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emerald sports

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- Patty Kearney Kearney has broken the Oregon javelin record twice already this year and only good things can be ahead for the sophomore from Tigard.
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Cover photo by Steve Schneider

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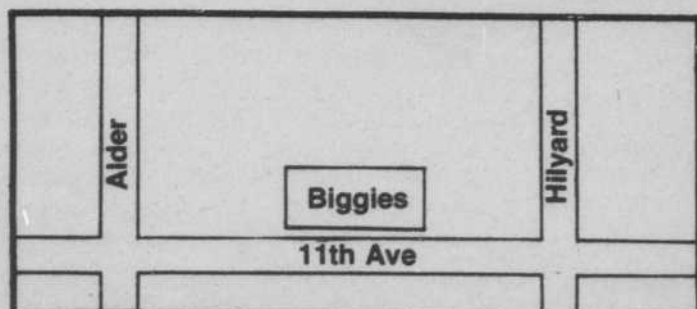
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Torture Ridge feature of spring runs

In spring, a young person's fancy turns to — RUNNING! And in Eugene, the self-styled "Runners' Capital of America," there is no shortage of fun runs and races from April thru June. The schedule boasts exotic race titles such as "Torture Ridge," "Storm the Butte," "May Day Feast Run," "Heart of the Valley," "Avenue of the Giants" and so on. Events range from two mile fun runs to 26 mile marathons.

Last year, the most popular yet punishing event was Torture Ridge, a jaunt over about 10,000 meters. The course runs from Hendricks Park to Lane Community College and back. Runners encounter narrow twisting trails, fallen logs, creek-beds, ditches and two "killer hills."

The entry fee is \$1.00, but all survivors receive a tee-shirt, food and drinks. Unfortunately, many of last year's 360 starters caught poison oak, so organizers advise this year's entrants to "cover up." The event is set for Sunday, April 23 at high noon.

Another challenging event is Storm the Butte, a lung-bursting scramble up Mt. Pisgah just east of town. Again, all finishers receive a tee-shirt along with a breathtaking view of the valley from atop Pisgah. Most runners enjoy a picnic at Jasper Park after.

The May Day Feast Run is run on five miles of road, but at the

finish runners enjoy all they can eat and drink. Entry for the event is a six-pack of beer or a dish of food. The feast occurs in the Hendricks Park picnic shelter after the race.

Heart of the Valley is the most popular event Corvallis has to offer. Normally, both the three and seven mile divisions of the event are won by runners from Eugene. But the Beavers don't seem to mind. It's only 25 cents to enter and the awards consist of ribbons.

For those masochists among you, the Avenue of the Giants Marathon may appeal. Located near Weott, Northern California, the 26 mile course winds through the redwood forests and is reputedly the world's most scenic course. It makes an enjoyable weekend outing and many van loads of Oregon students normally make the trip.

Less serious runners will find the monthly fun runs in Alton Baker Park a most enjoyable experience. You have a choice of two or four miles and entry is free. Fields range up to about 75 and this is an excellent event for novice runners to begin their career in.

On campus, the Intramural Department holds two mile runs every three weeks. The course is mainly grass and normally attracts about 50 runners of all abilities. Phone John Borchardt in Esslinger Hall (4113) for exact dates.

- April 16 OTC Fun Run, 2 or 4 miles, 1:30 p.m., Alton Baker Park.
- April 22 Heart of the Valley, 3 or 7 miles, 11:00 a.m., Crescent Valley HS.
- April 23 Torture Ridge, over 10,000 meters, 12 noon, Hendricks Park.
- May 7 May Day Feast Run, 5 miles, 1:00 p.m., Hendricks Park.
- May 7 Avenue of the Giants Marathon, 26 miles, 9:00 a.m., Weott, CAL.
- May 21 OTC Fun Run, 2 or 4 miles, 1:30 p.m., Alton Baker Park.
- June 11 Around the Butte, 8 miles, 11:00 a.m., Spencer's Butte JHS.

Bliss named top wrestler

Scott Bliss was named Oregon's outstanding wrestler at the annual wrestling banquet held Monday night at the Country Squire Inn.

Bliss placed sixth in the nation in the 150 pound class, earning him All-American honors. Bliss, only a sophomore, will return for two more years of action for Ron Finley's squad.

The outstanding freshman award went to Jeff Stuebing from McMinnville. Stuebing wrestled at 167 pounds during the season. The Grant and Henjyoji Memorial Award, presented to the wrestler with the most outstanding contribution to the team during the season, was given to senior 185-pounder Dan Hollembaek.

Misconceptions to the contrary, rugby is a gentleman's sport

By NEIL GRUENFELDER
Of the Emerald

Rugby has been called a hoodlum's game played by gentlemen. The gentlemen of the club sport's rugby team would prefer to

keep it that way.

"It's not a brutal sport," says three-year veteran Paul Hribnick. "It's a controlled violence. People are respectful because they don't have pads. It's a gentleman's sport contrary to what you hear."

"If you swing at a guy, you're out. If you swear loud enough you'll get a penalty, and you can't have high hitting," says Hribnick. "You learn how to use the other guy's momentum to bring him down. You kind of roll and twist to stop him."

A popular game in England, rugby has its roots in football and soccer. Play starts when a 15-man team lines up and kicks off with an oblong, leather

ball, similar to an over-inflated football. The opposing team catches it and tries, through running and non-forward passes, to carry the ball into the end-zone.

Blocking is illegal and tackling occurs only on the ball carrier. Four points are awarded when the ball is touched down in the end zone, and two more can be converted by kicking the ball over a crossbar after the initial score. A team can also register points through a penalty by drop-or-free kicking the ball successfully over a crossbar at the point of the infraction.

Because both teams are running constantly for two 40-minute

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