

NEWS

TO APRIL 9, 1973

Colson, Oldfield, Feuerbach Heavy

Although runners and jumpers have been turning in their share of high-quality early-season performances, it has been the throwers who have dominated the scene so far. Kansas' big Sam Colson suddenly emerged as the new US javelin threat with consecutive meets of 290-10 and 288-8. And all of a sudden Brian Oldfield is a legitimate contender for Randy Matson's world shot record, Barney twice raising the undercover best with 69-11½ and 70-9½ tosses. Only Matson has thrown farther than the latter. Amateur Al Feuerbach won't let the mark go to Oldfield without a struggle, Al reaching 70-2 already.

Among runners, indomitable Steve Prefontaine is once more forging the way, now burning to an American record 6M of 27:09.4. The jumpers too are soaring, particularly in the high jump, where John Radetich backed up his world record performance of last month with a 7-4 clearance and young Tom Woods bounded over 7-4½. Steve Smith is back up to 17-9 in the vault.

The world scene has been relatively quiet other than the International Cross Country race, which found Finn Pekka Paivarinta outdriving Spaniard Mariano Haro. A new prep sensation appeared in the person of triple jumper Don Duvall, who obliterated the old indoor standard with his 51-8½. Matching an old mark was vaulter Kim Scott with his 16-¾.

FOR THE RECORD

The following record alterations have been reported since the 11 March issue: WB=world best; WA=world amateur record; WP=world professional record; E=European; A=American; C=collegiate; HS=high school; e=180y-220y banked track.

INDOOR

DisMedR	9:49.6	e	Colorado	Pocatello, Idaho	Feb 17
TJ	51-8½	HS	Don Duvall (Colo HS)	Air Academy, Colo	Mar 24
PV	16-¾	=HS	Kim Scott (Wisc HS)	Madison, Wisc	Mar 31
110mHH	13.6	=WB-WA-E	Yevgeniy Mazepa (SU)	Donyetsk, USSR	Mar
SP	69-11½	WB,WP	Brian Oldfield (ITA)	Daly City, Calif	Apr 1
SP	70-9½	WB,WP	Brian Oldfield (ITA)	Albuquerque, NM	Apr 6

OUTDOOR

6M	27:09.4	A, C	Steve Prefontaine (Ore)	Bakersfield, Calif	Mar 24
HHR	55.9	C	Florida	Gainesville, Fla	Mar 31
DisMedR	10:03.0	HS	Lompoc, Calif	Ventura, Calif	Mar 31

ON THE SCHEDULE

OUTDOOR

April		27-29	Mt SAC Relays, Walnut, Calif
13-14	Boston C Relays, Chestnut Hill	27	Twilight, Eugene, Ore
13-14	San Diego Relays, San Diego, Calif	27-28	Atlantic Coast Conf, Raleigh, NC
13-14	Texas Relays, Austin, Tex	27-28	Lone Star Conf, Brownwood, Tex
14	Dogwood Relays, Knoxville, Tenn	27-28	Southernland Conf, Ruston, La
14	Eastern Michigan Relays, Ypsilanti	May	
14	Trojan Invitational, Los Angeles	4-5	Marine Corps Relays, Quantico, Va
15	20km Walk Champs, Santa Barbara	4-5	Southern Conf, Williamsburg, Va
16	Boston Marathon, Boston, Mass	5	Beehive Invitational, Logan, Utah
18-21	Kansas Relays, Lawrence, Kans	5	San Jose Invitational, San Jose, Calif
20-21	Ohio State Relays, Columbus, Ohio	INDOOR	
20-21	Pelican Relays, Baton Rouge, La	April	
21	Queens-Iona Relays, Jamaica, NY	13	ITA Tour, Detroit, Mich
21	Norfolk Relays, Norfolk, Va	14	ITA Tour, College Park, Md
25-28	Drake Relays, Des Moines, Iowa	May	
25-28	Penn Relays, Philadelphia, Pa	11	ITA Tour, Toronto, Ont
		12	ITA Tour, Philadelphia, Penn

IN THE FUTURE

After the usual late-March/early-April lull, the track season will bloom into full flower beginning in mid-April. The last three weeks of the month will feature the staging of the traditional big relay meets (Texas, Kansas, Penn, Drake and Mt SAC) and the beginning of serious dual meet competition. Additionally, the ITA performers are beginning to get into the groove and their quality should improve measurably. Individually, pro Brian Oldfield and amateur Al Feuerbach are chasing Randy Matson's world shot best, and both think they will get it, although they won't meet head-to-head.

