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THE FILM SHOT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Friday, May 29 — 8 p.m.
Saturday, May 30
and June 6 — 2 p.m.
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and June 7 — 2 p.m.
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sports

Bill, Bill highlight Twilight McChesneys romp; Byers takes mile

By JODY MURRAY
Of the Emerald

Bill McChesney — both of them — were the toast of the track at the Twilight Meet Thursday night at Hayward Field.

First, 53-year-old Dr. McChesney obliterated his national age group record in the master's mile. His son followed half an hour later with a second-place finish in a blistering Twilight Mile in which five runners broke the four-minute barrier.

Tom Byers of Athletics West broke the tape in the Twilight Mile in 3:55.73, which broke the meet record of 3:56.3 set by Roscoe Divine in 1979. McChesney's time was 3:56.36, followed by Oregon's Rudy Chapa (3:57.04), Ed Spinney of Athletics West (3:57.34) and Oregon Track Club's Ken Martin (3:57.84).

Jim Hill of Oregon just missed making it under four minutes with a sixth-place time of 4:00.40.

Byers set a torrid pace for the first two laps, taking the quarter in 57.2 and the half in 1:55.8. He slowed to 2:56.4 at the three-quarter mark as McChesney whipped past him at the finish line.

A sparse (3,940) but vocal crowd stood and cheered as McChesney held off Byers until the last 100 meters. Byers' time also shaved .26 of a second from his personal best.

"I decided to just let him go and then try to catch him at 200," Byers said. "He's a strength runner while I'm more of a speed runner. I'm thankful he took the lead when he did. He pulled us through that last lap."

McChesney, wearing a pink singlet emblazoned with the Pink Panther and Kermit the Frog, defended his last-lap tactic.

"I don't know where this rumor started that I have no raw speed. I'm no slowpoke. I was hoping to get about a 58 or 59."

The man who finished third also had a story to tell. Chapa was scheduled to run the two-mile, the race just before the mile. At the last minute, he told Oregon coach Bill Dellinger he was dropping the two to concentrate on the mile.

"I'm a bit of a sentimentalist," Chapa said, "and I wanted to continue tradition at the University. While I was warming up (for

