

# Spikers tune for nationals with Berkeley invitational

By JODY MURRAY  
Of the Emerald

In a tuneup for next week's AIAW national championships, Oregon's women's track team will send a contingent to the Pacific Coast Invitational Sunday in Berkeley, Cal.

The invitational is the brainchild of Oregon coach Tom Heinonen, who envisioned a meet that would invite teams from the Pacific-10 Conference schools. It would be a forerunner of a conference meet if the women form their own Pac-10.

Unfortunately, scheduling conflicts with the men's Northern Division Relays prevented the meet from being held at Hayward Field. So the location was tossed up for grabs, and Cal took it.

According to Heinonen, Cal's athletic director told women's coach Vern Gambetta to open up the meet to other competitors outside the Pac-10.

Consequently, in addition to six Pac-10 schools, members of Athletics West and the Oregon Track Club also will attend, which will make for at least one interesting matchup for Oregon.

Sally Harmon, who won the Northwest javelin championship last Saturday with a season best of 168-5, will face former teammate Patty Kearney, now competing for OTC.

Kearney set the Oregon record of 180-7 as a senior last year and has improved her best to

187-7. Heinonen says she has had a "phenomenal week of practice," including a measured throw of 194 feet.

Harmon, on the other hand, said at the Northwest meet that the invitational could give her the boost she needs to break the 170 mark.

Another pair of Oregon throwers, Quenna Beasley and Karen McDonald, will enter the discus competition to face who Heinonen calls "a walking 20 points" — Arizona's Meg Ritchie. The British native and defending AIAW champion is the world leader with a throw of 221-7.

McDonald's 170-11 best is among the top collegiate throws. Beasley isn't far behind at 166-2.

"It will be an important experience for Beasley and McDonald because they'll find out what it's like to throw in the same competition with Ritchie," Heinonen said. "There are a lot of others who won't see her until nationals."

One the better track events will be the 400 hurdles, featuring Arizona freshman Robin Marks, the U.S. leader at 57.24. Oregon's Lexie Miller, with a best of 59.19 set last weekend, also is entered.

"No one has pushed or pulled (Miller) this season," Heinonen says. Miller is undefeated in the event. "It looks like she's going to be pulled."

Eryn Forbes, Oregon's top long distance runner, will probably enter the 3,000. Last week she ran a 33:55.8 10,000, the second fastest time in the country this year and the fastest by an American.

## Celtics win 14th NBA title

HOUSTON (AP) — The Boston Celtics, with Larry Bird finally breaking out of his scoring slump, won their 14th National Basketball Association championship by defeating the Houston Rockets 102-91 Thursday night.

Boston made 13 of 18 field goal attempts in the second quarter and matched that torrid shooting in the third period, outscoring Houston 57-43 in the two middle periods. And when Robert Parish scored the opening basket of the fourth quarter, Boston had its biggest lead of

the game at 84-67.

The Rockets, the Cinderella team of the NBA playoffs, refused to buckle under to the storied Celtics. They held Boston scoreless for nearly five minutes and reeled off 12 points to pull to within 84-79 with 5:32 to play.

Houston was twice able to reduce the margin to three points again, but a three-point basket by Bird from the left corner gave Boston a 95-89 advantage with 1:36 left and ended the Rockets' hopes.

Four free throws by Cedric

Maxwell and three by Chris Ford in the final 1:19 assured the victory.

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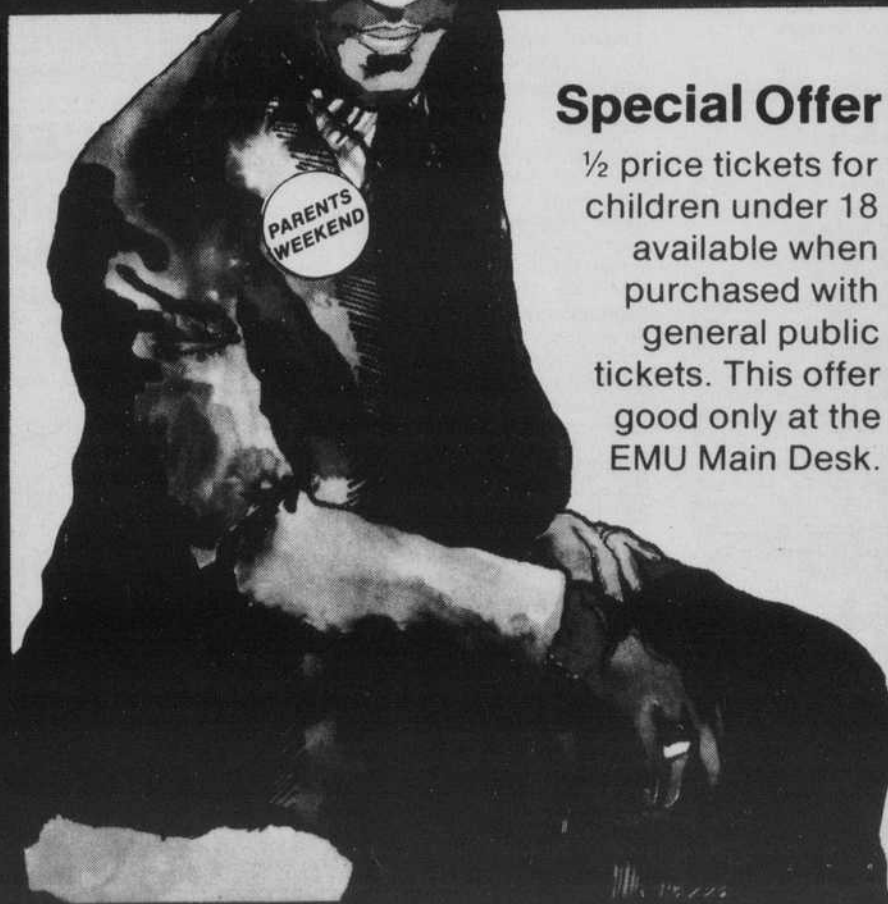
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