



State Meet Again Features Top Athletes and Competition



by Doug Speck, *California Track & Running News*

The California State Prep Track & Field Championships, one of the highlights of the spring sports season, returns to Cerritos College for its Sixty-Eighth annual affair. The last such gathering held here, in 1981, ranked among the top all-time high school competitions in history, with four national records coming from the action. With 38 of the 121 spots on the 1984 U.S. Olympic Track & Field team made up of former Golden State preps, fans will be treated to the interscholastic best in the nation over these two days and have a preview of many of our future Olympic stars.

The favorites for the Girls' team title would appear to be the Southern Section's Hawthorne Cougars, under Coach Kye Courtney. The Boys' title for the past three years and the runner-up for the Girls' championship last year, the Cougars are headed by Tami Stiles, (see photo on page 18) who is the favorite in both the 100 (11.71) and 200 (23.61), and anchors both the State's leading 400 Relay (45.60) and 1600 relay (3:45.57) groups. Tami is undefeated in the open sprints this spring. The Hawthorne short relay group leads the state by over a second and Hawthorne's long relay team is undefeated in California in 1986. A very competitive Tamiko White, 42.95 in the 300 LH could add insurance points for Hawthorne.

The Boys' title race is much more interesting. With some of the stronger Southern California groups self-destructing along the way, it appears Sac-Joaquin Section's Hiram Johnson High of Sacramento has moved into the very, very slight favorite's role. There are a number of teams prominent in the sprints and relays with the potential to stack up a number of points, but a mere hundredth of a second or two or a misplaced baton can radically alter the structure of such a tight team race. Johnson is led by Curtis Rogers, who has 10.52-20.9, 100/200 sprint bests, and has a state leading 24-11 Long Jump (#3 mark in the nation 1986), and is on a 41.24, 400 sprint relay team. Other squads in roughly the same situation are Los Angeles City Section's Taft of Woodland Hills, with super-soph Quincy Watts 10.56, 100 - 20.97, 200 (the latter a national 10th grade record and #3 time in the nation for 1986) and the anchor on a 41.13, 400 sprint relay group, Southern Section's Duarte, with 10.59, 100 - 21.31, 200 sprinter Martin Cannady keying 41.47, 400 and 3:15.89, 1600 relay groups, and Sac-Joaquin's Vallejo, with Andre White 10.54, 100 - 21.2, 200, and 41.73, 400, 3:19.82, 1600 relay squads.

With the team competition as a backdrop, torrid competition will mark each of the individual events. The Mastalir twins, (see photo on page 26) Mark and Eric of Sac-Joaquin's Jesuit in Sacramento, will finish out their fine prep distance running careers this weekend. Mark was the Sac-Joaquin Section 1600 champion in a super 4:04.15 (the nation's best prep 1600 in 1986), and if he can force the pace in Saturday's Finals Mark Schilling's 4:05.4 (1972) Meet Record could fall. Brother Eric leads the nation outdoors at 3200 with an 8:48.55 from the Arcadia Invitational, and his match-up with Mark Dani (San Diego Section's Valhalla of El Cajon), who recorded an 8:49.1 for two miles indoors, could be titanic. Dani was the San Diego Section 3200 champ at 8:54.96 (coming through 1600 at 4:23), while Eric followed Mark in the Section 1600 at 4:04.23, and won the 3200 title at 9:00.38 with a 2:01 final 800. Eric has dropped the 1600 to concentrate on the 3200, and a spirited early pace could put Eric Hulst's 8:44.9 (1975) Meet Record in danger. The Pole Vault has made a real comeback in California, and the event this weekend features six 16-footers. Defending Champion Brent Burns (see photo on page 38) (North Coast Section's Acalanes, Lafayette) 16-7 1/4 (#3 mark in the nation for 1986) will be challenged by Steve Toney (Central Coast Section's Menlo Atherton) 16-1, Rett Summerville (North Coast's San Ramon, Danville) 16-0 3/4, and 16-0 vaulters Kevin Rankin (Central Coast's Los Gatos), and Southern Section's Steve Williams (Servite, Anaheim), and Dan Covarubias (Long Beach Jordan). The Boys' 800 will be a classic duel involving an athlete with blazing 400 speed and two other who can stretch out to the 1600 distance with real success. Neil Fitzgerald (Central Coast's Saint Ignatious, San Francisco) is undefeated this spring with a 1:52.57 best, and exhibits a mile's strength during the final 200. Vincent Thompson (see photo on page 17) (Los Angeles' Locke) has run 1:51.51 (#5 mark nationally for preps in 1986), and clocked a blazing 47.15, 400. Tony Perez (Sac-Joaquin's Manteca) with 1:52.6, 800 and 4:11.77, 1600 bests will keep Fitzgerald and Thompson honest. Fitzgerald handled Thompson in an Arcadia Invitational show-down, while Perez was winning the 1600 at that meet. The Boys' Triple Jump will feature an outstanding group, led by National Leader, Southern Section's Marcus Hooks of Lakewood (see photo on page 36) 52-3 1/2, Harold Rucker (Central Coast's Silver Creek, San Jose) 50-11 1/2, and the Southern Section's Trini Woods (Hawthorne) 50-0 1/2.

