

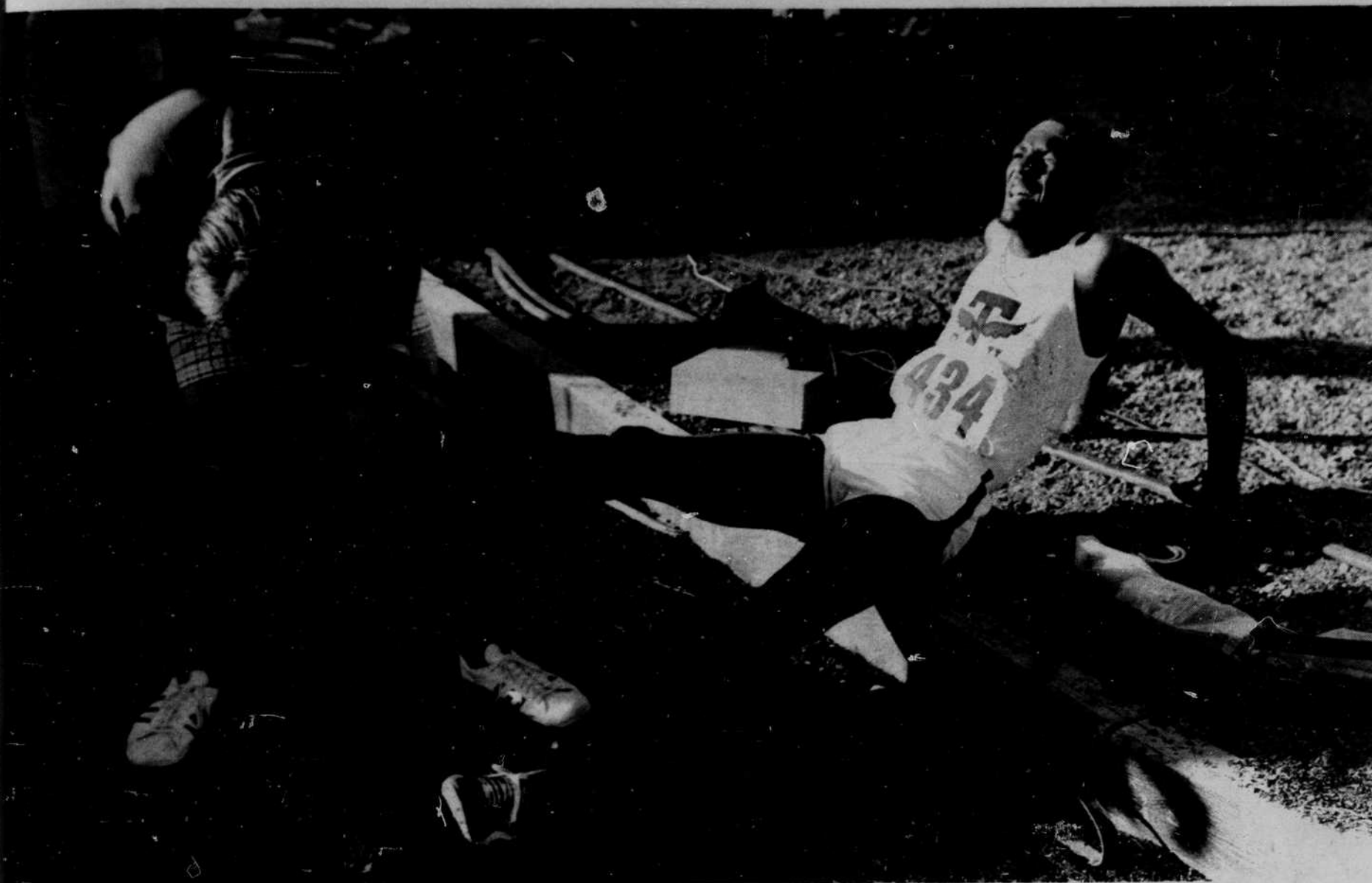
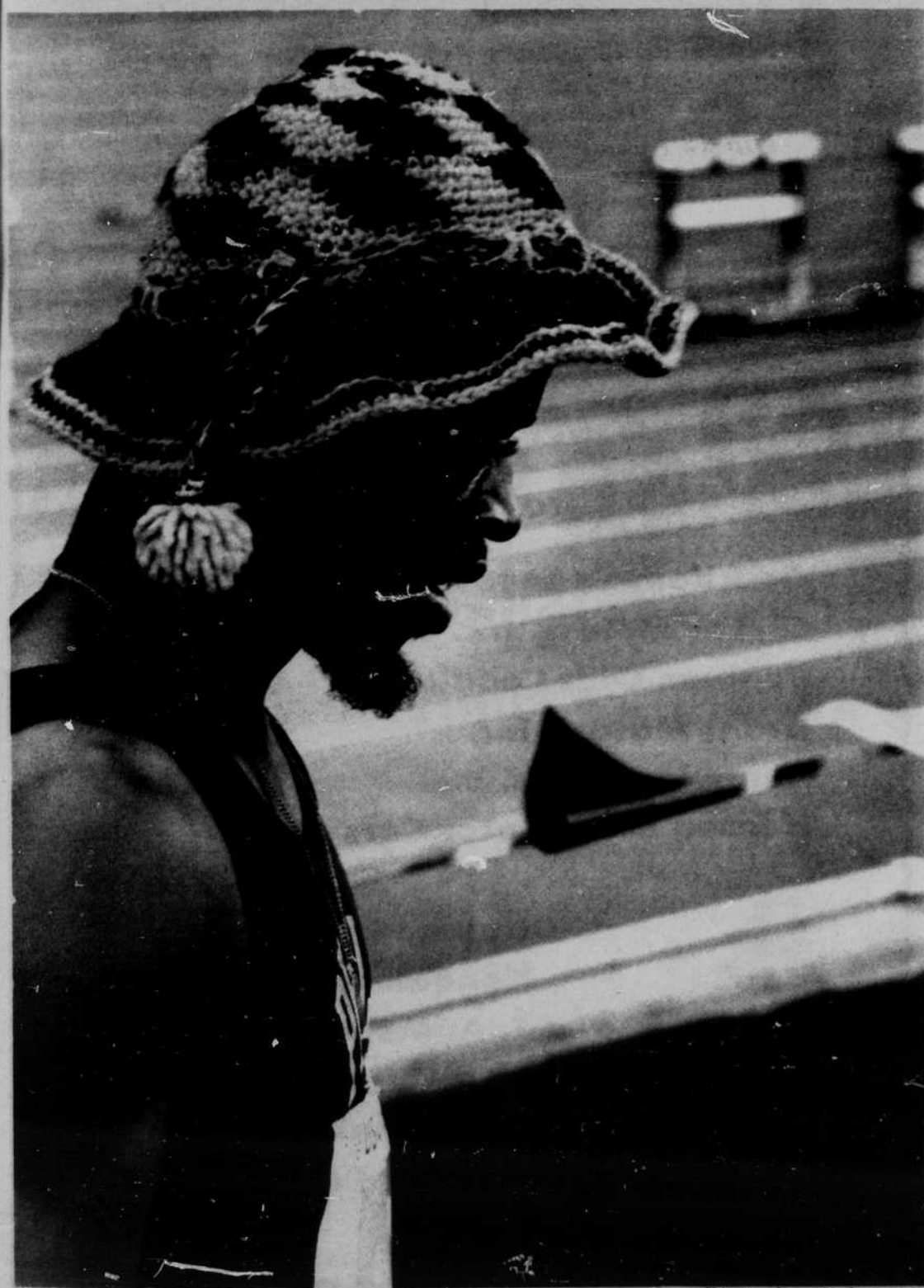


