

Woods Puts the Arm on World Record: 72-2 $\frac{3}{4}$

BY HARLEY TINKHAM

Times Staff Writer

David predicted he'd beat Goliath Friday night. That got Goliath mad.

Goliath is George Woods, a 6-2 290-pounder from Illinois who broke the world record in the shot put three times in the Times Indoor Games, winding up the night with the mightiest heave in the history of the event, 72 feet 2 3/4 inches.

Before a crowd of 14,084 at the Forum, Woods shattered his world indoor record of 70-4 1/2 and also bettered the world outdoor record of 71-7 set last year by Pacific Coast Club teammate Al Feuerbach.

Woods, the biggest competitor in the house, later had to share world record honors with the littlest, 15-year-old, 92-pound Mary Decker,

who won the women's 880 in 2:06.7.

Miss Decker, winning by 50 yards, eclipsed the indoor record of 2:07.3, shared by former Olympic champion Madeline Manning and Doris Brown. It was the second world record in three weeks for the pig-tailed lass from Garden Grove. She set a 1,000-yard record in the Sunkist meet at the Sports Arena.

The mile was won by North Carolina's Tony Waldrop in meet record time of 3:58.3 after a rodeo-like performance that saw him knock Steve Prefontaine off the track on the final lap.

Prefontaine was second in 3:59.5, followed by New Zealand's John Walker in 4:01.0. The old meet record was 3:58.9 set by Jim Beatty in 1962.

Feuerbach, labeling himself David,

predicted earlier in the week he would end Woods' streak of five straight indoor victories. But the 30-year-old Woods, who outweighs Feuerbach by 45 pounds, never gave his lighter rival a chance—although Feuerbach wound up with his best ever indoors, 70-4 1/4.

Woods, who turns 31 Monday, opened the competition with a record throw of 70-5 1/2. He didn't even remove his sweatshirt. He fouled on his next try, then went 69-0 3/4, 70-9 and 72-2 3/4.

After the big one, he took a victory lap, waving his mighty arms in the air, then called it a night, passing his sixth and final throw.

The record was no surprise to Pacific Coast Club coach Tom Jennings. Before the season started, Woods, who works as an admissions

counselor at Southern Illinois, wrote to Jennings and said, "Tell Mr. Shot Put he'd better be ready."

Mr. Shot Put is—or was—Feuerbach, who last year was rated No. 1 in the world after breaking Randy Matson's six-year-old outdoor record of 71-5 1/2.

Woods' mark also surpassed the world professional indoor record of 70-10 1/4 set last year by Brian Oldfield.

Woods, who once had pro football ambitions but gave them up, says he has no intention of joining the pro track circuit. He is a two-time Olympic Games silver medalist, losing at Munich on a controversial ruling when his best throw hit the flag marking the throw of Poland's Wladyslaw Komar, the Olympic champion.

Woods wants that gold medal and promises to be at Montreal in 1976.

In the mile, Prefontaine appeared headed for his third straight Times victory when he shot to a 5-yard lead over Walker with 1 1/2 laps to go. Waldrop, however, was just getting warmed up.

The 22-year-old North Carolina senior also went by Walker and quickly drew abreast of Prefontaine. As they came off the first turn of the last lap, Waldrop cut in on Prefontaine, causing the Oregon runner to break stride, and it was all over.

Even without the foul, Waldrop no doubt would have been the winner. He was full of run while Prefontaine obviously was laboring.

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Sports

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Woods Breaks All Records for Shot Put

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Prefontaine set most of the pace, although Walker took over for a lap coming up to the three-quarters mark. The fractions were 59.0, 1:59.6 and 3:00.3.

For Waldrop, it was his fourth straight sub-4-minute clocking this winter. His previous best was 3:58.9.

Walker, the Commonwealth silver medalist in the 1,500 meters when he chased Tanzania's Filbert Bayi to a world record of 3:32.2, arrived here Friday morning after a 15-hour flight from New Zealand. On Thursday he ran a 3:56.0 mile in Auckland. The Times meet was his first indoor race ever.