The young ladies also have a number of true stars led by Southern Section performers—Maddette Smith (Quartz Hill), the National Long Jump leader at 20-6 (21-3w), Rosalyn Mitchell (Diamond Bar) (20-1w best from 1985) who handed Smith her first defeat of the year in the Southern Section State Qualifying competition and Janeene Vickers (see photo on page 24) (Pomona) the national leader in the 300 LH at 41.92 and second in the country at the 100 LH distance with 13.56 best. The undefeated Southern Section star is easily the favorite in both these events. The Girls' distances feature a number who rank as among the nation's finest. Darcy Arreola (San Diego's Grossmont, La Mesa) (see photo on page 26) showed a fine finish in her 4:47.98 nation leading San Diego Section 1600 win. Laurie Chapman (Central Coast's Gunderson, San Jose) (see photo on page 13) had an excellent 10:15.2 (3200-#2 time in nation 1986) and 4:48.7 (1600). Defending State Champions Shannon Clark (Central Coast's Mountain View-1600) and Rebecca Chamberlain (Central Coast's Leigh, San Jose—3200) (see photo on page 13) will not give up their titles easily, as the duo are real fighters in this June competition. The Girls' Discus (see photos page 30) has been a headlining event

all season. Defending State Champion Lil Ili (Southern Section's Nogales, La Puente) 162-2 (1985) will try to regain event dominance after defeats during the 1986 season to San Diego's Lori Parker (Ramona) 162-0 and Tracy Crawford (Southwest) 155-1, who lead the nation with their marks this spring. Jackie Anderson (San Diego's Mount Miguel) established a National Indoor Girls' Triple Jump Record this winter at 41-0 1/2. Brandi Gail (Southern Section's Rowland, Rowland Heights) improved her best in the Shot Put to 47-4 1/2 in the Section Finals, the #4 mark in the nation for 1986.

Terry Johnson (Southern Section's Katella, Anaheim) (see photo on page 24) is the 110 HH favorite with 13.97, 37.37, 300 IH bests. The Orange County star's only defeat this year was to Rodney Bradshaw (Southern Section's Saugus) 14.02, 100 HH 37.49, 300 IH but will have to compete with Billy Gaines Jr. (Central Coast's Independence, San Jose). The son of former great dashman Bill Gaines (9.3 for 100 yards as a New Jersey prep in 1967), in the 300 IH (37.38 qualifying) among others to take home a State Meet title in either event. Marvin Douglas (Los Angeles' Fremont) took over the State 400 lead at 47.0 (#7 prep time in nation) with his Section win, but Vincent Thompson (Los Angeles' Locke) 47.15, Steve Lewis (North Coast's American, Fremont) 47.31, and Floyd Barco (Central Coast's Monterey) 47.47 are also looking to run under 47.0. Lewis, a Los Angeles Banning transfer was in the State Meet last year as a soph with a 48.61 best. Scott Bunnell (Central Coast's Henry Gunn, Palo Alto) exploded out to 63-2 1/2 (#7 in nation) in the Shot Put to win the Central Coast Section, with the Southern Section's super soph Kaleaph Carter (Edison, Huntington Beach) 61-11 and San Diego's Brian Boggess (El Capitan, Lakeside 60-3 1/2 all over 60 feet. Carter's 61-11 is an All-Time California soph best. Boggess (191-3), Jeff Hooper (Sac-Joaquin's Del Campo, Fair Oaks) 192-3, and Mike Coffino (North Coast's Tamalpais, Mill Valley) 182-2 headline the Discus. Jeff Novitzky (Central Coast's Mills, Millbrae) leads entrants in the High Jump with a 7-0 best. Richard Thomas (Southern Section's Ventura) 6-11, and 6-10 leapers George Smith (Central Section's Clovis West, Fresno) and Dave Heidebrecht (Central's Immanuel, Reedley) will challenge Novitzky.

