

Campbellsville's 1st Road Race?



The recollections of Wallace Williams, Olympic Marathon Runner, 1988 Seoul Olympic Games/student Durham High School 1960-63

- 1] On a warm "May Day" in 1961, unless this account can be disputed, the first road race in Campbellsville was held at Durham High School.
- 2] It was the annual "May Day" celebration held at DHS. One of the day's activities was a race on the road from DHS to Mr. Genie Smith house off Roberts Road.
- 3] Participants that day were Clem Haskins, Owen Russell Johnson, Walter Henry Young??? Others??? (all wore Converse All Stars)
- 4] The winner was Clem Haskins, I think Owen Russell was the only other finisher. I recall that Lonnie Johnson and I rode bicycles to follow the race.
- 5] If my understanding is correct, there is a 5k road race held in part on this road today.
- 6] I also have plans for staging a 5K road race to mark the history of running in Campbellsville and as a fundraiser for the new track

The 2nd Track and Field Facility at Durham High



- 1] While finishing on a run in August of 2009 on Roberts Road at DHS, I noticed that asphalt had been laid on the grounds of the school. A closer look made me happily aware that a new track have been laid out. I approached the driver of a grader who was working on the inside grade and share some of my recollections with him.
- 2] I told him that this was the exact location of a previous track which was over 45 years ago.
- 3] It was laid out roughly with a grader with just a trench/mound of dirt as the outline.
- 4] I don't recall it being used much, especially for a track meet.
- 5] The only two people I remember using it was Johnny Able and I. He used to run around that track lap after lap with ankle weights. I followed a few times for a few laps, that was it.
- 6] I would like to see the track and field facility thrive.