

1970 AT A GLANCE: UNDEFEATED...ALMOST

The 1970 Bakersfield College track and field team opened the season, February 14, with a solid 85-51 win over Fresno City College and concluded it with a sixth place finish at the State J.C. Meet. The end was disappointing in light of the fact that the Renegades won every meet along the way, including 8 dual meets, the Metropolitan Conference Relays, the So. Calif. Relays, the Metro Championships, and the So. Calif. JC Meet. As happens annually to most So. Calif. athletes who must compete in the State Finals the week after the gruelling So. Calif. qualifying meet, the Gades weren't as sharp at Modesto, dropped the baton on the last exchange while running with the winner, Merritt, and any chance of a State trophy skittered down the track with that baton.

This team improved as much as any BC team in history. They showed the type of team spirit, balance, depth and power that will rank them as certainly the best dual meet team in the history of the school and maybe of the entire state. They scored 162 points to win the Metropolitan Conference title, which is a point record. Averaging 91 points in 8 duals, the Gades were never pressed until they got to the big meets. Mt. San Antonio was favored in the So. Calif. Finals, but B.C. scored an impressive upset with 65 points. LACC was second at 53, Mt. SAC was third at 52.

Two school records were set and a third equalled at the So. Calif. Meet. Rick Hitchcock lowered his mile mark to 4:08.1. The 440 Relay team of Offord Rollins, Don Hicks, Ted Whitley and Henry Shipes set a new school record of :40.8. Doug Smith equalled Jerry Tarr's 120 high hurdles standard of :14.2.

The 1970 squad and season will be long remembered. The three captains, Bill Beauchamp, Don Hicks and Rick Hitchcock, along with an enthusiastic group of sophomores, made the team a cohesive unit. Winning continuously as the Renegades have done depends on total team unity, and the 1970 Gades competed together as well as any team could. The winning ways extended Coach Bob Covey's seven year dual meet record to 43-8, and was the sixth Metropolitan title. The Southern Cal crown was the first for a Bakersfield team since 1958.

AWARDS

MOST VALUABLE RENEGADE: RICK HITCHCOCK, soph from North High. Holds school records in mile (4:08.1) and two mile (8:59.6). METROPOLITAN CONFERENCE RUNNER OF THE YEAR, by coach's vote. Won Metro mile and 2 mile, ran 2nd and 3rd in same races in So. Cal meet and finished 2nd in State mile. Ran 1:52.6 in relay 880? TEAM CAPTAIN. ALL-METROPOLITAN CONFERENCE IN MILE and 2 MILE.

MOST IMPROVED RENEGADE: CRAIG FAIR, frosh from Delano. Improved in shot and discus more than anyone in Gade history. Best were 53'6-1/4" and 167'5", which is second best in U.S. this year. Took 2nd in Metro in both events, placed 3rd in shot and 2nd in disc at the So. Cal and finished 3rd in State discus.

MOST INSPIRATIONAL RENEGADE: BILL BEAUCHAMP, soph from Bakersfield High. Consistent performer as sprinter-long jumper. Best long jump was 23'1". Anchored So. Cal mile relay to fifth with a :48.3. Anchored 440 relay nearly all the way. Great team leader; unselfish; hard-working; popular. TEAM CAPTAIN. ALL-METRO, 440 Relay.

MOST VALUABLE FRESHMAN: DOUG SMITH, South High. High point man for Renegades, ALL-METRO in LONG JUMP, TRIPLE JUMP and 120 HIGH HURDLES. Second in TJ and third in highs at So. Cal. Metro TJ Champ and 2nd in hurdles. Equalled school 120 HH record of :14.2.

TEAM CAPTAINS: BILL BEAUCHAMP, above.

DON HICKS, from BHS. Great team leader and consistent performer. METRO CHAMP in 220 dash at :21.9. Ran :09.9 and :21.9, and member of :40.8 440 relay team. ALL-METRO 220 and 440 RELAY.
RICK HITCHCOCK, above.

