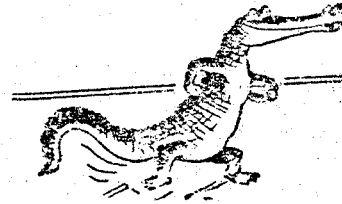


# NEWSLETTER



Dear Track Alumni:

I want to ask you to excuse me for not keeping a regular Newsletter coming to you telling about the happenings in Track and Field here at Florida. I know it must be difficult, in many cases, for you to keep up with what is going on through the News media, so hopefully from time to time I will be able to give you a report. You will find this letter is just tidbits of happenings that have been going on the past year.

We are extremely proud of the program we have in Track and Field here at the University of Florida and would like very much for all of you to know what is taking place so you can join us in telling others about the program. To tell the truth, I was disappointed at the response from many track Alumni and again would like to request that you send any information concerning outstanding high school athletes in your area to us so we will be able to encourage them to attend and compete for our team. We are doing everything in our power to build Florida into the finest track program and team in the U. S. To do this we need your help. Many of probably remember when you were participating in track and field, how hard it was to get some recognition through the news media. These things don't just happen. We need many many people talking about Florida Track and asking about Florida Track and if there is demand, then the news will know there are interested people, we will get action.

According to our files, we have 365 track alumni addresses. I am sure that many of these are wrong, therefore, I am asking that each of you return the enclosed slip giving us complete details for our files. Information such as, years you competed, events and what you are doing now. You may know track men that participated at Florida and never receive a Newsletter. We are interested in everyone who participated in any manner in our track program. We even adopt a few people. For instance, three years ago we awarded Dr. Fager, the Outstanding Horse of the Year, in Ocala a track letter. One of the most active friends we have adopted is Morris Feinstein, who runs the News stand at the American Broadcasting Co. in New York City. You can be assured that we get every news item available from the New York area from Morris. He is a real Gator! Join with us in promoting Track and Field at Florida. Help make the sport you participated in No. 1 in every way.

News items from the past year - - - - -

One of the greatest things that has happened to our track program since the Grastex track was built in 1957 was a resurfacing with Chevron 440 which is a rubberized surface of 1/2" solid rubber. Since Chevron was the company that put down the Grastex track and was the leader in the world with an all-weather track surface, they again came to Florida to put in this new rubberized surface which brings our track back up to one of the finest in the nation.

For all of you who used to pole vault and high jump, you would find it a true joy to land in the 36" solid foam rubber pit. Not to mention the outstanding poles that are available today. Landing in these pits last year and carrying on the tradition that the Poucher brothers and Henry Wadsworth and other established in the pole vault was Scott Hurley, who is the most outstanding vaulter in the nation Indoors last year, clearing 16'8" and coming very close to 17' on many occasions. This Milrose Games champion comes to us from Scotch Plains, N. J. and last winter the meet directors had him flying back and forth to New York so much many people thought he was commuting to Florida as a student. In the SEC Championships Scott was 1st, and sophomore Mike Cotton placed second-- but from that time on Cotton took over and won the Florida Relays, Penn Relays and cleared 16'9". Both boys are back this year and will be shooting for the 17' and 17'6" which both could get, and high hopes of a spot on the Olympic team. With the outstanding publicity of these young men, we were swamped with requests from prospective pole vaulters and joining our vaulters this season will be John Worcester, who has vaulted 16'3" and Gary McCall, 15'8".

It must be the landing pits, because our high jumpers have been just as tremendous. J. Pappa Hall and Don Hester, who now coaches the high jump for us, set the stage several years ago, but in 1966 Jim Richardson won the S.E.C. Championship and jumped 6'9½". The next year Frank Sair cleared 7' to be the first individual in the south to make this height and in 1968 Ron Jourdan, who was a sophomore at the time, made 7'. As a junior Ron cleared 7' twenty-seven times with a best of 7'2". Jourdan was an outstanding jumper during his senior, even though he had several disappointments. One was in Philadelphia when he jumped 7-3½" Indoors and strolled back to put his sweats on and heard the roar of the crowd, who had just witnessed a new American

Blaine Wentz ran 9.6 at Miami Dade Jr. College and Jim Soukup ran 9.6 as a prep in Florida last year. In the 440 we have Benny Hicks :48.2, Bill Rennie 48.3, Beaufort Brown 48.5 in high school. In the mile Eamonn O'Keefe ran 4:09 during the outdoor season, and it looks as if we will again move him up from the 880 and let him go for the 4 minute barrier which he is very capable of doing. Dennis Skelton was the mile state champion last year in 4:13 and is leading the Cross Country team presently, and George Bridges ran 4:14, Ron Nabers ran 4:13, so someone could move down to a great time in this area.