Walker's New Zealand teammate, Dick Tayler, also was making his first start on the boards, and he made it a winning one in the two-mile. The 25-year-old rancher had the race all to himself, winning by a lap in 8:35.6.

Tayler, in the Commonwealth Games at Christchurch, won the 10,000 meters over a field that included world record-holder Dave Bedford of England.

Most exciting race of the night was the high school two-mile, won by Laguna Beach's Eric Hulst in a photo over fast-closing Jim Schankel of Lompoc. Both were timed in 8:58.4.

Hulst, 16, who wears a golf cap Dave Wottle-style, became the first high school sophomore to break 9 minutes indoors.

In the 60-yard dash, world record-holder Herb Washington continued his indoor mastery of Steve Williams, winning in a meet record-equaling 6.0.

Williams, a notoriously slow starter, appeared to get off even with Washington but gave away 2 feet as they straightened up and got very little of it back in the final drive.

Washington, self-proclaimed "chairman of the boards," said he slipped on his second step out of the blocks "or I might have threatened my world record of 5.8."

Williams, co-holder of the outdoor 100-yard dash record of 9.1, said, "I need 62 yards indoors to win against Washington."

Injuries and illnesses took their toll at the meet.

Olympic champion Randy Williams was forced to withdraw from the long



A STEP FROM HOME—Dick Tayler prepares to break the tape in 2-mile run Friday night at Times Indoor Games. Tayler, of New Zealand, turned in a winning time at the Forum of 8:35.6.

Times photo by Art Rogers

jump with a leg injury. The winner was former Redlands star Jerry Proctor at 25-7.

Russia's Yevgeniy Arzhanov, favored in the 1,000-yard run, pulled out because of illness. Steve Bence of Oregon won the race in 2:11.3.

The 600-yard favorite, Marcello Fiasconaro of Italy, decided to race despite a leg injury and wound up a distant fourth in 1:12.3. The winner was Jim Bolding of the Pacific Coast Club in 1:10.9.

But, all in all, it was a night to remember.

Mr. Woods, improving with age, appears ready to join Parry O'Brien and Randy Matson as undisputed rulers of the shot put. Goliath, when he gets mad, is an awesome sight.

Look for him at Montreal.

SHOT PUT—1. Woods (Pacific Coast Club), 72-2/4 (world, American and meet record, old world and American record, 70-4/2, Woods, 1974; old meet record, 69-0/4, Feuerbach, PCC, 1972); 2. Feuerbach (PCC), 70-4/4; 3. Albritton (unat, Newport Beach), 64-5.

LONG JUMP—1. Proctor (BH Striders), 25-7; 2. Moore (San Diego TC), 25-1/4; 3. Baumgartner (West Germany), 24-8; 4. Whitley (Calif. Int.), 24-7.

POLE VAULT—1. Isakov (USSR), 17-4; 2. Isaksson (Sweden), 17-0; 3. Carrigan (PCC), 17-0; 4. Richards (PCC), 17-0.

OPEN MILE RELAY—1. USC (C. Brown, Richardson, Campbell, G. Jones), 3:20.0; 2. Calif. International, 3:26.3; 3. Beverly Hills Striders, 3:27.0; 4. Cal St. Fullerton, 3:32.4.

500—1. Farmer (Southwest LA JC), 57.1; 2. Singletary (Southern Cal College), 57.6; 3. Robinson (Arizona St.), 59.2; 4. Shirley (UC Irvine), 59.6.

WOMEN

60—1. Watson (Lakewood Int.), 6.8; 2. Mable Ferguson (West Coast Jets), 6.8; 3. Sichfing (South Coast TC, Ore.), 6.9; 4. Fleetwood (SoCal Cheetahs), 6.9.

440—1. Mable Ferguson (West Coast Jets), 58.0; 2. Sichfing (South Coast TC, Ore.), 58.4; 3. Scott (LA Mercurettes), 58.6.