RENEGADE AWARD ("FOR DISPLAYING OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP ON AND OFF THE TRACK FOR A BETTER TEAM"):

OFFORD ROLLINS: Soph from South High. Returned from 1968 team and improved to :09.8 (100) and :21.9 (220). Ran great first leg of school record :40.8 relay. Hard-worker, great attitude.
ALL-METRO 440 RELAY.
DON HICKS: above.

ANNOUNCING THE FIRST 1971 TEAM CAPTAIN: MILTON WHITLEY, frosh from BHS. First ever to almost be elected captain as freshman, missed by two votes. The coaches have decided to break precedent and tab Milt the first 1971 TRACK CAPTAIN. ALL-METRO 120 HH, won league highs in :14.7. ALL-METRO 440 I.H., as he won nearly every league dual meet in that event. Was leading in Metro 440 I.H. race before falling. Best 440 IH time was :54.9. Ran :49.9 leg on 5th place So. Cal. mile relay team that ran 3:17.4.

RENE-SKETCHES

SOPHOMORES:

JOHN BROUSSARD Soph from BHS, triple jumped to 46'7-3/4" best. Placed fourth at Metro. Letterman.
STEVE BRYANT Pole vaulted 13'6" early, then ran into injury problems. Jumped 14' as freshman. From Shafter.
MIKE CRAIG Heaved discus 160'7" at best. Placed 3rd at Metro and 5th at So. Cal. From Wasco. Letterman.
JIM CROSS Improved 880 to 1:55.0 and moved to mile for 4:16.0 and a sixth at Metro meet. Steady runner, hard worker. From North High. Lettered.
PETER ELIEFF Injured early slowed progress but ran 4:16.3 in mile. Ran 7th in Metro prelim at 4:17.6. Best as frosh was 4:15.4. Garces High. Letterman.
PAT FORD One of big surprises in '70. Had knee operation at start of season and came back for best long jump of 22'3". Hard worker from Foothill. Letterman.
GARY JOHNSON From Delano, hard working 440-880 man. Old football injury slowed progress.
ZACHERY SCONIERS... Red-shirted 1970 season to save eligibility after early injury. Great attitude and hard worker as sprinter.
JACK SANDS Valuable 440 lead-off man in mile relay. Ran best of :49.2. Good sprinter, hard worker. From North High. Lettered.
HENRY SHIPES 1969 HIGH POINT man, ran into injuries in '70. '69 bests of :14.5 (120 HH), and :52.9 (440 IH), :48.5 (440). This year ran :14.8 and :54.5. Strong anchor man on 440 relay. East High. Letterman.

FRESHMAN:

TERRY BILBEY Vaulted from Taft, became consistent 14'6" jumper. Good prospect. Letterman.
JOHN CALDWELL Ran mile in 4:23.8 and 9:38 2 mile. Injury stopped season prematurely. Also ran 1:57.5 on relay. From BHS. Lettered.
STEVE CLARK One of best ever Gade high jumpers. 3rd at State at 6'8". Best was 6'8-1/2". Cleared 6'7-1/2" or better six times. 2nd at Metro H.J., and 3rd in T.J. with 46'2-1/2". Letterman.
LEROY DEGRATE Strong 880 man with best of 1:55.8. Leg miseries finally forced him out of season. Good prospect from BHS. Letterman.
TOM GARCIA East High. 880 man with best of 1:54.5 for second at Metro. Ran 1:53.1 to anchor sprint medley at Mt. SAC. Also ran :49.3 on Metro mile relay team that finished 3rd. Letterman.
DAVID GATHINGS Taft High 2 miler with best of 9:21.1 for 6th at Metro. Top-notch cross country and mile-2 mile prospect. Lettered.
JERRY HOWARD Came out late but improved to :10.1 in 100, then pulled up in mid-season.