UNITED STATES

SPRING BREAK

Prefontaine Clips US 6 Mile Mark With 27:09.4

Bakersfield, Calif., March 24 /from Chuck Skow/—Steve Prefontaine likes Bakersfield in late March. At least, that would seem to be the case, as Pre has chosen a regular spring all-comers affair here to burn off hot record 6M races the past two seasons.

In 72, Pre blazed a 27:22.4 collegiate standard. This time around it was a national record 27:09.4. "I did it again," he said, "but don't ask me how." How was by stringing together miles of 4:36.8, 4:35.0, 4:33.2, 4:31.4, 4:30.6 and 4:22.4 with a 60.4 last quarter. "I think I could have run close to 27:00 if I'd had any competition," he said later. As it was, Paul Geis of the Oregon TC gave him good help for the first half of the race, taking the concurrently run 3M in a PR 13:24.2. That factor would negate Pre's time as a world record, as IAAF rules only allow one race at a time. AAU rules contain no such ruling, although there is the possibility of the "unfair pacing" clause being invoked.

Oregon teammate Mac Wilkins came up with a superb weight triple winning the shot at 59-10½ and the discus and hammer with PRs of 202-3 and 176-10.

Steve Gough showed good early decathlon form with his 7619 total, while prep record holder Craig Brigham ended up with 6763 after running around one of the hurdles for no points. A 16.0 would have given him 7492.

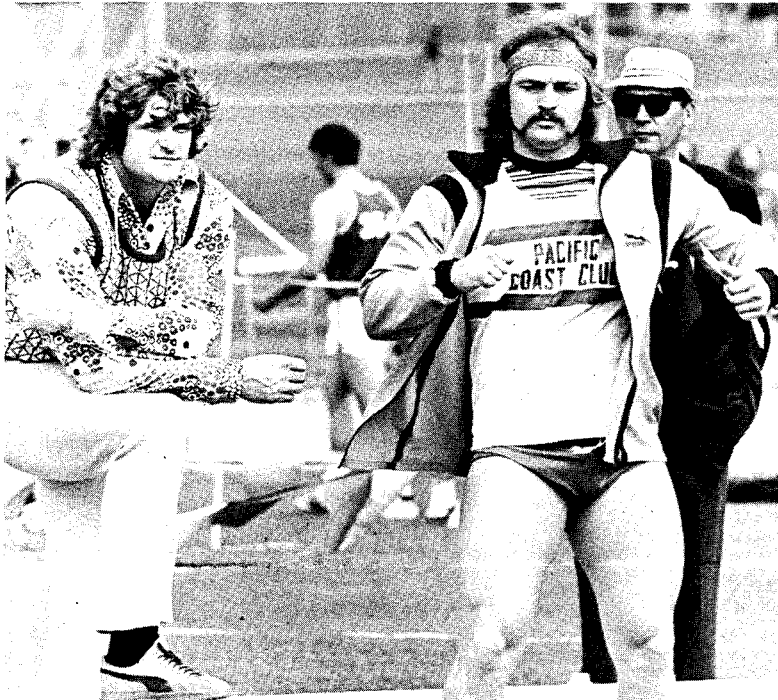
880, Bence 1:49.6. 3M, Geis 13:24.2. 6M, Prefontaine 27:09.4 AR, CR (69.5, 2:18.4, 3:27.6, 4:36.8, 5:45.6, 6:54.0, 8:02.6, 9:11.8, 10:19.3, 11:27.6, 12:36.0, 13:45.0, 14:53.3, 16:00.8, 17:08.8, 18:16.4, 19:24.4, 20:32.2, 21:40.0, 22:47.0, 23:55.4, 25:02.8, 26:09.0). PV, Dias 16-8. TJ(ok), Reader 52-1½. SP, Wilkins 59-10½. DT, Wilkins 202-3; 2. Penrose 197-3. HT, Wilkins 176-10. JT, Quitslund 251-6. Dec(23-24), Gough 7619 (11.1, 23-10½, 46-8½, 6-4, 50.5, 15.0, 148-9, 13-5½, 194-6½, 4:58.2).