Our Cross Country team has run through the season undefeated in all dual meets and will be shooting for the S.E.C. November 15. Our three and six mile events should be improved with Dave Harrison, who is one of the top Cross Country men and Rich Langford who comes from Voorheesville, N. Y. where he was the N. Y. state Cross Country Champion. Mark Bir, who ran 9:03 in high school, missed last year with injury, but should be ready by the outdoor season.

Presently the high hurdles is not one of our strong events but could develop with John Power, who ran 14.4, and newcomers Dave Herman, the Outstanding Prep Man Indoors as a high schooler last year in N. Y. and Hesley Bostic, the Florida State Champion, in both the highs and lows. Jeff Howser the All-American Hurdler, who ran 13.5 at Duke is a graduate assistant coaching the hurdlers and could be of great assistance to these boys. Still missing because of eligibility problems is Henry Cummings, who ran 13.8 in high school and is enrolled at Florida and hopefully will be eligible in the near future after running into academic difficulty.

One of the brightest things that has ever happened to Florida Track has been starting the Florida Track Club. In 1966 we ran a small blurb in Track and Field News indicating that we were interested in any track man who wanted to continue his education and run in a warm climate. Immediately we had floods of letters from people interested in such a program. One of the first came from Jack Bachele, All American at Miami of Ohio. Jack received a fellowship in Entomology so he enrolled at Florida and started his hard work toward national prominence. In 1968 he surprised everyone by making the Olympic team and the following year was the national AAU Cross Country and Six mile champion where he was running some of the fastest times ever recorded by an American. This brought the spotlight to the Florida Track Club and many many top runners started looking into the possibility of enrolling. Frank Shorter joined Jack after enrolling in Law School and in 1970 he ran throughout the season finishing far ahead of the competition, Many times Jack and Frank crossed the finish line holding hands. But in the National AAU Championship Shorter sprinted to the front and became the top American long distance, and on to Russia where he defeated the best distance runners there and gained International prominence. In 1971 he again had great success and finished by winning the Pan-American 10,000 meters and Marathon. This was the first double Gold Medal Winner in this competition.

This fall the Club looks like the Olympic squad. Sam Bair who has run 3:56.1, moved to Gainesville to join this group; Barry Brown, one of the leading steeplechase, two, three, and six milers in the country came here and set up an office for Gulf Life Insurance. Jeff Galloway, Ken Misner, Frank Lagotic, Jerry Slaven --- names that you will hear more about in the running circles in the future -- all have put together one of the best distance teams in the nation.

Last week at San Diego, California the Club won the National AAU Cross Country Championship, Shorter 1st, Misner 9th, Galloway 14th, Bachele 20th, Bair 24th. Two days earlier in Atlanta we won the USTFF Championship and rounded out the season winning all meets.

This is only a beginning with the club since we have many other track men in all areas coming to this area to train. We have formed a Florida Track Club Association and have a group actively soliciting funds from corporations and interested persons, who would like to contribute. The Boosters Asso. has a membership fee of \$25.00 and all of this money goes to sponsor the track club, expenses for equipment and travel to major meets.

This year the Club's team should be very active in the Indoor circuit. Outdoors we are scheduling dual meets and a special invitational April 22, and have a commitment from Marty Liquori to come to Gainesville and compete against some of the Club runners, plus Marty plans to apply for Law School in September 1972. With all these great runners on campus, you can imagine what it does for our young runners and what it does to spread the word about Florida Track throughout the nation. You would be surprised to see a practice session on the University track with so much activity. Loud speakers sometimes playing music, pretty girls with stop watches timing different workouts, a coach at every event and these tremendous All-American track Club runners doing fantastic workouts. All of this has to lead to tremendous success. In fact, we so many people at the track we had to post signs to keep out the joggers for the two hour practice session and assign lanes for certain events to work in.



# FLORIDA TRACK CLUB

UNITED STATES TRACK AND FIELD FEDERATION  
FLORIDA TRACK PROGRAM

"Gator Track  
on the Move"

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Profession \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

The purpose of the Boosters Division of the Florida Track Club is to function as a service organization and assist Coach Jimmy Carnes in whatever manner possible in his track program at the University of Florida. In particular, we would like to be able to furnish financial assistance in order that a team representative of the Florida Track Club can be made at track meets. We were able to assist in getting a team to the AAU and USTAFF Cross Country Championships this year and the Florida Track Club took first place in both of these meets.