880—1. Decker (Blue Angels TC), 2:05.7 (world, American and meet record, old world and American mark, 2:07.3, Madeline Manning, Tennessee St., 1969, and Doris Brown, Falcons TC, 1970; old meet mark, 2:09.5, Zsuzu Szabo-Nagy, Hungary, and Miss Brown, 1970); 2. Poor (San Jose Cinderails), 2:13.1; 3. Graham (San Jose Cinderails), 2:15.1; 4. Brown (unat, Westwood), 2:15.4.

HIGH SCHOOL

CITY 640 RELAY—1. Bell (M. Enoex, Gallegos, Nelson, Ford), 1:07.7; 2. Westchester, 1:09.7; 3. San Pedro, 1:09.7; 4. Jefferson, 1:14.2.

CIF 640 RELAY—1. Burbank (Babko, Fulton, Murphy, Ragan), 1:09.1; 2. Pius X, 1:13.4; Morningside disqualified; LB Poly did not finish.

GIRLS 640 RELAY—1. Muir (R. Jordan, Birdsall, G. Jordan, Flournoy), 1:18.8 (meet record, old mark, 1:19.1, LB Wilson, 1973); 2. Costa Mesa, 1:21.4; 3. Azusa, 1:25.0; 4. Palos Verdes, 1:26.1.

TWO MILE—1. Hulst (Laguna Beach), 8:58.4 (best ever by sophomore indoors); 2. Schankel (Lompoc), 8:58.4; 3. Serna (Lora), 9:01.4; 4. Fabing (Lompoc), 9:05.6.

JUNIOR COLLEGE

MILE RELAY—1. Southwest LA (White, McZeal, Smith, Farmer, 49.7) 3:23.4; 2. Fullerton, 3:24.0.

MEN

60—1. Washington (unat, East Lansing, Mich.), 6.0 (equals meet record, held by six others including Washington); 2. S. Williams (unat, San Diego), 6.1; 3. Gilliard (Calif. Int.), 6.2; 4. Shavers (USC), 6.2.

60HH—1. White (Beverly Hills Striders), 7.1; 2. Rich (Calif. Int.) 7.1; 3. Washington (USC), 7.2; 4. Robinson (Calif. Int.), 7.2.

600—1. Bolding (PCC), 1:10.5; 2. W. Williams (San Diego TC), 1:11.2; 3. Kemp (BH Striders), 1:11.6; 4. Flascano (Italy), 1:12.3.

1,000—1. Bence (Oregon), 2:11.3; 2. Baxter (USC), 2:12.4; 3. Jones (BH Striders), 2:15.4; 4. Barry (Pierce), 2:17.6.

MILE—1. Waldrop (North Carolina), 3:58.3 (meet record, old mark, 3:58.9, Jim Beatty, Los Angeles TC, 1962, and John Mason, PCC, and Henryk Szerdykowski, Poland, both 1971); 2. Prefontaine (Oregon TC), 3:59.5; 3. Walker (New Zealand), 4:01.0; 4. Hilton (PCC), 4:01.4.

TWO MILE—1. Taylor (New Zealand), 8:35.6; 2. Stewart (Britain), 8:49.6; 3. Ndoo (Eastern New Mexico), 8:49.6; 4. D. Williams (Eastern New Mexico), 8:52.0.

COLLEGE SPRINT MEDLEY RELAY—1. Occidental (Odell, Edwards, Taylor, Cleary), 3:38.7 (meet record, first time run); 2. Cal St. Northridge, 3:40.4; 3. Cal St. Fullerton, 3:40.6; 4. Long Beach St., 3:45.8.

MILE WALK—1. Walker (BH Striders), 6:28.7; 2. DeNoon (Blue Angels TC), 6:34.0; 3. Bouldin (BH Strider), 6:43.8; 4. Ryan (BH Striders), 6:46.8.

