

UCLA's Brenner Wins Shotput at 71-11¼

By MAL FLORENCE, *Times Staff Writer*

EUGENE, Ore.—John Brenner isn't rattled easily but the UCLA shotputter was in a semi state of shock Saturday in the NCAA track and field meet when SMU's Michael Carter got the psychological edge on him.

Carter, who was trying to close out a perfect collegiate career with eight straight NCAA titles (four indoors), went for an early knockout.

He opened up with a throw of 70 feet 6¾ inches and then followed with two throws each measured at 70-3.

Brenner couldn't do any better than 69-10¼ on his first four attempts, but he said he got his "head together" and responded with a collegiate record throw of 71-11¼ in one of the best man-to-man shotput competitions in many years.

But Carter didn't flinch. He saved his best bomb for last, a 71-4¾ effort—a personal best—that just fell short of matching Brenner.

"I wanted to do what he did," said Brenner, meaning that he wanted to pressure Carter with some early 70-foot throws. "I tightened up when he did that, although I shouldn't have."

Brenner, the 6-3, 285-pound senior from Fullerton, not only broke Terry Albritton's eight-year collegiate record of 71-8½, he also became the No. 3 all-time U.S. performer in the event and fifth in the world.

Brenner and Carter will go another round June 16-24 at the U.S. Olympic trials at the Coliseum along with two other heavyweights, Brian Oldfield, the American

record-holder at 72-9¾ and Dave Laut, who formerly shared the record with Oldfield at 72-3.

"I have never seen John so rattled," said Art Venegas, UCLA's weight coach. "But I told him to settle down, attack the board and keep his shoulders back. He wasn't getting enough speed across the ring."

Brenner was working the right sector of the landing area at Hayward Field, while Carter was probing the left. Any throws past 71 feet cleared the dirt and landed on the grass. Brenner found the grass on his fifth throw, Carter on his last.

It was the first time in collegiate competition that two throwers have exceeded 71 feet.

Brenner, who won the discus Friday, said it was the best performance of his life, adding that Carter is the greatest competitor he has ever competed against.

A crowd of 14,082 was treated to some fine performances on the concluding day of the meet and wildly cheered Oregon, which won the men's team title with 113 points. Washington State, the pre-meet favorite,

In the 5,000, Hill had a race plan that didn't work out.

"I made a mistake by not forcing the pace," he said. "My strategy was to out-kick the Kenyans (Korir and Koech) because they had been in previous finals and I hadn't."

Hill stumbled on the next to last lap trying to get out of a box but he said that didn't affect his finish. Korir, who was second in the steeple Friday with a personal best time of 8:19.85, burned the Oregon runner by running his last mile in 4:13.4 and his last quarter in 55.9.

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was second with 94½, with Arkansas third at 85.

UCLA made a good showing with 50½ points in seventh place, while USC and Texas El Paso tied for 17th with 30 points.

Florida State, with its splendid stable of sprinters, won the women's championship with 145 points. Tennessee and Stanford followed with 124 and 71 points, respectively.

The Ducks got a big boost when Joaquim Cruz, who'll represent Brazil in the Summer Olympics, won the 1,500 in 3:36.48 and teammate Dub Meyers got third. That was worth 25 points.

Earlier, Oregon got a setback when Washington State's Julius Korir, who was doubling back from the steeplechase, beat Jim Hill in the 5,000. Hill could only get third as WSU's Peter Koech just edged him for second.

Other outstanding performances on a clear day in the Willamette Valley:

—Arkansas' Mike Conley won the triple jump at 56-11¾, becoming the No. 2 all-time U.S. performer in the event behind Willie Banks. Conley won the long jump Friday and will try to qualify for the U.S. Olympic team in both events.

—UCLA's Tonya Alston, a heptathlete, was the surprise winner of the high jump at 6-1¼.

—Antonio McKay, a freshman at Georgia Tech, won the 400 in 44.83, the second fastest time in the world this year.

—Patti Sue Plumer of Stanford set a meet record of 15:39.38 in winning the women's 5,000, and Gwen Loud of Hawaii, who formerly competed for UCLA, won the long jump with a wind-aided mark of 22-5¾.

Cruz, an Oregon sophomore who plans to run both the 800 and 1,500 in the Olympics, had a race plan that worked.

"Everyone in college likes to win by running slow the first two laps and then fast the last two," he said. "I killed 'em by going out fast on the first two laps."

Cruz, a graceful, long striding runner, toured the first 800 meters in 1:57.8 and easily held his advantage. He won the 800 Friday, becoming a double winner like Brenner and Conley.

NCAA Notes

UCLA decathlete **Jim Connolly** improved his school record in the javelin to 256-10 while finishing fifth . . . UCLA high jumper **Lee Balkis** equaled his personal best in the event Friday at 7-4¼ while tying for fifth . . . "I couldn't be happier," said retiring UCLA Coach **Jim Bush**. "I was down in the dumps two days ago, but the kids we brought here really competed." The Bruins would have fared even better if injured **Brian Muir**, a 67-6 shotputter, and high hurdler **Steve Kerbo** had been able to compete . . . UCLA's women's team, the defending champions, scored only 18 points in 30th place. Cal State L.A. tied for 15th with 31 points, while USC was 24th with 22 points.

Antonio McKay, the indoor record-holder in the 400 at 45.79, said he had a headache while running. "Maybe I should get a headache all the time," said the Georgia Tech sprinter, who is also a wide receiver on the football team . . . **Don Faige**, who had a 800-1,500 NCAA double while competing for Villanova in 1979, was spectator here. He said that his double was more demanding than Cruz's because he had to run the two finals within 30 minutes, instead of separate days . . . **Mike Conley** said that his last attempt in the triple jump was a 57-foot plus effort but his trailing hand cost him four inches . . . Oklahoma State's **Joe Dial** set a meet record by winning the pole vault at 18-2 1/2.