Photo by Bob Flora



Oregon Daily Emerald

Photo by Nick Lacy

Olympic dream within grasp

Jim Ryun continued his journey back to the top of America's middle distance runners and 45 men fought for the right to take a shot at the "World's Fastest Human" title during day two of Eugene's Mini-Munich Friday.

These 46 men—and all of the other competitors in the second day of the Olympic Trials—had but one goal: running for the U.S. in the German Olympics.

By tonight, that goal will have been realized by fifteen men. The U.S. representatives in the 20-kilometer walk, discus, triple jump, 100 and 800 meter runs will have been determined by the time more than 10,000 fans file out of Hayward Field this evening.

If Friday was any indicator, competition for those 15 spots should be something very special. For yesterday it became apparent that the athletes knew they were within reaching distance of that goal and many turned in more than 100 percent efforts in attempts at keeping their dream alive.

Try telling Tom Fulton, Ken Swenson, Robert Taylor or Robert Ware that they just ran "another race" on Friday.

Fulton ran over 600 meters without one shoe just to keep his dream alive in the 800 meters. Swenson had to get up off the track after falling down in heavy traffic to qualify in the same event.

Taylor ran a 9.9 (equivalent to the world's record but wind-aided) to qualify for today's competition, while Ware ran a 10.1 (only .2 seconds off the world's fastest time ever) but failed to qualify for the finals.

And try convincing this nation's triple jumpers they're competing in "just another meet" in Eugene. They'll tell you this meet is the only thing between them and Munich.

They said as much nonverbally Friday, putting together jumps making them what the meet announcer called the "best field of U.S. triple jumpers ever assembled in one place."

One man, John Craft, soared to 55' even, three others made it past 54' and five more went over 53'. UCLA's Harry Freeman improved his personal best in the event by one foot, five and one-half inches, as he reached 54'6½".

Competition in today's events should be just as exciting—perhaps even more so now that the dream is that much closer.

Events today will include the javelin qualifying round (see pages 4 and 5), pole vault qualifying round (see page 6), second round of the 400 meter hurdles (see pages 7 and 8), final in the 20-kilometer walk (see pages 8 and 9), final in the discus (see pages 5 and 6), semi-finals and final in the 100 meter run (see pages 12 and 13), finals in the triple jump (see page 14) and finals in the 800 meter run (see story page 16).

Even more men will have attained their dream by tomorrow night. By then fifteen more men will have joined the Olympic team and the world will know who the U.S. is sending to Munich in the pole vault, javelin, 400 meter hurdles, 3,000 meter steeplechase and 10,000 meters.