

RUNNING: PRE'S TRAIL & BEYOND

Eugene's Reputation

"Eugene is ahead of the times as far as running is concerned."

Joe Henderson, America's most prolific writer on running, told that to an Oregon Track Club annual meeting at the Black Angus here last Sunday night. Henderson, who is West Coast Editor of *Runner's World* magazine, said that while Eugene was his home by choice, he has spent a great amount of time traveling in other parts of the country and invariably many people have asked him about Eugene and its special attractions for runners.

Henderson said that Eugene had always been out in front of the national running/jogging movement and he added, "That is as true today as it was back in the early '70s when I first ran a marathon in Eugene. The days of extensive marathoning are over. It is now running for the fun of running; this is beyond even the stage of running for fitness," he said, suggesting that running for fitness is a stage reached before running for running alone. "Running now for many persons is 'running for running's own sake' with this activity of running becoming an everyday part of one's life."

Henderson emphasized, "Long distance running has passed, the boom is over. Running is now a reason for itself. As for Eugene, something we have here is very special. We are having it all."

In response to a question and comment about the Amazon running trail, Henderson said there was probably more running on that trail than any other running facility he had seen any other

by Jack Craig



place in the United States. Henderson added that he lived near that particular trail and ran on it a great deal himself.

Oregon Track Club

The Oregon Track Club, by the way, is alive and well and has extensive plans for 1986 including continued participation in the sponsorship of The Race and the Butte to Butte road runs, as well as the Toys for Tots and the Turkey Run. Gary Trigueiro, president of the OTC, said the club would continue in its efforts to bring the Olympic Trials to Eugene in 1988 as well as the World Masters in 1989. Trigueiro also reported extra efforts would be made this year to install a new track at Hayward field with a proposed enlargement of the track. The East grandstand of the field would be moved closer to Agate Street. He indicated completion of this proposed project would make a difference in the attraction of the world class meets to Eugene. He indicated an extensive fund raising effort would also be necessary to bring the Hayward Field track improvement to realization.

John Gillespie, assistant U of O Track Coach, urged support of the domed Autzen Stadium, indicating the project would be important to the University and Eugene. He also reported on 1986 track prospects for the University of Oregon.

Tom Heinonen, U of O Track Coach, was presented a special trophy in recognition of the Oregon Women's winning of the NCAA championship in 1986. He also indicated that prospects looked good again for an outstanding women's track season for 1986.

Upcoming Runs

Sunday, Feb. 2, at 1 pm, the OTC 10 Miler. Registration can be made before the Sunday run which will have a course along the Alton Baker Park Bike Paths. Start will be on Alton Baker Park. More details are at local running equipment stores.

Sunday, Feb. 9, Euphoria's Truffle Trot. This event, as last year, will include 2 and 4 miles events with starting times at 1 pm and 1:45 pm respectively at Alton Baker Park. Registration is \$9 before Feb. 1, and \$10 afterwards. This includes a long-sleeved T-shirt. Entry forms are available at Euphoria Chocolate, 6 W. 17th Ave. Proceeds of the race go to Association of Retarded Children of Lane County.

Saturday, Feb. 15, at 9:30 and 10 am, at Lane County Fairgrounds. Events include 5K and 10K with the 5K to begin first. Registration is \$2 before Feb. 12 and \$3 on the day of race. Sponsored by River Road Park and Recreation District. Tel. Michael DeRoberts, 688-4052.

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Weekly Eye Opener

by Larry Deckman

(Taken from *The Daily Planet Almanac* for 1986):
"Combining all of its many motions, the Earth on which we reside is moving relative to the rest of the Universe in the direction of the constellation Leo (which is due east at 7 pm on Feb. 1st) at a speed of 900,000 miles per hour."

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