MEET OF CHAMPIONS

Feuerbach Plops 69-2, Smith Hits 17-5¼ in Cold

Westwood, Calif., March 25 /by John Wenos/—The 2nd edition of UCLA's Meet of Champions followed 1972's inaugural with another set of all-around good marks. Chief among these were Al Feuerbach's 69-2 shot put, Steve Smith's 17-5¼ pole vault, John Powell's 201-5 discus throw, and UCLA's 40.0 440 relay. The shot and relay marks were bests of the still-

Pros and amateurs can't meet competitively, so Brian Oldfield (l) and Al Feuerbach haven't clashed—but they have popped the shot sensationally anyway. Oldfield's 70-9½ is a pro best and Feuerbach's 70-2 paces amateurs. /Chadez/



No Shots Exchanged in War of Biggies



What's in Store for Prefontaine?

Steve Prefontaine gets some advice from coach Bill Dellinger. [Jeff Johnson]

And how's Steve Prefontaine these days, some six months after his 4th place finish in the Munich 5000 final?

Following his first six testings of 1973 after a non-season of cross country running, it would appear that little has significantly changed about the Oregon phenom who repeatedly churned out superlative times last year.

He says the sting of not winning a medal at Munich has worn off. But just how much and what type of affects the entire experience—from his initial cockiness stimulated by his fast early 1972 times, the aftermath of the Israeli incident in the Village before the 5000 final, the slowish pace that played into the hands of the kickers in the race that counted, and Steve's own sourness over the elbow jostling during that Munich event—will bear on his future is still a bit cloudy.

His recent racings—including an 8:27.4 indoor opener, a home-state 8:24.6 American record to become the then-3rd fastest undercover, a 3:59.2 speed test around yet another 11-lap board track, and an unpushed US outdoor 6M standard-snipper of 27:09.4—suggest all the physical potential capability for unheralded performances is there. But what he intends to do with it all is another matter.

Take the 6M race, for example. After complaining about an autumn of "all kinds of problems—I've had tendinitis in my knee and ankle and now a muscle pull in my calf", he came to Bakersfield wanting to run a mile during the traditional Spring Break meet. But newly appointed head coach Bill Dellinger wanted him to run a 6M—"to cruise around in 28:00 for kind of a workout", as Pre puts it. "I was supposed to follow a 70sec pace, and pick it up to 13:48 for 3M. Well, I was on pace, but I felt so good I picked it up. Bill told me if it got too hot to ease off and with 2M, I started getting blisters on both feet. But I still felt fine." In a race basically scheduled as a 3M, he continued on in a virtual solo effort and blasted the final mile in 4:22.4 and the last quarter in 60.4—some 2min ahead of 2nd place for the record.

"Really, I had no intention of running for a record," confirms the barrel-chested 5-9, 150lb senior. Perhaps it was partly the result of a memory

of a similar experience here last year, when he ran his first-ever 6M in a surprising and encouraging 27:22.4. Then, too, he confirms that he gets turned on to people imploring him onward. "I just don't go out there and run. I like to give the people watching something exciting." And therein may lie the key.

It becomes obvious to anyone who has observed Steve in the past two years that he responds most favorably to the "Go-Pre" mania and has performed his best feats in Eugene proper or in other friendly stadiums where his supporters will go bananas even as he jogs his warmup.

"This is my last year at Oregon, and it means a lot to me. The people have been great to me there, so if I have to run three races to win the Pac-8 team title I'll do it. Oh, sure, I'll probably be tired but the people shouting will carry me across the finish line." The Pac-8 championship meet just happens to be in Eugene, Oregon in 1973.

So talk of goals at other races is of secondary importance. "I still feel I can run something close to 26:40 [which would be a world record for 6M] but that kind of race puts you in bed for a week so I'll be concentrating on the mile and 2M this year."

So, how fast can he run a mile, one might wonder. And that brings another non-specific reply but reveals another aspect of his attitude toward running and perhaps his need for "his people". "I know I'll run faster than 3:56.7, but it's hard to run the kind of race that 3:52 requires. Especially when I have to run out in front. I'd like to get in a race where somebody else does some of the work at the start. Then we'll see what I can do.

"I'm basically tired of doing all the work. I set the pace in almost every race I ran last year. That means I never get a chance to use my speed. I'd like a chance to sit back in the pack. I know I have more speed than people realize but I've never had a chance to show it." Give Steve his near-perfect setting—a hotly-paced race set up by others and a raft of *Premania* to support him—and the cap is liable to come off the volatile, emotion-charged Pre.

It may take the kind of incentive to really excite Steve in the future.

"I'm living on \$105 a month. To continue running after I graduate, I'm going to have to get a job that isn't the regular 8hr-a-day type. I don't want everything given to me but I can't do hard work and training together.