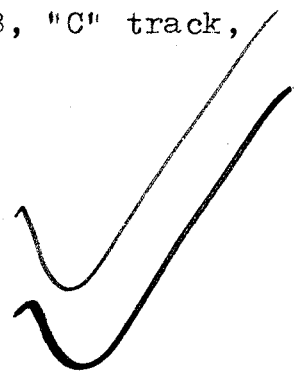
HIGH JUMP—1. Underwood (Arizona St.), 7-2; 2. Brown (BH Striders), 7-0; 3. Stones (PCC), 7-0.

TWO MILE RELAY—1. Arizona State (Rafferty, Lawson, Zuck, Franek), 7:45.2; 2. Calif. International, 7:49.4; 3. UCLA, 7:55.4; 4. Long Beach St., 8:08.2.

SUMS

LOS ANGELES TIMES INDOOR GAMES; Los Angeles, Feb. 8, "C" track,
att: 14,084.

1974



60 - Washington (unatt) 6.0
2. S. Williams (SD St) 6.1

500 - Farmer (LA SW JC) 57.1
2. Singletary (SoCal Coll) 57.6

600 - Bolding (PCst) 1:10.5
2. W. Williams (SDTC) 1:11.2
--- 4. Fiasconaro (Italy) 1:12.3

1000 - Bence (Ore) 2:11.3

mile - Waldrop (No Car) 3:58.3 (59.3, 2:00.1, 3:00.5)
2. Prefontaine (OreTC) 3:59.5 (59.0, 1:59.6, 3:00.3)
3. Walker (New Zeal) 4:01.0 (59.2, 1:59.8, 3:00.4)
4. Hilton (PCst) 4:01.4
5. Feig (Ore) 4:07.7

2mi - ~~XXXXX~~ Tayler (NZ) 8:35.6 (led all the way @ 63.7, 2:07.3, 3:11.0,
4:15.5, 5:18.8, 6:24.2, 7:30.6)
2. C. Stewart (GBrit) 8:49.6
3. Ndoe (EnNMex/Ken) 8:49.6
4. D. Williams (EnNMex) 8:52.0
5. Maplestone (EnWashSt/GB) 8:53.2
6. T. Williams (Oregon) 8:55.4

60HH - White (Strid) 7.1
2. Rich (CalInt) 7.1
3. Washington (SnCal) 7.2
4. Robinson (Cal Int) 7.2

Hts. I- White 7.1

II- Rich 7.2

HJ - Underwood (ArizSt) 7-2 (3 tries @ 7-4 $\frac{1}{2}$, none close)
2. Brown (Strid) 7-0
3. Stones (GlenCC) 7-0
4. Fletcher (Strid) 7-0
5. Gavrilov (SU) 7-0

PV- Isakov (SU) 17-4
2. Isaksson (Strid/Swe) 17-0
3. Carrigan (PCst) 17-0
4. Richards (PCst) 17-0
5. Pullard (ShCal) 16-6
6. Niwa (Japan) 16-0 nh Hamer, Tracanelli, Lagerqvist

Sums 2-2-2-2

LJ - Proctor (Strid) 25-7
2. Moore (SDTC) 25-6 $\frac{3}{4}$
3. Baumgarther (WGer) 24-8
4. Whitley (CalInt) 24-7

5. Hammond (Sn Cal) 22-2
6. Hardeman (Sn Cal) 18- $\frac{7}{2}$

SP - Woods(PCst) 72-2 $\frac{3}{4}$ (70- $5\frac{1}{2}$, f, 69-0 $\frac{3}{4}$, 70-9, 72-2 $\frac{3}{4}$, p)
2. Feuerbach (PCst) 70-4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (68-1, 67- $5\frac{1}{2}$, 67-0 $\frac{1}{2}$, 67-10, f, 70-4 $\frac{1}{2}$)
3. Albritton (unatt) 64-5 (also 63- $7\frac{1}{2}$ PR)

miR - Southern Cal 3:20.3

2mi R - Arizona State 7:45.2

spr medley (440, 160, 160, 1000) - Occidental 3:38.7