



San Jose State's Greg Woepse gets a close look at his PCAA-record 17- $\frac{3}{4}$  vault.

Bee Photo by Paul Kuroda

# Record Opener

## Ahlmeyer's Steeplechase One Of 4 Top Marks

By **BOB MCCARTHY**  
Bee Sports Writer

UC Irvine's Ed Ahlmeyer says the 5,000 meters is his race but he might be entertaining second thoughts after a record run in the steeplechase.

Ahlmeyer clicked off one of the fastest times this season by an American collegiate athlete in the 3,000 steeplechase, 8:44.7, to highlight the record-smashing first-day performances in the Pacific Coast Athletic Association championships Friday on the Fresno State campus track.

There were finals in only six events Friday — there'll be 14 more today, plus the decathlon finals, starting at 1:15 p.m. — but PCAA standards fell in four of them and a fifth meet mark was established in a 200 dash heat.

San Jose State's Ron Livers took only one triple jump, but it was enough (54-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) to shatter his own meet record. Teammate Greg Woepse vaulted 17- $\frac{3}{4}$ , San Diego

State's Joe Briski sailed the hammer 195-2 and Irvine's LaMonte King scorched the 200 in 20.73 to establish the other PCAA standards.

Nine more meet records appear in jeopardy today with such world-class performers as Livers and San Jose State teammate Dedy Cooper and UC Irvine's Steve Scott topping a talent-rich PCAA field.

A tight three-way battle for the team championship is also on the bill with the first-place strength of San Jose and Irvine against Long Beach State's depth. Conceivably, it could go down to the 1600 relay, the final running event.

It's been two and a half months since Ahlmeyer competed in the steeplechase and his 9:03.0 best gave no hint what was to come on the FSU all-weather track. But the lanky Ahlmeyer got out fast on defending PCAA champion Bill St. John of San Diego State and turned it into a run-away.

His 8:44.7 clipped nearly 10 seconds off St. John's meet record, set last year in Santa Barbara, and noted track authority Chuck Skow says the clocking "must rank in the top five" by an American college athlete in 1978.

"I came here with my thoughts on the 5,000 and whatever I could get in the steeplechase," said Ahlmeyer. "I'm surprised and pleased with my time but I still think the 5,000 is my race."

Livers sprained an ankle playing basketball a month ago and has been nursing his heavily-taped right foot but still managed a stunning opening triple jump to wipe out his PCAA record of 53-10 $\frac{1}{4}$  established last year.

"I took it conservatively and was about a foot behind the board," he said of a jump that could easily have been between 55-56 feet. "It's the first time I've gone all-out in a jump in a month. I took only one jump

because I've got to go in the high jump tomorrow (today)." He's favored in that event, too.

Briski became the first athlete to successfully defend a PCAA title and his 195-2 effort was more than nine feet beyond his previous 1978 best, wiping out the 194-10 conference mark by FSU's Mike Giroux in 1974. He says it could have been better.

"I got the 195 off only one leg — I'm sure it could've been over 200 feet if I'd done everything right," he said. "I've fouled at 199 this year and haven't had a chance to get many throws that count. But I had my two best throws today. This in an excellent facility."

"It's been a while since I've done 17-0 so, needless to say, I'm pleased," said San Jose's Woepse, who erased a PCAA record shared by such renowned vaulters as Steve Smith, Dan Ripley, Jim Knaub and Don Baird. "Actually, my best vault

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was my last attempt at 17-4, but I missed."

Irvine's King, a brilliant freshman, and Scott, one of the world's leading middle distance runners, will attempt to triple today — and carry Anteater title hopes with them.

Scott, whose performances the past two weeks have been hampered by a cold, eased to a winning 1:50.10 in his 800 heat Friday and will try sweep the 800, 1500 and 5000 today, a Herculean task but not beyond his capabilities.

Cooper will be heavily favored in his 110 high hurdles' specialty but will have to go some to catch Irvine's King in the 200 after a third-place 21.18 in his heat Friday. The same goes for FSU's Mark Carley, the defending meet 200 champion and second in 21.26 in his qualifying heat Friday.

The host Bulldogs performed about expected Friday except for vaulter Billy Jack Pierce, who failed in three attempts at 15-6 after clearing 16-0 two consecutive weeks. Bob Pfaffenberger did negotiate 16-1/4 for the second straight week and tied for second place.

Fresno also got third places from Scott Endler, who reached 174-6 on his final discus throw, and Rich Langford's 30:59.76 in the 10,000 meters. FSU's David Zizzo bounced 49-9 1/4, his best effort of the season, for fourth in the triple jump.

3000 steeplechase — 1. Ed Ahlmeyer, UCI, 8:44.7 (PCAA record; old mark: 8:54.4, Bill St. John, San Diego State, 1977); 2. St. John, SDS, 8:52.96; 3. Mike Kelly, Utah St., 8:56.28; 4. Mike LeBold, UCSB, 8:59.84; 5. Jack Reime, SJS, 9:00.45.

Hammer — 1. Joe Briski, SDS, 195-2 (PCAA record; old mark: 194-10, Mike Giroux, FSU, 1974); 2. 2. Coleman Kells, SJS, 186-11; 3. Paul Fuller, LBS, 186-4; 4. David Fuller, LBS, 185-7; 5. Larry Schrader, UCI, 178-11.