Interest is accelerating in the Florida Track Club. Olympic caliber athletes are coming to train in our year-round outdoor climate and to work with Jack Bacheler, Frank Shorter, Barry Brown, Gerry Lindgren, Jeff Houser and Sam Bair, some of the more outstanding additions to the team. Besides these distance stars we expect to have a champion mile-relay team.

### Interest in Track (Please check areas of interest)

- 1. Officiating.
- 2. Help locate Track Club members - jobs, housing, cars.
- 3. Available to meet with undergraduate prospects relative to educational or professional opportunities in their areas of interest.
- 4. Competing in running in age group or open track meets or road races.
- 5. Track trips to relays, conference meets or even to Munich (Olympics 1972).
- 6. Special events - track speakers, film specials.
- 7. Conditioning program - Lockers and advice are available at the track to those interested in following a conditioning program. First class equipment is also available at special rates.

Periodic meetings are scheduled to get together for some track talk and be brought up-to-date on track developments at Florida, the Country and the World.

Make check payable to Florida Track Club. Send to either Jack Gamble, 3159 McCarty Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, 32601 or Ed Singley (Treasurer), 306 A. P. Black Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, 32601.

\$25.00 Booster

Hope you'll be a Track Booster,

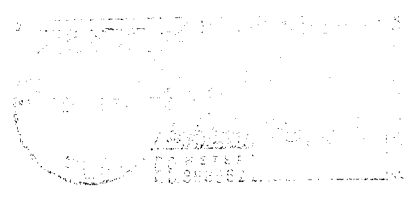
*Jack Gamble*  
Jack Gamble  
President  
Florida Track Club

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ALUMNI INFORMATION

PLEASE RETURN TO:  
JIMMY CARNES, HEAD TRACK COACH, U of F, P.O. BOX 14485, GAINESVILLE, FLA. 32601

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
BUSINESS ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
PROFESSION \_\_\_\_\_  
RESIDENCE ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY AND STATE \_\_\_\_\_  
YEARS COMPLETED AT FLORIDA IN TRACK \_\_\_\_\_ EVENT \_\_\_\_\_

Dick Drake  
Track and Field News  
Box 296  
Los Altos, Calif.



Our Junior Champ track program which is sponsored by the Gainesville Jaycees and run by track men for an eight week period each summer draws 400-500 kids each week to participate in one of the finest junior programs you will find anywhere in the country. It has been sited by many as the top program of this kind and it is spreading throughout cities in Florida, and had a half-page feature in Track and Field News last summer.

We sponsored the most successful track and field coaching school ever for 3 hour graduate credit with many top names lecturing. This program was so well received that we plan to make it an annual affair here on campus.

Our student assistant coaching situation has been so successful that we have inquiries constantly from young men who want to go into the coaching profession who would like to get coaching experience with us. Many of our graduate assistants have gone on to do outstanding work with track teams and recently Roy Benson was awarded the national coach for the Philippines in preparation for their Olympic trials.

Last summer I started the first track training camp for young boys and girls which was held in Charleston, S. C. at Baptist College. They have wonderful facilities, plus air conditioned dorms and the young people enjoyed it so much we feel that we will have over 200 boys and girls taking part in the camp this summer. Many of you may have boys and girls who are interested in learning more about track and field, and I can assure you it is one week of fun along with tremendous learning in track.

The University of Florida Athletic Association is spending a lot of money in the area of Track and Field. Our schedule carries us to the finest competition in the nation, our scholarship program is far better than ever before. We have a plane to fly to most of the meets, our uniforms and practice equipment are the very finest. I must admit we are depending on financial resources from our alumni and from gate receipts in football.

My philosophy on track and field is that it would not be worth this much money if we were only going to field a track team and run a few dual meets. I believe the University of Florida should be the leader in the State, and if possible, in the South and nation in selling track and field to the youngsters and letting them know the value it would be to them to have an opportunity to participate in a track and field program. I think we should provide the leadership in the area of training coaches, a junior program, a senior program, a place for graduates to continue in their training and in every way possible put major emphasis on every aspect of track and field. If we are able to do this through our program we will reach thousands and thousands of other people in track and field, then it is worth the financial endeavor. We are attempting to do this and just last year the Executive Director of the USTFF, Carl Cooper, stated that Florida has the best well-rounded track program anywhere in the U. S. After visiting Florida last summer with the U. S. Coaching School, Fred Wilt, who is the Editor of Track Technique and the 1955 Sullivan Award winner for "Outstanding Athlete in America" and winner of 10 national titles while running, and definitely an international authority on track and field, stated that "Florida is operating the most comprehensive track and field program in the nation." We are very proud of this and hope that all the things we are doing will be a great benefit for track and field everywhere, and we will also soon develop the greatest track and field team in the U. S.