Rene-Sketches - cont'd

- ROY JOHNSON Came out late from basketball and improved to 45'7-1/2". From Wasco.
 KEITH ROBERTSON..... Had disappointing year due to no cross country but placed 6th in Metro 880 at 1:57.3. From Foothill. Letterman.
 LOUIE SANCHEZ..... From Porterville, ran early 4:18.4 in mile then ran into a knee injury that forced him out. Top future prospect. Lettered.
 ROBERT SHUCK..... Came along late to vault 14' consistently. Was 5th at Metro. Taft High School. Lettered.
 JAN STUEBBE..... Consistent 14'6" vaulter from Shafter. 4th at Metro, 6th at So. Cal. Letterman.
 ALEX VASQUEZ..... Foothill High shot putter with best of 46'8".
 TOM WILLIAMS..... North High discus thrower with best of 147'9". 6th at Metro. Letterman.
 TED WHITLEY..... BHS grad who was leading sprinter for Gades. Ran :09.7 and :21.6 for 4th at So. Cal. Meet. Was 5th in So. Cal. 100. Ran valuable #3 leg on 440 Relay. Letterman.

EVENT	BC RECORD	NAME(S)	1970 BEST MARKS
100 DASH	:09.5	Bradford, 1958; Johnson, '60 Olison, 1966	T. Whitley (9.7), Rollins(9.8), Hicks (9.9).
220 DASH	:21.3	Weddle, 1966	T. Whitley (:21.6), Hicks-Rollins(21.9)
440 DASH	:46.9	Olison, 1966	Beauchamp (:49.6, :48.3r), Sands (49.6)
880 RUN	1:52.1	Castleman, 1968	Garcia (1:54.5), Hitchcock (1:54.8), Cross (1:55.0), Degrate (1:55.8)
120 H.H.	:14.2	Tarr, 1958, Smith 1970	Smith (:14.2), M. Whitley (14.7), Shipes (:14.8)
440 I.H.	:52.9	Shipes, 1969	Shipes (:54.5), M. Whitley (:54.9)
MILE RUN	4:08.1	Hitchcock, 1970	Hitchcock (4:08.1), Cross (4:16.0), Elieff (4:16.3), Sanchez (4:18.4)
TWO MILE	8:59.6	Hitchcock, 1969	Hitchcock (8:59.8), Gathings (9:21.1)
HIGH JUMP	6' 10"	McGill, 1968	Clark (6'8-1/2"), Smith (6'2");
DISCUS	179' 7"	Wilson, 1968	Fair (167'5"), Craig (160'7"), Williams (147' 7")
SHOT PUT	55' 3-1/2"	Rich, 1963	Fair (53'5-1/4"), Vasquez (46'8")
LONG JUMP	25' 6"	Visser, 1959	Smith (23' 6"), Beauchamp (23' i"), Ford 22' 3")
POLE VAULT	15' 6"	Beasley, 1965	Stuebbe and Bilbey (14'6"), Shuck (14')
TRIPLE JUMP	51' 10-3/4"	Reader, 1969 (Nat'l. Record)	Smith (49'2-3/4"), Broussard (46'7-3/4") Clark (46'2-1/2")
440 RELAY	:40.8	Rollins-Hicks-T. Whitley-Shipes (1970)	Same
MILE RELAY 3:13.8		Adams-Johnson-Weddle-Olison (1966)	Sands-M. Whitley-Garcia-Beauchamp (3:17.4)
880 RELAY	1:24.7	Adams-Weddle-Johnson-Olison (1966)	T. Whitley-Hicks-Rollins-Shipes (1:27.8)
DIST. MEDLEY	9:57.5	Shipes-Castleman-Rodriguez-Hitchcock (1969)	Beauchamp-Cross-Sanchez-Hitchcock (10:15.5)
SPRINT MEDLEY	3:26.7	Harlen-Suggs-Johnson-Sheppard (1960)	Beauchamp-Hicks-Rollins-Garcia (3:28.5)
2 MILE RELAY	7:41.5	Cross-Rodriguez-Castleman-Hitchcock (1969)	Cross-Degrate-Garcia-Hitchcock (7:44.2)