

For fifth straight Olympics each Connolly, Hall try again

By EVAN SMITH
Of the Emerald

Other athletes come and go but Hal Connolly and Al Hall are ever-present—especially in Olympic years.

Connolly and Hall have represented the U.S. in the Hammer Throw at Melbourne in 1956, Rome in 1960, Tokyo in 1964 and Mexico City in 1968.

They begin their quest for a fifth Olympic trip at Howe Field, the baseball stadium just southwest of Hayward Field, where the qualifying round for the hammer begins at 12:45 p.m.

Connolly, Hall and other top American hammer throwers should have little trouble qualifying for the finals scheduled for Sunday at 4:45 p.m.

Sunday, however, could bring the end of the Olympic trial for the two veterans. A look at best marks and competitive records for 1972 shows the old timers ranking in positions four and five among American throwers behind George Frenn, Al Schoterman and Tom Gage.

Frenn, is the leading American thrower of the year (231-5) and the fourth best ever (232-7). He was AAU champion and the nation's top ranked thrower in 1970 and '71.

Schoterman, from Kent State University and the New York Athletic Club, is the United States' bright young hope in the ball and chain event. In only his third season of hammer throwing, he has won the NCAA and AAU championships and has thrown 231-3 to rank second for the year and fifth all-time in the U.S.

Gage is the third ranking American thrower of the year (230-3) and of all-time (233-6). He won the AAU in 1969.

These three must rank as the favorites to make the team, but Connolly will make it close. He is the country's number four thrower of the year (224-1) and number two of all time (233-9½). He won the Olympic gold medal way back in 1956 and has broken the world record on several occasions, most recently in 1962.

Hall has to be rated a long shot. Among Americans he ranks fifth for the year and sixth all-time (220-7). His one advantage is his reputation as a man who always comes through in the Olympic Trials. In 1968 he came out of three years of relative inactivity to keep Frenn and Gage off the team.

Frenn, in fact, was expected to make the U.S. team in both '64 and '68 but lost to Hall in the final trials both times. This past record makes his role as favorite somewhat suspect.

Only one other entry has topped the Olympic qualifying standard of 216-6. He's Frank Bredice, a Southern Connecticut State College student throwing here for the New York AC, who has a best of 216-11.

The best of the rest are Bob

Narcessian (216-3) and Oregon Stater Steve DeAutremont (208-3), both former NCAA champs, and Larry Hart of the Army who has thrown 205-11 this year and 215-7 two years ago.

Sixteen throwers will compete today for twelve spots in Sunday's finals.

The sixteenth ranked thrower in the competition is a very young man in this old man's event. He's Alvin Jackson, a recent graduate of Classical High School in Providence, Rhode Island, the national high school record holder with both the 12- and the 16-pound hammer. His recent 191-11 with the larger ball and chain came in only his second competition with the international implement.

Among today's 16 hammer throwers will be eight of the nine leading throwers of all-time.

Official entries 12:45 p.m., Hammer throw Top 12 (or any over 216-6) qualify for FINAL

FLIGHT 1			
1	(185)	THEODORE BREGAR	197' 0"
2	(201)	FRANK BREDICE	216' 11"
3	(441)	WILLIAM DIEHL	196' 1"
4	(583)	ANDY BESSETTE	188' 9"
FLIGHT 2			
1	(80)	ALBERT SCHOTERMAN	231' 3"
2	(586)	AL JACKSON	191' 11"
3	(103)	STEVE DEAUTREMONT	208' 3"
4	(704)	ROBIN ROEDER	192' 9"
FLIGHT 3			
1	(560)	WILLIAM SHUFF	201' 1"
2	(210)	ROBERT NARCESSIAN	216' 3"
3	(295)	ALBERT HALL	217' 7"
4	(200)	TOM GAGE	230' 3"
FLIGHT 4			
1	(286)	LAWRENCE HART	205' 11"
2	(76)	GEORGE FRENN	231' 5"
3	(439)	DALE CASEY	194' 4"
4	(298)	HAROLD CONNOLLY	224' 1"

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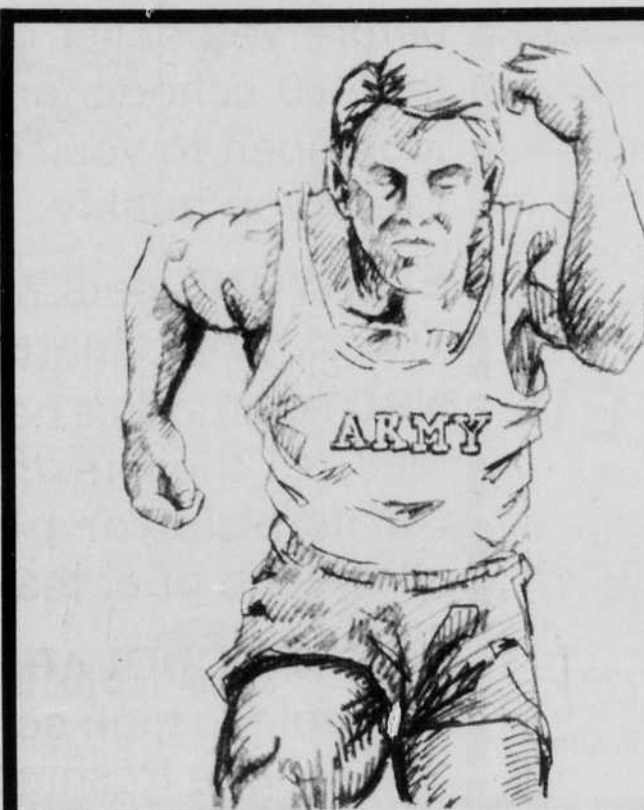
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