

UCLA Staggers at Start, but Wins Pac-8 Track Easily

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EUGENE, Ore.—UCLA won its fourth Pacific 8 track title in the last five years Saturday, scoring a record 156 points before 11,000 fans at Hayward Field. USC was second with 111, followed by Oregon with 100.

Sounds easy, doesn't it?

It wasn't. For awhile, in fact, it was downright frightening for Bruin coach Jim Bush. The meet had barely gotten under way when Bush watched in horror at the following developments:

—Dale Gordon threw only 163-10 in the discus trials and was in danger of being eliminated.

—Rory Kotinek went out of the high jump at 6-10.

—Harry Freeman fouled his first two tries in the triple jump preliminaries.

—UCLA dropped the baton in the 440 relay.

Now, the dropped baton didn't really bother Bush—UCLA always drops the baton—but Benny Brown took a spill during the mishap and for awhile it was feared he'd be out the rest of the day with a bruised hip.

Points Roll In

Brown came back after some ice pack treatments, however, and Bush managed to get his crew back on course. Suddenly, the points came rolling in.

Gordon got up for a second in the discus and Freeman, on his last jump grabbed second behind teammate Milan Tiff, the winner with a wind-aided 54-3½.

Brown took the 440 with an eased-up 46.2, then returned for a second behind USC's Don Quarrie in the 220. He capped the day by anchoring the Bruins to a 3:08.2 mile relay win.

"Thank heavens we have depth," said Bush. "It was real hairy for a while. I think we started to get back into it when Freeman got that last jump and when Gordon Peppars ran well in the 100."

Peppars placed second in the 100, losing a photo to the fast-closing Quarrie who was clocked in 9.6. Quarrie's 220 time was 20.7, far off his 20.2 in the preliminaries Friday.

"The track just didn't have the same bounce," said Quarrie who had hoped to break the world record of 20 flat. "I think they put too much water on it before the meet. After I heard my 100 time I knew I had no chance for a record in the 220, so I just ran to win."

Brown had a different theory.

"Everybody was tense today," he

Scared Bruins Rally to Win Track Title

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said. "There was a lot more pressure. Yesterday, we were running more relaxed."

While the sprint times suffered, there was nothing wrong with distances, meet records falling in everything from the 880 up.

Oregon State's Hailu Ebba, a native of Ethiopia, took the mile in 3:57.9, just holding off Oregon's Knut Kvalheim, who made up five yards in a stirring stretch drive. Kvalheim had the same time.

California's Rick Brown made it three straight 880 titles with a classy 1:46.7 and Oregon's Steve Prefontaine, shaking off a back injury and persistent John Ngeno of Washington State, won the three mile in 13:10.4.

Ngeno, a native of Kenya who won the six mile Friday, was second in 13:19.5.

What happened in the 440 relay?

UCLA was in good position as Brown pulled away from USC's Greg Jones on the second leg, but as Benny went to pass off to Ron Gaddis he slipped and fell.

Tendency to Slip

"The track was wet," said Brown, "and I have a tendency to slip anyway."

Bush said, "I can't understand why they would water the track five minutes before the meet. All the kids were complaining that their shoes were soaking wet."

UCLA now has dropped the baton in two straight Pac 8s and four straight NAAs, not to mention assorted dual meets and relay carnivals.

I'm gonna throw that bleep, bleep event out," snorted Bush.

The Bruins now have two legs up on the triple crown, having won the USC dual meet and the Pacific 8. They'll go for their third straight NCAA title June 7-9 at Baton Rouge, La.

"We have to improve for that one," said Bush. I think it helped us today to

get scared a little."

Benny Brown didn't look scared at all.

"We're going to take it, he said.

Track Notes

UCLA's Lindsay Guerrero finished second in the 440 hurdles but was disqualified for trailing a leg over a hurdle. "That's what happens with right-legged hurdlers," said Bush. "I like left-legged hurdlers. But we can't complain. In the NCAA last year, Jean-Pierre Corval mowed up three places when those ahead of him were disqualified." Guerrero said, "I don't know which hurdle they got me on, but I wasn't surprised. I've been getting away with it in a lot of meets. It's something I know I can correct."

The Trojans had some encouraging performances, particularly from Ed Washington who placed third in the triple jump with a wind-aided 52-2, two feet over his previous best, and also got fourth in the high hurdles. USC's Jerry Wilson won the highs in 13.6 after catching UCLA's Charlie Rich at the eighth hurdle, then inching ahead over the last one and winning the drive to the wire. "When the race started I wasn't even sure I could finish," said Wilson who pulled up in the UCLA meet two weeks ago. "I told Charlie afterwards he was going too fast for me and I really had to strain to catch him. I'm looking forward to the NCAA when I know I'll be healthy."

Can USC win the NCAA? "I think we have a chance," said Quarrie. "UCLA's depth won't count for so much in that one. We'll give it a try." . . . Benny Brown said he wouldn't run again until the NCAA. "I want to get the world record there," he said . . . Tony Veney gave UCLA a lift in the 880 coming from nowhere on the final turn to get third in a lifetime best of 1:48.5. He passed both James Baxter and Nathan Burks of USC who were running second and third coming off the turn.

Peppers pulled in the 220 but Bush said that it was

only a cramp. . . Ebba's splits were 60.9, 2:02.7 and 3:02.4. His last lap was 55.5. Oregon's Mark Feig, third in 3:59.5, became the 12th Web-foot in history to break four minutes. USC still is looking for its first.

