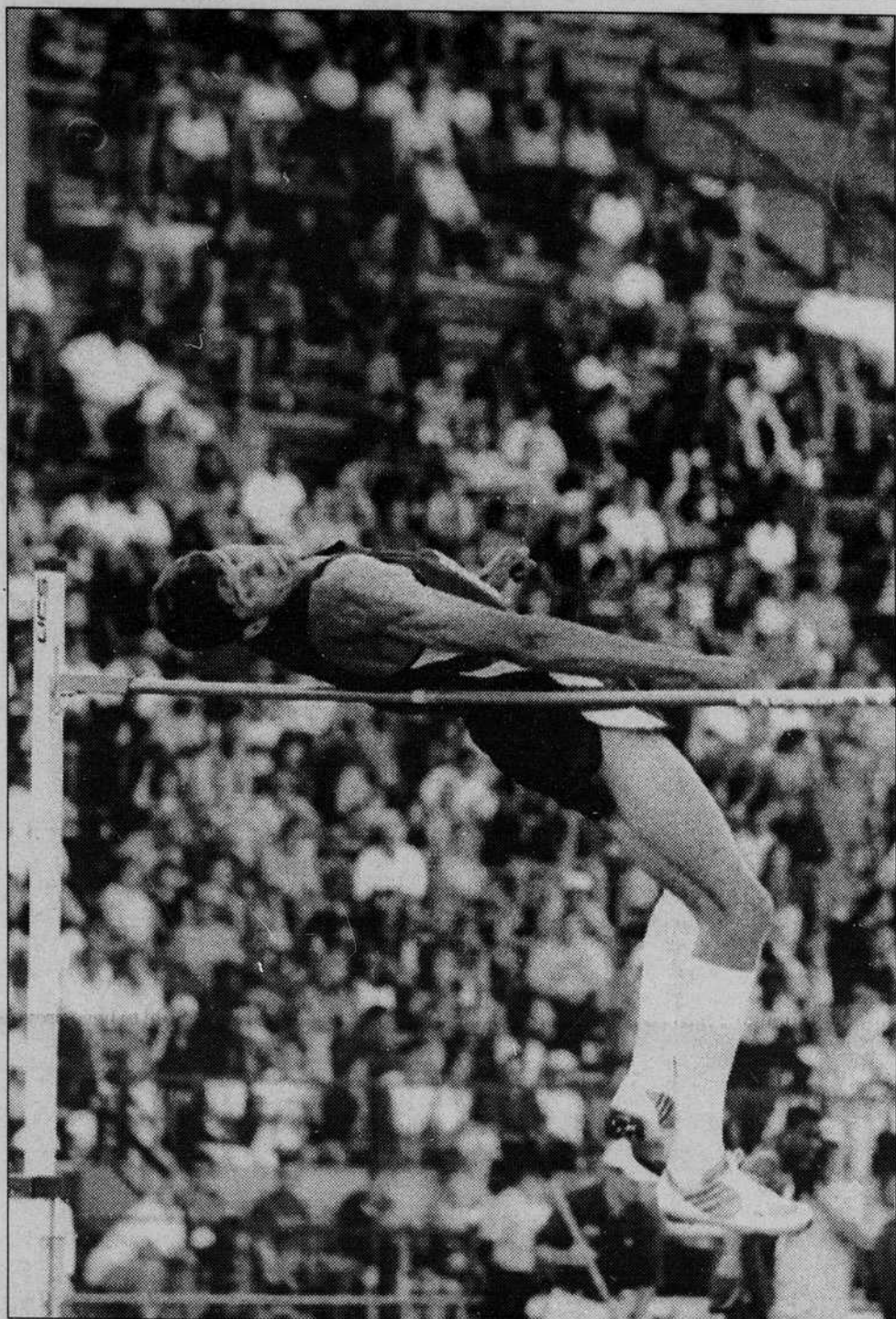


**Best Bet**  
 NBA Eastern Conference Finals:  
 Philadelphia at Milwaukee  
 6 p.m., NBC



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Jon House Emerald

Weber State's Charles Clinger overcame abnormally warm temperatures to win the high jump.



Jon House Emerald

Stanford's Sally Glynn prepared for Saturday's 1,500-meter final by running the fastest preliminary time.

## UO men hold on, 'other' USC women show up

■ The Ducks still top the NCAA standings as Tennessee and TCU continue a sprint invasion

By Robbie McCallum  
 Oregon Daily Emerald

In a meet expected to go to the team with the most sprinting prowess, the early leader has capitalized on points from other parts of the track — and a little home-field advantage.

The Oregon men's track and field team continued its Cinderella run atop the standings Thursday at the 2001 NCAA Track and Field Championships at Hayward Field. The

Ducks remained the national leader for the second day in a row.

Santiago Lorenzo's unexpected win in the decathlon in the final event, coupled with Billy Pappas' eighth-place finish and 16 points from Wednesday, pushed the Oregon total to 27 points, 11 ahead of its nearest competitor.

"We've had a wonderful first two days," Oregon head coach Martin Smith said. "When you take a step back and look at it, we have two national champions

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■ South Carolina makes a move in the sprinting preliminaries Thursday, but UCLA keeps accumulating points

By Peter Hockaday  
 Oregon Daily Emerald

Most people have been thinking about the women's team race at the NCAA Track and Field Championships as a two-team battle between UCLA and Southern California.

But it was another USC that made the biggest impact at Hayward Field Thursday.

The Gamecocks of South Carolina — the USC of the East Coast — put on a dazzling sprinting display in preliminary heats for the

400-meter dash and the 400 relay to prove that they, too, deserve to be mentioned as contenders for the 2001 women's team title.

"I'm glad we're the underdogs," South Carolina sprinter Miki Barber said. "You never know what can happen at these meets."

"We're keeping South Carolina in mind as well as USC," UCLA sprinter Sheena Johnson said.

Barber and her sister, Me'lisa, led the charge for the Gamecocks, along with Demetria Washington. Olympian Miki finished

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## Another coach leaves the women's basketball team

Assistant coach Kirsten McKnight is hired by Pac-10 rival California as the women's basketball coaching search continues

By Adam Jude  
 Oregon Daily Emerald

As Athletic Director Bill Moos lingers on deciding who will be the next head coach of the Oregon women's basketball team, assistant coach Kirsten McKnight announced Thursday that she has accepted a position at California.

"It's been a difficult decision to make because I've absolutely loved my experiences at Oregon," said McKnight, who lettered for four years as a Ducks guard (1994-

98). "It won't be easy to leave this community, the players and everybody who makes Oregon women's basketball a premier program on the West Coast."

After three years as an Oregon assistant, the 25-year-old McKnight will be the top assistant and the main recruiting coordinator for the Bears. She will assist second-year Cal coach Caren Horstmeier.

"I'm obviously excited about this opportunity to further my career," McKnight said. "It's a goal of mine

to be a head coach at the Division I level. To move closer to this goal early in my career is exciting."

McKnight's future at Oregon was in question after Jody Runge resigned as head coach on April 30. Assistants Dan Muscatell and Fred Litzenberger have both expressed interest in remaining at Oregon.

Litzenberger interviewed for the vacant head coaching position and Muscatell submitted a general application for one of the three openings.

Moos has said that the new head coach — whom he hopes to announce sometime in the next week — will decide who the assistants will be.

Of the 38 applications he received, Moos interviewed five candidates for the position: former Oregon standout and Canadian Olympic coach Bev Smith, Xavier's Melanie Balcomb, Southwest Missouri State's Cheryl Burnett, Utah's Elaine Elliott and Litzenberger.



MCKNIGHT