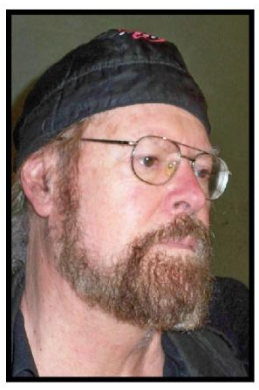
DETROIT NATIVE SUN

Telford Telescope: History's fastest human

By Dr. John Telford, PhD
SUN COLUMNIST



Detroit sports statistician Bill Hoover has urged me to write a column about the late Henry Carr (pictured)--the fastest man who ever lived. In June, 1959 while a 16-year-old sophomore at old Detroit Southwestern High, Henry Carr tied Jesse Owens' national prep mark of 20.7 for 220 yards, which when clocked in 1933 had been a world record. By the spring of 1960, Henry had transferred to Northwestern, and the coach there sent him to me to improve his finishing stretch run, but I soon discovered that this kid didn't need any improvement--taking 220 straightaways with him, he outran me, so I asked the DPS athletic director if I could take Henry with me to the Olympic Trials, where Henry at the tender age of 17 had qualified at 200 meters and I had qualified at 400 meters in an attempted comeback at rhe age of 24--but the athletic director refused, citing a school-district rule that our athletes couldn't compete beyond a 25-mile radius--so Henry had to stay home. I believe he would have won the 200-meter dash in Rome that year. The next year--1961--as a Northwestern High School senior, he ran the 220-yard dash in a world-record 20 seconds flat on a dirt track, thus becoming only the second high school sprinter in history to clock a world-record time. Had his then dirt-and cinders 20 seconds flat been run on a modern rubberized track, it would have been faster than Usain Bolt's current world record.



At the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo, Henry broke the world 200-meter mark and won a second gold medal anchoring the U.S. 1,600-meter relay team to a world record-breaking victory with an incredible under-the-world-record anchor leg of 44.3 seconds. Following the 1964 Olympics, Henry turned professional with the New York Giants football team, made All-Pro, was injured in a game and was traded to the Detroit Lions. He failed to pass the Lions' physical exam--and at that point, he retired from competition. The track at Northwestern is named for him.

In his long-ago youth, retired Detroit Public Schools superintendent John Telford was undefeated at 200 and 400 meters in 1957 on the U.S.track team competing in Europe. Read his Poet's Corner columns in the Detroit Monitor newspaper, and hear him on WCHB AM1340 Detroit radio Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.--and all week 24/7 on DETipTV,com. Contact him at DrJohnTelfordEdD@aol.com and at (313) 460-8272--and get his Detroit-oriented books at amazon.com or at Barnes&Noble. .

Hannibal and Balthazar
Cast him stardust from a star.
He was famed from near and far--
Olympic sprinter Henry Carr.

Detroit Lions launch "One Pride Worldwide"

DETROIT - The Detroit Lions launched today One Pride Worldwide, a new fan membership hub, powered by LAVA, for Lions fans across the globe. One Pride Worldwide was created to bring together a Lions global fan community and extend the Lions existing Lions Perks program into a year-round, global membership platform. One Pride Worldwide members will receive access to exclusive contests, auctions and giveaways, member only discounts on Lions merchandise and exclusive access to in-market and international events with the ability to upgrade for even more. After enrollment, One Pride Worldwide can be accessed via the Lions app, as well as by web browser.

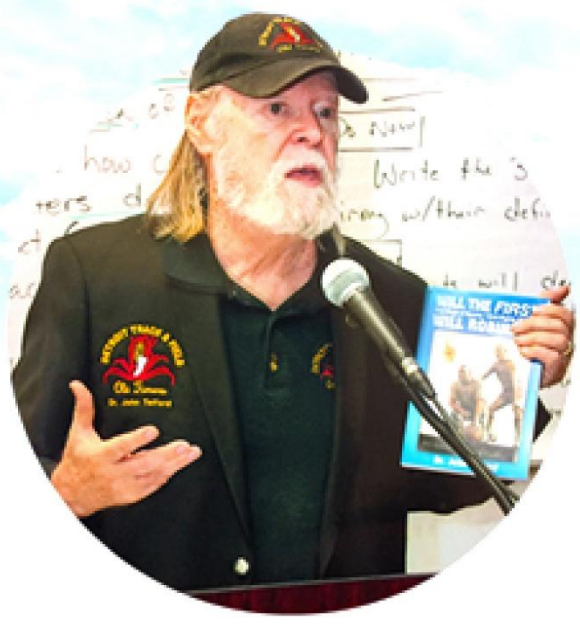
"We're committed to bringing Detroit to the world, and One Pride Worldwide will connect fans across the globe to our team, brand and each other," said Rich Haddad, Detroit Lions President and CEO. "One Pride Worldwide is the Lions go-to global fan membership portal, and we look forward to seeing our members benefit from exclusive access to key information, events and perks."

No matter where a Lions fan is located, One Pride Worldwide will serve as a personalized hub where fans can manage their profile, view content, membership status, view Lions Loot balances, manage rewards and perks, participate in challenges, trivia, polls and more. One Pride Worldwide members will have access to a digital storefront where they can browse and claim exclusive merchandise, rewards and experiences.

Fans will have the option to enroll in two different tiers of One Pride Worldwide memberships that offer different levels of benefits, ROOKIE (free) and LEGEND ($100 USD). All current Lions Fan Club members, including Lions Loyal Members, Cub Club, Lady Lions and The Pride Unleashed are automatically enrolled in the "Rookie" tier One Pride Worldwide membership.

One Pride Worldwide furthers the organization's efforts to reach international fans, including through the NFL Global Markets Program. The Lions earned their marketing rights in Germany, Canada, Brazil, Austria and Switzerland. Over the past two years the organization has been activating fan events, digital content and partnerships to build brand equity and fandom in the different regions, culminating with the 2026 Munich Game vs. the New England Patriots on Nov. 15. One Pride Worldwide will be the key resource for fans to gain access and information about all fan events while the Lions are in Munich for their first international game in a decade.





Hear him on **WCHB AM1340**
Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.
Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

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