



ARNE KVALHEIM—Collegiate two-mile record holder sets sights on Kennedy Games in Berkeley Saturday.

# Arne Kvalheim excels as long distance runner

By STEVEN RAU  
Of the Emerald

It's too bad there isn't a flat 3000 meter race (a happy medium between the 1500 and 5000), because Oregon's Arne Kvalheim would be among the world's premier runners at that distance.

The lean and lanky Norwegian has been competing on a semi-international scale since 1962, when he was a member of the National Junior team of Norway. A veteran of the 1968 Olympic Games, where he disappointingly failed to reach the finals, Arne has already decided to work toward the '72 Games.

In his three years as a Webfoot, the 'Oslo Flyer' has gained wide recognition as one of the nation's top collegiate distance men.

He currently holds four school records, and in a grueling duel with Washington State's great Gerry Lindgren last year he set the college two-mile mark (8:33.2). This season Arne is ranked either first or second in the nation in the one, two, and three miles.

When Arne came to Oregon three years ago, he was primarily a middle distance runner, but last year he moved up into the longer races and found himself among the top collegians in this country. However, the 1500 meters (the "metric mile") was still his best event, and going into Mexico City he was ranked fifth in the world.

### 'LIKE JOGGING THREE LAPS'

"My first goal last year was to make the Olympic team. The whole season was a preparation for the Olympics . . . I was very disappointed that I didn't make it past the semis, but I didn't run my kind of race . . . it was like jogging three laps then running a quarter . . . I just don't have that kind of speed."

Arne's semi-final heat at Mexico City had 12 entrants, and all of them were sub-four minute milers. Although he was ranked ahead of most of them in world standings, Arne felt that he would have made it if he had run his race. His type of race is one with a "hard fast pace" instead of a fast finishing kick.

Arne first became interested in Oregon after talking with a fellow Norwegian who attended Oregon in the late fifties. Then, in 1965, he competed against former Oregon mile standout Jim Grelle at a meet in Norway.

"It wasn't much of a contest," Arne related, "Grelle easily won." After the race he talked to Grelle and later began to communicate with Duck track mentor Bill Bowerman. The rest is

history.

This season Arne has not been seriously challenged in any of his races, and has a perfect record. Although the Pacific-8 sports some competition, like USC's Ole Olesen and Rick Riley of WSU, most of the top runners are long out of college.

### ARNE STILL YOUNG

At the ripe old age of 24 (as of April 25), Arne is still quite young as distance runners go. The holder of more records than are even countable, Australian Ron Clarke, is over 30 and is still going strong.

The U.S. two mile record holder (8:22.0) George Young just recently retired at the age of 30, but not before completing the recent indoor season with an unblemished record (and several world marks).

But Arne's "old age" has presented one problem. Following his recent birthday he received news that he would be ineligible for the NCAA championships. The NCAA has a rule that foreign athletes past the age of 24 cannot compete in the national championships. This ruling has also eliminated another Oregon star, Australian Gary Knoke.

Although he wanted very much to improve upon his fourth place finish from last year, it will give Arne a chance to go home a little early.

Home for Arne is Oslo, where he will be awaited by his wife and his baby daughter, whom he has not yet seen. The Webfoot standout will be leaving for home sometime next week. But before he goes Oregonians will have a chance to see him in a special twilight meet next Tuesday.

This weekend Kvalheim will head an Oregon contingent traveling south to Berkeley to compete in the first annual Kennedy Memorial Track and Field Meet. In both of his final state-side races, Arne will probably compete in the mile, hoping to improve upon his 3:58.5 clocking of last year.

### BACK FOR GRAD SCHOOL

Although he will be going home soon, Arne thinks that he probably will be back in a year or two to go to graduate school. He hopes to enter the Norwegian foreign service, but first he must serve in their army for a year.

As for the '72 Olympics, Arne says that "my plans are for the 5000 meters." But that is still a long way off.

While the Webfoots are losing one Kvalheim, they are gaining another—Arne's brother Knut is planning on enrolling here next fall.

### Outfielder takes first

Ron Young, Duckling center-fielder, fired a four-over-par 39 to take first place in the first and last annual Oregon Frosh Baseball Golf Tourney Thursday.

Frosh Coach Jim Dietz was runner-up with 41 strokes over the nine-hole Oakway Golf Course. Stan Woods had a 42.

### Frosh golfers top Spring Hills

Kim Wenger shot a 70 to pace the Oregon Frosh to an easy 18½-8½ win over Spring Hill Country Club in Albany.

Wenger tied for medalist honors with Stu Denham of Spring Hills. Other Frosh scores included Dave Miller 73, Don Smith 74, Allen Brooks 75, Stu McKenzie 76 and Terry Scroggin 79.

The Oregon squad finished the season with an 8-0 record.

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## Outdoor program

**Monday**  
Rock Climbing—A car is leaving Rm. 23 at 7 p.m. for a rock practice on the Skinner's Butte Columns.

**Tuesday**  
Rock Climbing—A basic rock practice on the columns leaving Rm. 23 at 7 p.m.

Three Sisters—an organizational meeting for the weekend climb is meeting in the program room in the evening.

**Wednesday**  
Technical Rock Climbing—From 6 p.m. to dark the Coburg Caves will be the scene of some advanced rock technique. Call Steve Schaffers.

Rock Climbing—At 7 p.m. a car is leaving Rm. 23 for basic rock practice at the Skinner's Butte Columns.

**Thursday**  
Kayak Clinic—From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. basic kayak instruction will take place on the Millrace. Come to the canoe shack with suit and towel.

**Thursday and Friday**  
Mr. Washington—A snow climb with experienced people is leaving Thursday at 5 p.m. in able to reach base camp for an early start up Washington Friday morning. They will try to be back Saturday for those who have to study. Call Lanny O'Flannery (345-2171) or check in the program room for more information.

**Weekend**  
Three Sisters—A group is leaving at 8 a.m. Friday to climb the Three Sisters. Check in the program room or at the meeting on Tuesday in the program room for more information.

## ANNUAL EUROPE JET CHARTER FLIGHTS

- No. 1 MAY 25 to JUNE 16 (\$250.00)
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For Further Information Call or Write

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## Course Proposal Deadlines

May 29—Summer term courses

August 1—Fall term courses (proposal forms will be accepted through August, but late courses will not be assured publication).

Come to the SEARCH office, room 305 EMU for course proposal forms and additional information on how to start a course. (ext. 1921).