

Duck Tracks

By Bob Robinson
Emerald Sports Editor

From the looks of past records this season it appears as though the Southern Division of the Pacific Coast conference is going to walk off with most of the marbles in this Saturday's PCC track and field meet at Seattle.

Southern performers have recorded far better marks than Northern Division competitors in nearly every event. Perennials champion, Southern California, has the best records in seven of the fifteen events that will be on the program. California and Stanford boast three top marks each and UCLA and Washington, one.

The Trojans have top notch performers in the 100, 220, 440, broad jump, high jump, discus and the mile relay. California has the top men in the 880, pole vault and shot put. Stanford's bests are in the high hurdles, low hurdles and javelin. UCLA has the top mile run time and Washington has recorded the top two mile time.

Bob Gary Best Bet

From the looks of things now, it seems like sprinter Bob Gary of Washington State has the best chance to break the SD monopoly. Gary's 9.6 clocking for the 100 in last weekend's ND meet is equal to the best time of Joe Grafio of USC. However, Grafio has an unofficial time of 9.4 seconds with the wind. In the 220 Howard Bugbee of USC and Gary have recorded 21 flats in official times while Grafio and Bugbee have hit 20.6 and 20.7 unofficially.

In the 440 the Southern Division seems to be far and away the best. Jim Lea of USC, Steve Turner of California, Mike Larrabee and Rod Wilger of USC, Dan Timmerman of California, Fred George of Stanford, Walt Garrett of Stanford and Howard Smith of USC have all recorded better times than Oregon's Fred Jacobs hit in his best performance of the Northern Division meet. Lea, the defending champ, has the best time of 47 flat.

The same situation exists in the 880 with seven men from California schools having better marks than Bill Link of Washington State who has been the ND's best. Lon Spurrier with a 1:52 to his credit and teammate Ed Wilson with a 1:53 have led California and the SD all season long in their specialty.

Close Mile Run

Larry Carter of UCLA has the best mile time with 4:14. He is closely followed by Marty Montgomery of USC with a 4:14.2 and Len Simpson of California with a 4:14.9 clocking last Saturday.

Meyer's time of 9:17.5 for the two-mile stands as the best so far recorded. Bob Hunt of UCLA has gone the distance in 9:18.7 for the second best mark. Oregon's Wayne Reiser, who upset Meyer last weekend with a time of 9:24.7, should have a good chance of placing high in this race.

In the 120-yard high hurdles Gerry Wood of Stanford has hit 14.1 and Will Wright of USC has a 14.2 to his credit. Don Chambers of OSC will have only an outside chance with his top time of 14.8.

South Dominates Hurdles

The SD will also have overwhelming favorites in the low hurdles. Jim Luttrell of Stanford has run the distance in 23.5 and Dave Rosellini of UCLA has hit 23.7. Bob Ledbetter of Washington could have a chance. His best time is 23.8.

John Arnett of the Trojans has the best broad jump recorded with a leap of 24'5". Dale Skartvedt of Washington is the second best with 23'4". Ben Johnson of Oregon would have to improve on his last week's jump if he was to have a chance in this event.

Ernie Shelton of USC is just about a shoo-in in the high jump. Shelton's best jump of 6'9 3/4" is more than three inches better than the second best jump. Bob Faucett of Oregon with a top leap of 6'4" could give the Ducks some points here if he can come up with a top performance.

In the pole vault both Larry Anderson of California and Walt Levak of USC have gone over 14 feet and it appears that the ND vaulters may get shutout in this event unless they can vastly improve by Saturday.

Could Sweep Shot Put

The Southern Division appears to have a sweep of the shot put in sight. Nine SD men have hit better distances than Duane Wardlow of Washington with John Stellern of California holding the best throw of 55'4".

Leon Patterson and Des Koch of Southern Cal are the top men in the discus. Patterson has the best toss of 178'8". Wardlow and Dean Parsons of the Huskies are the only threats from the ND.

Leo Long of Stanford is by far the classiest of the javelin throwers. Long has a 233'11" throw to his credit and no one else in either league can approach it. Jerry Church of OSC with a best of 216'11" could give the Beavers some strength here.

Southern Cal looks like a cinch to win the mile relay. The Trojans have covered the distance in the tremendous time of 3:12.7, which is almost four seconds better than the next best clocking. California has a best time of 3:16.1 and Stanford is close behind with a 3:16.3.

Trojan Cindermen Favored Over PCC Foes at Seattle

The mighty Southern California Trojans, led by two state of Washington athletes anxious to show their wares to the "native folk," are top-heavy favorites to win the Pacific Coast Conference track and field meet at Seattle this weekend.

The form chart, which has been known to be wrong before but hardly enough to upset the Trojans, gives USC 79 points, far ahead of second-place California with its 50 points.

With the Men of Troy a virtual cinch to romp home with team honors for the fourteenth straight time, attention will center on the individual entries and events. Two of the most closely watched athletes will be Jim Lea, SC's ace quarter-miler from Seattle, and Des Koch, their great discus thrower from Shelton, just a hop, skip and jump from Seattle.

Lea After Record

Lea, defending national champion in the 440, will be aiming for the 13-year-old record held by Grover Klemmer of California, and the experts say he might get it with good weather. Klemmer ran the distance in 46.4 seconds, while Lea's best 1954 time is 47 seconds.

Lea rules a slight favorite in the 220-yard dash, too, although Northwest fans think that Washington State's Bob Gary might beat him to the tape.

Koch should win the discus, according to the form chart, although his best 1954 throw of 177 feet, 5 1/2 inches has been topped by a teammate, Leon Patterson. Koch is the more consistent of the two and many track experts hail him as the nation's best collegian in the event.

Shelton Favored

Another Southern California performer, Ernie Shelton, will seek the world's first seven-foot high jump in the conference meet. Shelton has gone 6 feet, 9 3/4 inches this year and will make a strong bid for the seven-foot

jump as well as the PCC record of 6 feet 9 inches set by Oregon's Les Steers in 1941.

USC and their Southern Division mates are expected to dominate the meet to the extent that only one Northerner is favored to win a first place.

That's Washington's two-miler, Denny Meyer, and he must return to early-season form to top a classy field. Meyer has been beaten on two successive weekends, but his best performance of 9:17.5 marks him as the favorite. Steadily-improving Bob Hunt, UCLA, has turned in a 9:18.7 two mile and is Meyer's prime threat. The Husky runner, incidentally, never has won the event in a conference meet and is out to whip that "jinx."

Gary a Threat

Aside from Meyer, the Northwest's hopes lie largely in the persons of Gary, a threat in both

sprint races, and Darrold Skartvedt, Washington broad jumper. Skartvedt is defending PCC champion but doesn't figure to outleap a USC sophomore, Jon Arnett. Arnett has jumped a foot farther than Skartvedt this spring.

The weekend meet will be the last for Washington's retiring coach, Hec Edmundson, who by a narrow margin of one point lost the Northern Division title last Saturday at Pullman. Edmundson is finishing up his 35th season at the Pudget Sound institution and will be honored Friday night by a testimonial dinner in Seattle attended by the conference coaches, former Washington basketball and track stars, sportswriters and fans.

Although Hec's Huskies are far out of the running for team honors, they figure to pick up more points than any of the other Northwest schools.



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