And he's not only found that Munich didn't bring him everything he expected, but he's also discouraged by the NCAA and AAU and television interruptions.

With regard to the NCAA championships this June: "I understand that preliminaries will be held in the evenings but the finals are scheduled at 3:00 in the afternoon to accommodate TV. I will only run one race there, because the meet is being held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. It appears to me the members of the selecting committee pick these sites because they are thinking about a vacation rather than track. It's too hot there to run two races."

But he's equally disenchanted with the AAU. He said he plans to spend most of the coming summer in Europe. "But it won't be as one of the AAU tours. The AAU just uses athletes. I've had enough of that. I want to have some fun as well as good competition."

And Montreal? "That's three years away. The Munich Olympics were not a high class event. The conditions were bad."

Well, then, what about ITA pro circuit as a viable alternative? He admitted to a casual interest in the venture, expressed hope that it will succeed, and that he could possibly see a future for himself as a pro in two or three years. "I would be interested in it for the right offer, but so far there doesn't seem to be enough money. It will take more than \$25,000 to buy my amateurism. I know I have to get more than what they're giving [Kip] Keino."

If, when, and/or as "Premania" spreads, the maniacal achievements of Steve Prefontaine may be fully realized—and against the best fields of invitational races or the championships of the NCAA, AAU and Olympic Games, wherever they may be staged. □

young season.

Feuerbach came back after a relatively "weak" opener (66-4%) to throw 69-1½, 69-2, 68-7, foul and 68-2½, a respectable series averaging a shade under 68-3½ for five legal puts. For an encore, Feuerbach utilized a discus turn "a la Oldfield" to heave the shot out to the 65ft marker. The real competition was for 2nd, where Bruce Wilhelm edged Kent Pagel, 61-8 to 61-½. UCLA's Dave Schiller joined teammate Pagel over the 60ft mark with 60-3½ for 4th.

Steve Smith failed to clear the "still-magic" 18ft barrier, but fulfilled his promise to beat the pros. He noted later, "[Bob] Seagren would have finished 3rd here" (comparing his 17-5½ best and Hans Lagerqvist's 17-1 to Seagren's 17-0 the night before). Smith told reporters he had entertained thoughts of turning pro but, "They won't last if all their meets are like last night!"

UCLA substituted Gordon Peppers for Ron Gaddis in their usual sprint relay lineup and responded with an 0.4 improvement. The Bruins needed every one of their sharp handoffs to hold off Chuck Smith's closing rush for Cal International (40.3).

John Powell got his first 200ft whip of the year with his 201-5 winning toss. Last season's longest throwing collegian, Steve Gunzel, could only

manage 174-8 for 9th, more than 20ft under his best at Santa Barbara the day before.

In other highlights, Mark Winzenried led from the start to win the 880 in an excellent early-season time, 1:48.7. Best of the windy marks was Tommy Lee White's easy 13.5 hurdle victory. UCLA's Clim Jackson came on strong over the last three barriers to edge teammate Charles Rich, 13.8 to 13.9, for runnerup. Steve Williams doubled with 9.4 and 21.1 wins in the sprint sections. The 220 was especially impressive as he slowed to a virtual walk the final 15y.

/breezy and cool; synthetic surface; attendance 4212/ 100(w), S. Williams 9.4; 2. H. Williams 9.4. III-1. Deckard 9.4. 220(w), I-1. L. Brown 20.9. II-1. S. Williams 21.1. 440, B. Brown 46.5. 880, Winzenried 1:48.7 (53.8). Mile, Eashman 4:08.7. St. Haver 9:09.4. 2M, Salcido 8:53.4. 6M, Wagenbach 28:29.2. 120HH(w), White 13.5; 2. Jackson 13.8. 440IH, Bolding 51.4; 2. Williams 51.4.

HJ, Stones 7-1; 2. Matzdorf 7-0; 3. Shepard 7-0. . . nh—Joseph. PV, Smith 17-5½; 2. Lagerqvist" 17-1. . . nh—Isaksson". LJ, McAlister 25-8¼w (25-2¼ok). TJ(w), Tiff 51-2. SP, Feuerbach 69-2 (66-4%, 69-1½, 69-2, 68-7, f, 68-2¼; 2. B. Wilhelm 61-8; 3. Pagel 61-½; 4. Schiller 60-3½. DT, Powell 201-5. JT, Strickland 239-8. 440R, UCLA 40.0 (Welch, Brown, Parks, Peppers); 2. Cal International 40.3.