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A god-like concentration, a revolutionary style and 235 pounds of well-distributed muscle made Perry O'Brien the world's greatest shot-puller and an extraordinary ambassador of athleticism on soil. A novel portrait by JOEL BAYTON with drawings by ROBERT RIDGEMAN

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Baseball's famous fugitives, Al Strickland, looks back on 10 years spent in the game—the bumps he overcame, the friends he made, the players and the games he knew. An entry from the forthcoming book

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For the second consecutive year, the acrobatic gymnasts of Penn State have won the NCAA title. SI presents their tumbling, twisting, sliding, flying acts in a unique mosaic portrait in COLOR by FERDINAND FÖRSTERLEIN

35 **A BOSTON BIRD WATCHER WALKS WITH HIS HERO**

The exciting adventures of an admirer of Roger Tory Peterson, distinguished author of the authoritative Field Guide, as reported in a letter to a less fortunate friend, and here passed on by GERALD HOLLAND



COVER: Perry O'Brien

Photograph by MARK KAUFFMAN

Not since the great days of the Irish Whales (see page 64) have U.S. track fans had a weight man as colorful as Perry O'Brien, the 235-pound California who became the first man in history to put the shot over 60 feet. Standard bearer this week for the U.S. track team at the Pan-American Games in Mexico City, O'Brien invented a new way to toss the shot in 1951, today holds the world's indoor and outdoor records (see page 28).

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NEXT WEEK: ALTITUDE AND THE PAN AM GAMES

THE GOLDEN GLOVES

The biggest elimination tournament in all of sport annually draws an army of 25,000 amateur boxers—of whom only eight will survive. A preview of hope, heartbreak and highest honor in the rings of future champions by LEO GINGISS.

A BIG BUSINESS

Behind the scenes at Dodgerstown in Vero Beach is an organization that the fans never see—the big business side that feeds players, orders equipment, watches over the health of rookie and star. An inside story, with a painting by JOHN GRIFFIN.

THE NAVY'S GAME RANGE

Not that the Navy knew it had one, until the brass discovered that a civilian employee at an ammunition depot in Oklahoma had created an ideal wildlife refuge among the guns and shells. An unusual outdoors story by CLYDE CARLEY.

PLUS: BOWLING'S ABC TOURNAMENT AND SHARK-SPEARING IN MEXICO IN COLOR

RHINO!

Few exclamations suggest more terrifying African sights than those shown in these rare pictures of the infuriated charge of a rhino

PHOTOGRAPHS BY WELDON KING, LIFE GATTI AFRICAN EXPEDITION

There are two ways to get close-ups of rhinos: take the pictures from a safe distance with a telephoto lens, or ease up to the brutes and snap away. Joe Marsicano decided on the second method one fine day in Zululand last year. Marsicano was the safari master on a movie-making expedition and not a cameraman. Nevertheless when he stepped from his jeep to start building an album of rhino pictures he performed with professional calm, starting with the two inquisitive rhinos below.





Walking cautiously with one eye on his jeep, which waits with motor running, Marsicano angles toward a black rhino standing suspiciously with head up. A moment later (right) it suddenly charges and the photographer dashes for his car







At full gallop an infuriated cow rhino and her calf hustle upon the fleeing jeep. Seconds later the animal caught the car and angrily overturned it. As the rhino worried the jeep, its shaken riders escaped to another one nearby