Laura Chapel (San Diego's University City, San Diego) 2:08.46 (#3 in nation) and Maggie Henson (Southern Section's Newport Harbor) 2:09.17 (#4 in country) are the top Girls' 800 entrants. Princess Bennett (Southern Section's Compton) leads the 400 at 53.49 (#4 time nation), and clocked a 51.8 anchor relay split in bringing her team from last to fourth in the Section Finals after a dropped baton. The Southern Section provides the top high jumpers—Yleana Carrasco (Anaheim) jumped 6-0 last spring, but Debbie Orr (Ocean View, Huntington Beach) and LaShawn McBride (Long Beach Poly), with 5-10 bests, have taken turns bettering the Anaheim star the last two weekends.

So settle back in your seats and prepare for two days of athletic competition as intense as you will see anywhere in another great California State High School Track & Field Championships.

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California Prep Track Champions

GIRLS' NATIONAL RECORDS

Event	Mark	Name	School/City/State/Section	Year
Girls' 100 Meter Low Hurdles	13.2	Tanya Davis	Sterling, Houston, TX	1985
Girls' 3200 Meter Run	10:04.2	Cory Schubert	Del Mar, San Jose, CA Central Coast Section	1983
Girls' 400 Meter Relay	45.11	Wheeler, Grant, Amy, Stiles	Hawthorne, CA Southern Section	1985
Girls' 800 Meter Run	2:04.5	Joetta Clark	Columbia, Maplewood, NJ	1980
Girls' 100 Meter Dash	11.29	Barbara Bell	Trimble Tech., Forth Worth, TX	1981
Girls' 400 Meter Dash	52.39	Denean Howard	Kennedy, Granada Hills, CA Los Angeles City Section	1982
Girls' 200 Meter Dash	23.0	Wenda Vereen	Trenton, NJ	1983
Girls' 300 Meter Low Hurdles	40.18	Leslie Maxie	Mills, Milbrae, CA Central Coast Section	1984
Girls' 1600 Meter Run	4:39.92	Polly Anne Plumer	University, Irvine, CA Southern Section	1982
Girls' 1600 Meter Relay	3:37.69	Cantrell, Caddell, Franklin, Wilson	Muir, Pasadena, CA Southern Section	1985
Girls' Discus	176-4	Cindy Johnson	Chandler, Mesa, AZ	1982
Girls' Long Jump	22-1¾	Kathy McMillan	Hoke County, Raeford, NC	1976
Girls' Shot Put	53-7¾	Natalie Kaalawahia	Fullerton, CA Southern Section	1983
Girls' High Jump	6-2¾	Latrese Johnson	Clovis, CA Central Section	1985
Girls' Triple Jump	42-10½	Wendy Brown	Woodside, CA Central Coast Section	1984

California Prep holds National Record

GIRLS' STATE MEET RECORDS

Event	Mark	Name	School/City/Section	Year
Girls' 100 Meter Low Hurdles	13.41	Gail Devers	Sweetwater, National City San Diego Section	1984
Girls' 3200 Meter Run	10:08.14	Cory Schubert	Del Mar, San Jose Central Coast Section	1983
Girls' 400 Meter Relay	45.13	King, Ware, Johnson, Rodgers	Berkeley North Coast Section	1981
Girls' 800 Meter Run	2:04.91	Trena Hull	Compton Southern Section	1984
Girls' 100 Meter Dash	11.42	Sharon Ware	Berkeley North Coast Section	1980
Girls' 400 Meter Dash	52.39	Denean Howard	Kennedy, Granada Hills Los Angeles City Section	1982
Girls' 200 Meter Dash	23.19	Sherri Howard	Kennedy, Granada Hills Los Angeles City Section	1980
Girls' 300 Meter Low Hurdles	40.90	Leslie Maxie	Mills, Milbrae Central Coast Section	1984
Girls' 1600 Meter Run	4:39.92	Polly Anne Plumer	University, Irvine Southern Section	1982
Girls' 1600 Meter Relay	3:37.71	Cook, Howard, Howard, Johnson	Kennedy, Granada Hills Los Angeles City Section	1981
Girls' Discus	172-11	Leslie Deniz	Gridley Northern Section	1980
Girls' Long Jump	20-9¾	Wendy Brown	Woodside Central Coast Section	1984
Girls' Shot Put	53-7½	Natalie Kaaiawahia	Fullerton Southern Section	1983
Girls' High Jump	6-2	Latrese Johnson	Clovis Central Section	1985
Girls' Triple Jump	42-10½	Wendy Brown	Woodside Central Coast Section	1984