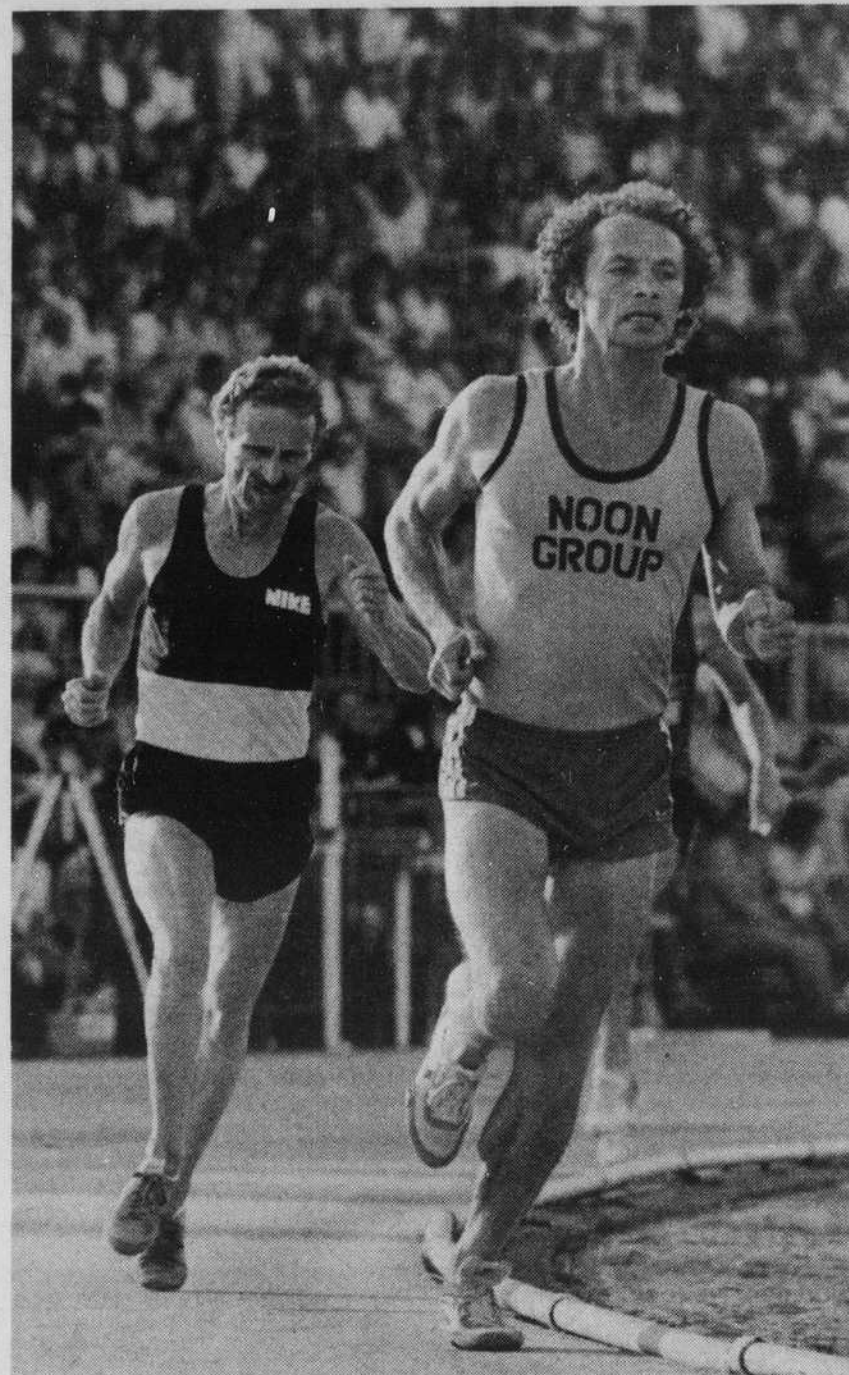


Photo by Steve Dykes

Bill McChesney, Sr., (left) upstaged his son by setting a national record for his age group in the mile.

the two mile) I thought, 'I've never broken four minutes.'

"I wanted to be one of those sub-four milers, so I got out of the two mile."

In doing so, Chapa became the 19th Duck to break the four-minute barrier. His time puts him fourth on the all-time list, in front of Dyrol Burleson, who won the first Twilight Mile in 1966.

"This year has been a failure," said Chapa, referring to his injury-filled season. "Knowing I could do it tonight makes me feel a lot better."

McChesney's father, Dr. Bill, was feeling pretty good himself after finishing the master's mile in 4:51.5. His time roasted the national record of 5:00.7 for 53-year-olds and was possibly a world best.

McChesney was egged on throughout the race by his son, who volleyed from back straight to main straight, yelling, "Go, dad! Go!"

"It was really fun, breaking new ground," said the elder McChesney. "Son of a gun! Fifty-three years old and I can still run a mile."

Dr. Bill was just joshing, as he's an accomplished runner who competed this year in the Boston Marathon.

"I came through the first lap in 65 and that scared me. I've never done that in practice."

In other highlights, Oregon's Jeanne Borchardt set a school record of 5-8½ in the high jump; Bruce Bickford of Athletics West ran a meet-record 8:35.90 in the steeplechase; Lynda Hughes, competing unattached, won a spirited javelin duel with OTC's Patty Kearney, 172-11 to 171-3; and Debbie Eide of OTC set a meet record in the 3,000 meters of 9:25.90.

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6 Telefund Assistants

To call UO Alumni seeking their financial support for the 1981 Annual Fund. Some data recording involved. Assistants will work 10.5 hours a week between 6:00 and 9:30 p.m. Good communicative skills, pleasant telephone manners, knowledge of University, and fund-raising interest preferred. Program begins June 15 and finishes approximately August 20.

Applications and job descriptions available in UO Foundation Office, 148 Susan Campbell Hall. Completed applications due no later than Friday, June 5. For further information, call 686-3016.

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