

**CLASSIC**

Continued from Page 12

"I thought school would be in at 500 meters (to go) when he said he'd go out and I looked at him at 500 and then at 300 and he went so I said 'I guess this means we're going,'" he said. "I just flew at the end."

While Blanchette was doing it on the track, Karin Smith and Lance Deal launched their best throws of the year from the javelin runway and hammer ring, respectively.

Smith, trying to battle back from knee injuries, had the two furthest throws by an American this year when she uncorked a 209-1 on her fourth throw and then a 211-6 on her sixth and final throw.

Both marks bettered her old meet record of 195-3 and topped her season's best of 195-7 thrown at the Oregon Twilight on May 12.

It was Smith's best throw since 1984 when the knee injuries soon followed. She blew out her right knee in 1985 and her left one in 1986.

The 34-year-old Smith, who had been one of the nation's best before the injuries, was competing without braces on either knee, something she didn't think was possible a few years ago.

"No more RoboCop," she said. "I can't tell you how happy I am. It's very rewarding after sticking with it and hanging in there so long."

Smith has a lot of local ties



Photo by Martin Thiel

**Craig Blanchette broke his own world record in the wheelchair mile with a time of 3:50.00 at Friday's Prefontaine Classic, bettering his old record by exactly one second.**

to Eugene, having coached at South Eugene High School, and said she had to perform well after giving out so many tickets to friends.

Deal, who trains with Stewart Togher in Eugene, threw a season's best 248-9 in a series that went 248-6, 248-5, foul, 248-0 and 248-9 before fouling on his last attempt.

A \$5,000 bonus was also up for grabs in the women's 2,000 if any of the runners

could break Mary Slaney's time of 5:32.7, the fastest 2,000 ever on American soil.

Because of wind, rain and a slow pace, nobody broke the mark although the Soviet Union's Svetlana Kitova looked very strong in holding off Canada's Debbie Bowker down the homestretch to win in 5:41.11.

Other marks of interest included:

- Eugene's Kory Tarpen-

ning winning the pole vault again, this time with a vault of 18-10 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

- Aaron Ramirez outkicking Dan Nelson in the 3,000-meter steeplechase to win with an 8:36.98 clocking.

- Oregon high jumper Laurel Roberts finally cleared the six-foot barrier with a clearance of 6-0 $\frac{1}{2}$  during the developmental meet in the afternoon.

**BLAZERS**

Continued from Page 14

If you hit 'em, they're ready to go."

Adelman said that if the Pistons have an edge in the series, it's on their bench.

"I think both teams are fairly even," he said. "The only difference is their bench probably has more experience than ours."

After playing 13 playoff games in 26 days, the Blazers have been idle since clinching the Western Conference title at Phoenix Thursday night. That will make them the better rested of the two teams Tuesday.

"Our guys needed the rest," Adelman said. "It's going to make us a better team, I hope."

The Portland coach doesn't like the schedule in the finals, with Detroit playing the first two at home, then the next three being played in Portland. The final two, if necessary, will be in Detroit.

"I don't think any of the teams who have been in it like it," he said. "It's always hard to beat a team three times in a row on the same court. If we open up on the road and lose the first two, we've just about got to win the next three at home. It really does put you at a tough disadvantage. I don't know why they do it that way."

It's Portland's first NBA final since 1977 when they won the title with Bill Walton leading the way.

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