Pole vault — 1. Greg Woepse, SJS, 17- $\frac{3}{4}$  (PCAA record, old mark: 17-0, Steve Smith, LBS, 1972; Dan Ripley, SJS, 1975; Jim Knaub, LBS, 1976; Don Baird, LBS, 1977); 2. (tie) Steve Lawry, LBS, and Bob Pfaffenberger, FSU, 16- $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 4. Craig Wilson, LBS, 16- $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 5. Doug Bockmiller, SJS, 16- $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Discus — 1. Judd Binley, UCI, 180-9; 2. David Fuller, LBS, 177-6; 3. Scott Endler, FSU, 174-6; 4. Jack Harkness, Utah St., 170-2; 5. Bob Feuerbach, SJS, 169-5.

Triple jump — 1. Ron Livers, SJS, 54-2 $\frac{1}{2}$  (PCAA record; old mark: 53-10 $\frac{1}{4}$ , Livers, SJS, 1977) 2. Keith Taylor, LBS, 53-8; 3. Gerald Halcomb, LBS, 51-4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 4. David Zizzo, FSU, 49-9 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 5. Sam Reed, UCI, 49-8 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

10,000 — 1. Ralph Serna, UCI, 30:13.06; 2. Brian Hunsaker, SDS, 30:18.07; 3. Rich Langford, FSU, 30:59.79; 4. Rich McCandless, LBS, 31:04.06; 5. David Schriver, UCI, 31:14.33.

#### QUALIFYING HEATS

400 — First heat: 1. Hubert Beasley, LBS, 46.93; 2. Steve Conaway, LBS, 47.97; 3. Lionel Foster, SJS, 49.28. Second heat: 1. Marlin Rochee, SJS, 47.04; 2. Charles Bowie, UCI, 47.20; 3. Derrick Cox, LBS, 47.48. Third heat: 1. Darrell McGee, UCI, 46.94; 2. Bryan Saunders, LBS, 47.13; 3. Paul Desmet, SJS, 48.22.

100 — First heat: 1. Rodney Grace, LBS, 10.66; 2. Mike Kirtman, SJS, 10.71; 3. (tie) Martin Krulee, SDS, and Horace Berry, LBS, 10.72. Second heat: 1. LaMonte King, UCI, 10.48; 2. Rickey Jackson, LBS, 10.55; 3. Kevin Cole, SJS, 10.61.

800 — First heat: 1. Steve Scott, UCI, 1:50.10; 2. David McGee, SDS, 1:51.39; 3. Isaish Ugboro, Utah St., 1:51.74; 4. Howard Kelley, LBS, 1:52.46. Second heat: 1. Brian Donohue, SDS, 1:51.65; 2. Bill Shannon, UCI, 1:52.09; 3. Odie Huffman, LBS, 1:52.20; 4. Jon Albrecht, SJS, 1:52.34.

400 Int. Hurdles — First heat: 1. Tony Hicks, SDS, 52.70; 2. David Lizardi, LBS, 54.44; 3. Doug Lowe, FSU, 55.57; 4. Johnny Thompson, FSU, 63.14. Second heat: 1. Don Finley, SJS, 2. Richard Easter, FSU, 53.33; 3. Jamie Starmer, UCSB, 53.83; 4. Jim Hirchak, Utah St., 53.96.

200 — First heat: 1. LaMonte King, UCI, 20.73 (PCAA record; old mark: 20.8, Harold Williams, SDS, 1976); 2. Ricky Jackson, LBS, 21.08; 3. Dedy Cooper, SJS, 21.18; 4. Kevin Blaisdell, Utah St., 21.60. Second heat: 1. Martin Krulee, SDS, 21.14; 2. Mark Carley, FSU, 21.26; 3. Phil Pipersburg, LBS, 21.39; 4. Hildrea Newell, SDS, 21.50.

Team scoring — Long Beach State 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ , UC Irvine 21, San Jose State 19, San Diego State 14, Fresno State 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ , Utah State 5, UC Santa Barbara 2.

#### DECATHLON

100 — 1. Mauricio Bardales, UCI, 11.12; 2. Greg Veatch, UCI, 11.22; 3. Tom Harris, UCSB, 11.26; 4. Mike Wilcox, FSU, 11.43; 5. Tom Byron, FSU, 11.44.

LJ — 1. Harris, UCSB, 22-7; 2. Veatch, UCI, 22-4 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 3. Don Foss, SDS, 22-2 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 4. Bardales, UCI, 21-6; 5. Joe Distanislio, UCI, 21-1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

SP — 1. Doug Bockmiller, SJS, 41-6 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; 2. Byron, FSU, 40-6 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 3. Harris, UCSB, 39- $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 4. Distanislio, UCI, 38-11 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 5. Bardales, UCI, 38-8 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

HJ — 1. Harris, UCSB, 6-8; 2. Foss, SDS, 6- $\frac{3}{4}$ ; 3. Byron, FSU, 6- $\frac{3}{4}$ ; 4. Bardales, UCI, 5-10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 5. Veatch, UCI, 5-10 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

400 — 1. Bardales, UCI, 48.72; 2. Harris, UCSB, 49.45; 3. Veatch, UCI, 50.27; 4. Wilcox, FSU, 52.47; 5. Foss, SDS, 52.52.

Five-event totals: Tom Harris, UCSB, 3,841; Mauricio Bardales, UCI, 3,622; Greg Veatch, UCI, 3,557; Don Foss, SDS, 3,378; Tom Byron, FSU, 3,255; Joe Distanislio, UCI, 3,196; Mike Wilcox, FSU, 3,142; Doug Bockmiller, SJS, 2,552.