, who graduated from Scotch Plains-Fanwood in June. He will be traveling at the invitation of the U.S. Olympic Committee. The American runners who are invited on the tour will be traveling in small groups of about six from country to country. When Skeets returns to the U.S., he'll round out the summer with smaller A.A.U. competition before leaving for the University of Maryland in September. He expects to begin

Teens- Need Summer Work?

The U.S. Department of Human Resources has just approved funding for a program which will provide summer jobs for 26 teenagers from the Scotch Plains-Fanwood community. Peter Hosky, a teacher at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High, will supervise the program.

Teenagers between 14 and 21 years of age may apply. They will have to qualify under terms of needy family income. Ten of the 26 will also receive academic instruction in math, English and reading, and will be paid to attend the classes.

The work will be done at profit making local businesses. Applicants may contact Mr. Hosky every weekday at the Career Center, near the auditorium at the high school, between the hours of 10 and noon.

college track training by about November.

Rod Milburn's schoolboy high school record was 120 yards — just slightly shorter than the 110-meter mark established by Nehemiah on Saturday. Milburn still holds the world record in the 110 hurdles, with a time of 0:12.24, set in the 1972 Olympics. The time yielded a gold medal for Milburn.

Skeets set a national interscholastic record of 12.9 seconds over the 39-inch barriers this spring. His spring record and his promising talents led to a community fund drive to send him to several high level competitions to test his mettle against decent competition. The U. of Richmond U.S.-U.S.S.R. meet was the last of these spring competitions funded by the Scotch Plains-Fanwood public.

Skeets has been coached by Jean Poquette, who retires this year as track coach at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

Calendar

Thursday, July 7 — Special Meeting, Bd. of Ed., Administration Building, 8 pm - Naming of Business Administrator.
Monday, July 11 — Fanwood Council, Agenda Session, Borough Hall, 8 pm.

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Blood Bank In Plainfield

The Plainfield Area Chapter of the American Red Cross and South Plainfield residents and employees plan a frontal attack on the traditional summer shortage of blood with a Community Blood bank on Tuesday, July 19 from 2-7 pm in the South Plainfield Rescue Squad Building.

Originally planned for the South Plainfield Industrial Community, the bank has been opened to all residents of South Plainfield according to Marcel Tetaz, Red Cross Chapter Chairman.

All donors will be providing unlimited blood coverage for themselves, spouse, children, parents and grandparents of both, anywhere in the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands. Also, a wallet size certificate showing the blood type will be issued each volunteer donor by the Red Cross.

Appointments for the Blood bank are made on a 30 minute schedule and reservations are being taken at the Plainfield Area Chapter (756-6414) by Miss Peggy Terlesky, Blood Bank Director.

New Coach Named For Raider Football Team

A new Raider football coach, Charles Meredith, was named by the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education last Wednesday night, and was already busy planning visits with returning football players and mapping out workouts for the days ahead. Meredith comes to Scotch Plains-Fanwood from Rutherford, where he coached for five years, turning a 2-7 losing team into the Group 2 state championship participants over the five-year period.

Meredith has been a teacher of history, sociology, Consumer Economics, Afro-Asian History and Contemporary World at Rutherford High School since 1970. He'll teach Social Studies at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High in addition to his football coaching duties.

"I've started already, breaking down films from last year," Meredith said. "I'm anxious to see and meet some of the kids, and plan to stop at homes to meet players and their parents withing the next few weeks." Meredith has mapped out a suggested weight-lifting and running program for aspiring football players. He is hoping to get together enough funds for a get-acquainted picnic for prospective players.

In his film-screening, Meredith is also analyzing the available personell involved in football, to determine ways to reorganize the football program.

In addition to his football coaching at Rutherford High, Meredith was assistant baseball coach, assistant wrestling coach for four years and assistant football coach for two years. He was an assistant Athletic director at indoor athletic events, substituted for the athletic director during his extended absence, sponsor of a Varsity Club, and a teacher of two slow-learner groups.

His record as head football coach at Rutherford was: 1972 - 2-7; 1973 - 7-2; 1974 - 5-4; 1975 -

9-2, Runner-up, Section I, Group 2 State Championship; 1976 - 8-2, participated in Section I, Group 2, State Championship Tournament.

Meredith favors the veer offense, and likes to throw the ball a lot, "If we've got a kid who can throw." He's been using the 5-2 monster defense basically over the past few years. The Rutherford squad has been earmarked for good, fundamental football under his direction.

"I'm anxious to work with the community here," Meredith

Continued On page 5

Last Of The Big Ones



The last of the giant trees which shaded the Fanwood Business Center yielded to pollution, disease, old age or what have you. Main branches were taken down by the County this past week.

New Rotary President



Outgoing President Joe Qutub inducts Thomas Guglielmo as incoming president of Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club.