

Pat's Back---for Track!

1962

Pat Daniels of '60 Olympic Games fame is back home in Millbrae and ready to romp once again for the San Mateo County Girls Athletic Association track team.

The strongly-proportioned 18-year-old recently dropped out of Brigham Young University. She completed the fall semester at the Utah school, but couldn't quite overcome the longing to get back to her old stomping grounds.

"I'll return to BYU this September. I just couldn't get rolling there last fall," she explained. "I lacked interest in my studies."

TRACK, of course, is Pat's habitual preoccupation. She returned to daily workouts last week at San Mateo High School with some old and some new SMCGAA teammates.

"Don't get the wrong impression," Pat insisted. "I like BYU and its track coach, Clarence Robinson. But I felt I wasn't getting enough individual training there. Robinson is a top coach. He just didn't have time enough to help me."

PAT logically believes she'll make the Olympics again in '64 at Tokyo. She ran 800 meters in Rome two years ago against the world's best women half-milers. Pat's history-making Olympic debut as a 16-year-old was spoiled when she tripped and fell during the race. She was the most appreciated "loser" in the whole spectacle, however.

Coach Ed Parker of the SMCGAA is pleased to have Miss Daniels back aboard. Last year under Parker she was the National AAU girls' high-jump and pentathlon (five

events) champion. She leaped 5-2 in the former and accumulated more than 4000 points in the latter grind (broadjump, high jump, shotput, low hurdles, and the 200-meter run).

IN '61 Pat also tied a U. S. girls' record with a 19-3/4 broadjump, which earned her third place in the National AAU meet at Gary, Indiana, and she was clocked in 56 seconds flat for the quarter-mile.

"I've given up the 380 for keeps," Pat disclosed. "I never really liked the event anyway. It just took too much out of me. Running that distance consistently is pretty tough."

PARKER told The Advance Star that Pat will concentrate now on the broadjump and the pentathlon.

"She has an excellent chance to be on the American team for the July 21-22 meet with Russia this year at Stanford stadium," Parker enthused.

Parker, 30, has been nominated by AAU officials as a candidate to co-coach the American ladies this summer

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PAT DANIELS

against the Soviets. If selected, Ed, a graduate of San Mateo High and College of San Mateo, would be one of the nation's youngest coaches assigned to an international event. He's presently working toward a secondary teaching credential at San Francisco State College.