

Surprise! Bruin Spikers Win



OREGON WEIGHTMAN Neil Steinhauer follows through with the extra effort that allowed him to break his personal, school, and the meet record in Saturday's Hayward Field competition against UCLA. Steinhauer flung the disc 183-2 to swamp his nearest competitor by 18 feet. Jim Chaskin photo

By DAVE BARONTI
Sports Writer

The scoreboard read "UCLA 91, Oregon 54" at the end of Saturday's dual track-and-field encounter on Hayward Field.

But forget about the scoreboard.

The mighty Bruins, undefeated and completely unchallenged (their closest previous meet was a 96-49 thumping of Arizona State) in six appearances this spring, had the meet virtually sewn up even before they appeared on the field.

And they did win, but only after the most exciting track action seen on Hayward Field in quite a while.

No less than 12 Ducks and two Bruins set 16 career bests before the 7,500 enthusiastic spectators in the Hayward stands.

Not one of those fans probably thought it possible for the Webfoots to upset the precision machine from Los Angeles, but at times during the meet, no one knew what to think.

Woodell Surprises

There were Herman Brame and Bob Woodell in the long jump—supposedly Oregon's weak event.

Neither Brame nor Woodell had been even close to 23-feet all year—Brame's best being 22-8½ and Woodell's, 21-6—but the meet was not 30 minutes old when Woodell delighted the crowd with a leap of 23-11—bettering his previous lifetime best by nearly two and one-half feet!

Brame followed with a 23-10 jump—his best by over a foot.

The Bruins, expected to take the event something like 6-3, lost it, 8-1.

Steinhauer Wins Shot

Then came the shot. Neil Steinhauer won as expected—with a new Hayward Field record of 65 feet-one inch. But Bob Fosket also grabbed a third. That was not expected.

Fosket, who had never hit 55 feet in his life, put together a series that included three tosses over 55 and one of 56-10 that easily beat Bruin 56 and one-half footer, Jack Hale.

So Oregon, instead of winning by the expected 5-4 count, won it, 6-3. And better yet, they were leading 14-4 at that point in the overall score.

But, despite continued Oregon superlatives, UCLA began to put together just-as-impressive efforts and the score inevitably began to tip toward the Bruins.

UCLA came from behind during the third leg to beat a fired-up Webfoot 440-yard relay team in 40.7. Oregon crossed the finish line in 41.4—by one-tenth second their best of the year.

Days Runs Four-Minute Mile

In the mile, Bob Day, the number one collegiate miler in the country, burned up the field including Oregon hope Wade Bell, with a 1:58.0 initial two-laps before "coasting" to a 4:00.0 victory.

Thus Day became only the third four-minute (on the nose) miler in history—after Australia's Herb Elliott and Oregon's Jim Grelle.

Day's strategy proved effective as far as Bell was concerned. The Oregon junior, entirely out of the race after three laps, was deprived of his potent finishing

kick, and had to struggle home in 4:09, behind another UCLA runner, Geoff Pyne.

If that wasn't enough, at that point superlative performances began streaming in like a spring waterfall.

● Neil Steinhauer, in winning his second event of the afternoon, threw the discus 183-2 for his third Oregon school record in three weeks.

● Mike Diebele, a sophomore from Medford who's previous best this year was 9.9, upset three Bruins including their "unupsettable" 9.4 century man Norm Jackson in a 9.6 100.

● Mike Diebele then doubled back with a personal best 21.2 220 despite finishing third.

● Bob Blum was upset by Ron Copeland in the 120 high hurdles—but in the fastest time of the year for both hurdlers. Blum ran a 13.8—by two-tenths his best time—and Copeland a 13.7—his best by four-tenths second.

The race also put them 1-2 in conference high hurdle standings.

● Paul Cope ran a lifetime best 52.9 to win the 440 intermediate hurdles after apparent winner Roger Johnson of UCLA was disqualified for dragging a leg over the edge of a barrier.

Blum ran second and John Bulter, also of Oregon, third.

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Bruin Coach Upset Over Judge's Call

By LYNN MUCKEN
Sports Writer

UCLA had just walloped Oregon, 91-54, in the first-ever dual meet between the two schools. And although the Ducks had held the overpowering Bruins to "merely" 91 points, most coaches would be happy with such a victory over what-is-rated one of their strongest rivals for national honors.

Not Jim Bush.

"I'm not too pleased," said the blond UCLA mentor. "Everything went wrong today. We missed our bus, almost missed our plane connections, and almost didn't make it on time for the meet. Then we forgot our stopwatches, and our best sprinter (Norm Jackson in the 220) comes up injured. It was just one of those days."

Bush's main complaint, however, was the judges' decision which took away a Bruin victory in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles. Roger Johnson, the apparent winner, was disqualified for bringing his left leg around, rather than over, a hurdle on the south turn of the Hayward Field track.

The decision awarded Webfoot sophomore Paul Cope the blue ribbon, and gave Oregon a sweep of the event.

Bush protested the disqualification. "That guy must have been out in the cowpasture when he made that decision," he complained.

"It's impossible to do. He's (Johnson) a left-footed hurdler and leads with that leg. At first that guy (the official) said it was his trailing leg, and then when we told him Johnson was a left-footed hurdler, he changed his story and said it was his lead leg. I just want to get out of here and get home. I don't care if we ever come back."

Oregon hurdler Bob Blum, referring to the infraction, noted, "It could be done, if you're on the outside of the lane. It would be difficult, but it is possible."

Webfoot coach Bill Bowerman refused to enter into the controversy and also refused to criticize the UCLA coach. "A guy gets excited and he's a competitor," said Bowerman of Bush. "I wouldn't second-guess an official, there's three people involved in making such a decision, all experienced in track and field."

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