440 RELAY—1. USC (Williams, Jones, Randle, Quarrie), 39.7; 2. Oregon, 40.3; 3. Washington State, 40.4; 4. Washington, 42.9; 5. California, 41.4; 6. Oregon State, 41.4; UCLA did not finish.

100—1. Quarrie (USC), 9.4; 2. Peppers (UCLA), 9.6; 3. Hearvey (O), 9.4; 4. Curl (S), 9.4; 5. Minor (WS), 9.4; 6. Mays (U), 9.7. Others—8. Wilson (UCLA), 9.9.

220—1. Quarrie (USC), 26.7; 2. Brown (UCLA), 21.8; 3. Curl (S), 21.0; 4. Hearvey (O), 21.3; 5. Jones (USC), 21.3; 6. Nichols (C), 21.4. Others—7. Peppers (UCLA), did not finish.

440—1. Brown (UCLA), 46.2; 2. Randle (USC), 46.6; 3. Perks (UCLA), 46.8; 4. Hagmeyer (O), 47.1; 5. Atuahese (OS), 47.3; 6. Gaddis (UCLA), 47.5. Others—7. Richardson (USC), 47.8.

800—1. Brown (C), 1:46.7 (meet record, old mark, 1:47.5. Morgan Groth, Oregon St., 1965); 2. Scott (WS), 1:48.2; 3. Veney (UCLA), 1:48.5; 4. Gibson (W), 1:48.6; 5. Baxter (USC), 1:49.3; 6. Lowrey (OS), 1:49.4. Others—4. Burks (USC), 1:51.0.

MILE—1. Ebba (OS), 3:57.9 (meet record, old mark, 3:59.2. Rick Riley, Wash St., 1970); 2. Kvalheim (O), 3:57.3; 3. Feig (O), 3:59.5; 4. Mittelsteadt (S), 4:00.1; 5. Albright (W), 4:01.1; 6. Gazal (WS), 4:03.7. Others—11. Baser (USC), 4:11.9.

THREE MILE—1. Prefontaine (O), 13:10.4 (meet record, old mark, 13:12.8. Gerry Lindgren, Wash. St., 1964); 2. Ngeno (WS), 13:19.5; 3. Clark (WS), 13:20.4; 4. Murphy (WS), 13:22.0; 5. Anderson (W), 13:47.3; 6. Brown (USC), 13:47.8. Others—7. Salcido (UCLA), 13:48.4; 8. Ritcherson (USC), 13:50.5.

1200H—1. Wilson (USC), 13.6; 2. Rich (UCLA), 13.7; 3. C. Jackson (UCLA), 14.0; 4. Washington (USC), 14.1; 5. K. Ngeno (WS), 14.2; 6. D. Johnson (UCLA), 14.3. Others—7. Coftman (USC), 14.5.

440H—1. Oveson (OS), 51.3; 2. Coffman (USC), 51.4; 3. Mandschin (W), 51.9; 4. Lavery (W), 52.3; 5. Casey (OS), 52.7; 6. Petralia (C), 52.9. Note: Guerrero (UCLA) finished second in 51.3 but disqualified for trailing leg over hurdle.

MILE RELAY—1. UCLA (Guerrero 48.8, Gaddis 46.5, Parks 47.6, Brown 46.3), 3:08.2; 2. USC (C. Brown 48.5, Jones 46.4, Baxter 47.2, Randle 46.9), 3:09.0; 3. Oregon, 3:10.0; 4. Oregon State, 3:10.4; 5. California, 3:10.8; 6. Washington State, 3:13.6.

HIGH JUMP—1. Woods (OS), 7.4; 2. Owens (USC), 7.5; 3. Fletcher (UCLA), 7.0; 4. Niehl (WS), 7.0; 5. Flier (OS), 6.10; 6. Culp (USC), 6.10. Others—4. Kolmek (UCLA), 6.4.

DISCUS—1. Wilkins (O), 199.9 (meet record, old mark, 194.10. John Van Reenen, Wash. St., 1968); 2. Gordon (UCLA), 185.10; 3. Miller (OS), 177.11; 4. Miller (WS), 177.4; 5. Freberg (UCLA), 174.3; 6. McCourtie (WS), 171.9. Others—10. Budinich (USC), 153.4.

TRIPLE JUMP—1. Tih (UCLA), 54.31w; 2. Freeman (UCLA), 52.9 1/4; 3. Washington (USC), 52.2w; 4. Hadenfeld (O), 49.8w; 4. Cochee (USC), 49.3 1/4; 5. Lopez (C), 48.5.

DECATHLON (final 10-event scores)—1. Brigham (O), 7,673; 2. Kring (S), 7,124; 3. Albanese (UCLA), 6,852; 4. Hodgson (WS), 6,333; 5. Sterner (USC), 5,978; no sixth. Top Marks: 1200H—1. Sterner, 15.3; 3. Albanese 14.0. DT—1. Brigham, 152.7; 3. Albanese, 129.4; Sterner, no mark. Souled all three throws. PV—1. Brigham, 15.9; 3. Albanese, 14.11; 4. Sterner, 13.3v. JT—1. Hodgson, 228.5; 3. Sterner, 197.4; 5. Albanese, 111.11. 1,500—1. Kring, 4:26.9; 3. Albanese, 5:08.5; 4. Sterner, 5:10.4.

FINAL TEAM SCORES—UCLA 156, USC 111, Oregon 100, Washington State 88, Oregon State 78, Washington 34, California 28, Stanford 25.