As alumni, I hope you will join us in the pride we have in our track program, and will help spread the word.

May I take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you success and happiness in your everyday lives. We are proud of our alumni and appreciate all the support that you give us.

Best wishes for the Holiday Season.

  
Jimmy Carnes  
Head Track Coach

record, but at that moment the bar fell and Ron lost the record. I will always believe the roar of the 10,000 people shook the bar off, because I am sure Ron didn't touch it. With Jourdan gone in 1970 a new face kept the tradition going when Chuck Duff cleared 7'. Chuck will be back as a senior this year and joining him will be Doug Hill from Lake City Junior College who cleared 6' 10" and won the State Jr. College Championship; plus junior Ron Purdum, who has a best of 6' 8"; and a freshman, Dean Ousterhout, the Michigan State High School Champion from East Lansing, Michigan, who has a best of 6' 8 3/4". Well, you see why we are trying to form a high jump relay this season.

Last year in the S.E.C. Championship we scored 85 points in the field events, so you can see why I decided to tell you about the field events first. We don't stop with the jumping events. In the Shot we have Jim Nelson, who signed a football scholarship at Florida and because of an injury had to give up football and turned his talents to concentration on throwing the shot and reached a best of 58' 9". Jim has been inspirational in this event and has the entire weight room working hard on the weights. Freshman, Mike Larrison, reached 55' last year and looks a good bet to go 60' along with Nelson this season. You can see that we have come a long way. Nelson will be graduating, and we are interested in carrying on this great event and will search for a top Discus and Shot combination man this season.

In the Discus we have John Courtney, a Gainesville boy, who should go 175' this year. Mike Larrison, who did not throw the discus in high school, has taken up this event and has thrown over 155' this fall, and shows good promise here. Jim Stites a top discus in prep in New Jersey works on this event, but has so much possibility in the Javelin we tend to let him concentrate on that event. Last year, Stites, won the Southeastern Conference Championship as a freshman, with a toss of 237' 9".

The Long Jump and Triple Jump turned out to be a great event for Florida last year with Grover Howard, senior, winning the SEC Long jump; and placed third in the nationals with a triple jump of 50' 6". This was quite a surprise since Ron Coleman was usually the leader in the event and had jumped 50' 5" in the Triple Jump, and previously had a best of 24' 8" in the long jump. Showing great potential is Tom Bolig who will be counted on to take up the slack of graduated Howard, who is coaching in this event. The greatness in the Long Jump and Triple Jump didn't just happen, it started with Dave Appleton who graduated from Occidental and came to Florida as a graduate student and coaches these two events. Later Keith Parker, the national long jump-triple jump leader in England and now head of the P. E. program in Nassau, brought many great ideas to us and was a tremendous coach in these two events while serving one year as a graduate assistant. Working under Keith was Dave Rose who is getting a Masters in Math, and the next year Dave took over and carried on this excellent work. During these years Grover Howard was picking up every profitable tip from different colleges from around the country, and put it to work to be a great competitor and is now carrying out the excellent coaching.

This bring me to the point to tell you about our Graduate Assistant Program. Each year we encourage our students to remain to get a Masters and serve as a coaching assistant. We also encourage others to come to our school and serve in this capacity. Last year we had 10 coaches and this year we have 12 people serving on the track staff. You can be sure they are not paid. Some are Work Study Program, some get fellowships from other Colleges in the University, some pay their own way and work for the experience, and we certainly claim them as track alumni as they go out into the communities teaching and coaching track and field.

----- for all of you runners, don't think we have quit the game of running here in Gainesville.

Eamonn O'Keeffe from Dublin, Ireland was the hottest runner on the indoor circuit running the half mile and anchoring our two mile relay which won most of the Eastern Indoor campaigns. Eamonn anchored the two-mile relay at the Astrodome with a time of 1:46.6. This relay team ran 7:21.6 to break the existing World Record, but unfortunately Mark Winsenried from Wisconsin beat us to the tape and got the new record. All members of the relay team are back, and we are anxiously awaiting the Indoor campaign and have our sites set on the new World Record all to ourselves. We have Benny Vaughn, who ran 1:50.3 open; Jack Stewart, 1:49.6 Relay leg; Dennis Bruce 1:52.0 Indoor half mile; and Bill Hicks 1:52.3, plus two freshmen Randy Russell 1:54.5 and Johnny Owens 1:55. All we have to do is put the right four together on the right day and the record belongs to Florida.

One of our weaknesses has been depth in the Sprints, but this could be the year, since we have several new faces with outstanding times. Barry Handberg is back from the Army ready to have a great year. Barry ran 9.1 while in high school at Florida High.