

"It should be close between USC, Oregon State, Oregon and Washington State with UCLA a dangerous darkhorse."

That's how UCLA coach Jim Bush tabs this weekend's (May 16-17) Pacific-8 Conference track and field championships at Corvallis, Ore., with Oregon State University serving as host.

"The Trojans and Beavers, both undefeated in dual meet competition, must be favored, but the Webfoots and Cougars also are mighty potent teams," coach Bush added. "And the Bruins can't be counted out of it if we get come-through performances right down the line, especially from pole vaulter Jon Vaughn triple jumper Denny Rogers and weightman Russ Hodge, who are coming off injuries."

Bush also is hopeful that his speedy 440 and mile relay teams can win at Corvallis. ~~His quarter-mile quartet of Reggie Robinson, Harold Busby, John Johnson and Wayne Collett really impressed in posting a smooth 39.9 clocking behind San Jose State's super speedsters, headed by Olympians Ronnie Ray Smith and John Carlos, who won in 39.7 in the West Coast Relays at Fresno last Saturday.~~

Also at Fresno UCLA's previously unbeaten mile relay team lost to Villanova in another close race. The Eastern flyers won in 3:06.9 while Bruins John Smith (47.5), Andy Young (48.0), Len Van Hofwegen (45.8) and Collett (45.5) posted a 3:07.3 clocking, one-of the fastest in the country this season, to date.

However, the Bruins won't be able to employ Smith at Corvallis because he is a freshman. Running the opening leg in his place will be either Joe Rippinger or Chip Minnick. With Rippinger, UCLA has a best of 3:09.9; with Minnick, a best of 3:10.4.

Another likely winner at Corvallis also performed in winning form at Fresno. He was pole vaulter Dick Railsback, who soared over 17-5 to beat world record holder Bob Seagren of USC and former record holder John Pennel, both of whom cleared only 17-0.

"I had real good power on one try at 18 feet, but I hit the bar on the way up," Railsback said. The world record, of course, is 17-9.

If Vaughn is ready to go all out, he and Railsback are both capable of beating Seagren in a key event at Corvallis. Vaughn hasn't really competed since March 29, however, because of a heel injury. Back on March 15 he cleared 17 feet.

But UCLA's deepest event is the 440 where Collett (45.8), senior Len Van Hofwegen (45.9) and soph Andy Young (47.1) are capable of scoring a 1-2-3 sweep at Corvallis. Last year, the Bruins came in one-two with Don Domansky winning and Van Hofwegen placing second.

Another exceptionally potent event for UCLA could be the shot put, with defending champion Steve Marcus (64-1) expected to repeat. He's backed up big two other good ones, soph Mark Ostoich (61-9 3/4) and senior Russ Hodge (59-11 1/2).

Besides such logical winners as Marcus and Collett and, very possibly, Railsback, the Bruins also are counting on John Johnson to be right there in the long jump. This 26-footer indicated he's reaching top form with a 25-2 wind-aided winning leap against USC earlier this month.

Capable of scoring points are such Bruins as high jumper Cary Ross (6-10), sprinters Reggie Robinson (9.4 wind-aided and 21.0) and Harold Busby (9.6), triple jumpers Denny Rogers (50-11 3/4) and Jerry Jackson (49-1 3/4), steeplechaser Dave Smith (9:05.4) and high hurdler Dan Kaiser (14.1).

The UCLA track party flies to Portland via Western Airlines flight No. 215. Following their arrival there at 4:40 p.m., they'll bus to Corvallis where they'll stay at the Towne House Motel. The Bruins return home Saturday night, arriving at the Los Angeles International Airport at 11:58 p.m. aboard Western Airlines flight No. 204.

Fresno

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Coach Jim Bush has named 19 UCLA entries for this weekend's (May 16-17) Pacific-8 Conference track and field championships to be held at Corvallis, Ore. Lifetime and 1969 best performances are listed for each entry along with previous individual scoring record in conference meet competition if any:

100--Reggie Robinson (9.5, 9.4 wind-aided), Harold Busby (9.4, 9.6).  
220--Wayne Collett (20.3, 20.8), Reggie Robinson (21.0, 21.0), Andy Young (21.0, 21.0).

440--Wayne Collett (45.2, 45.8); Len Van Hofwegen (45.9, 45.9), placed second in 1968 Pac-8 440; Andy Young (47.0, 47.1).

880--No entry.

MILE--No entry.

STEEPLECHASE--Dave Smith (9:05.4, 9:05.4).

3-MILE--Hartzell Alpizar (13:56.6, 13:56.6).

HIGH HURDLES--Dan Kaiser (14.1, 14.1).

INTERMEDIATE HURDLES--No entry.

440 RELAY--Reggie Robinson, Harold Busby, John Johnson, Wayne Collett (39.7).

MILE RELAY--Joe Rippinger or Chip Minnick, Andy Young, Len Van Hofwegen, Wayne Collett. (Best time for team of Rippinger, Young, Van Hofwegen, Collett, 3:09.9, and for team of Minnick, Young, Van Hofwegen, Collett, 3:10.4).

POLE VAULT--Dick Railsback (17-5½, 17-5½), 1967 Pac-8 PV champion, didn't compete in 1968 meet; Jon Vaughn (17-5, 17-0), placed second in 1968 Pac-8 PV.

HIGH JUMP--Cary Ross (6-10, 6-10), Hal Greenwood (6-10½, 6-8).

LONG JUMP--John Johnson (26-0¼, 25-2 wind aided), placed fourth in 1968 Pac-8 LJ.

TRIPLE JUMP--Denny Rogers (50-11 3/4, 50-11 3/4), Jerry Jackson (50-3 3/4, 49-1 3/4), John Johnson (47-2, 47-2).

SHOT PUT--Steve Marcus (64-1, 64-1), placed third in 1967 Pac-8 SP and was 1968 Pac-8 SP champion; Mark Ostoich (61-9 3/4, 61-9 3/4), Russ Hodge (59-11½, 59-11½), placed sixth in 1968 Pac-8 SP.

DISCUS THROW--Mark Ostoich (178-4, 178-4), Russ Hodge (174-4, 174-4), Steve Marcus (161-1, 161-1).

JAVELIN THROW--No entry.

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