

Trojans Win a Meet for All Seasons, 84-70

BY MAL FLORENCE

Times Staff Writer

USC's Vern Wolfe and UCLA's Jim Bush hailed Saturday's dual track and field meet between their teams as the greatest ever in the series. They're probably right.

There was one world-class performance after another at Drake Stadium, where 18 lifetime bests were recorded by scoring athletes—11 for the Trojans, seven for the Bruins.

As expected, USC won, 84-70, but the meet was still in doubt until the 5,000 meters, the next-to-last event of the program. Trojan Henry Perez finished second to UCLA's Barrie Williams to decide the outcome.

USC sprinter Clancy Edwards was the outstanding performer on a day of superlative achievements. The stocky Trojan won the 100 meters in 10.18 and the 200 in 20.03.

His 200 clocking was the fifth fastest of all time and second best at sea level. His 100-200 double is believed to be the best ever by automatic timing.

"I had no idea my 200 time was that fast," Edwards said. "I had trouble getting my race together and I didn't explode off the turn as I usually do. Yes, I think I can break the 200 world record (19.83 by Tommie Smith in 1968) some day."

Edwards had to be at his best to hold off UCLA's Greg Foster, who is almost a one-man track team. Foster won the 110-meter high hurdles in a wind-aided 13.46, was timed at 10.33 for second behind Edwards in the 100, anchored his sprint relay team (USC won in a 1978 world best time of 38.85) and was timed at 20.41 for second in the 200. He would have run a leg on the mile relay team if the meet had still been undecided.

"It was one PR (personal record), PR, PR after another," Bush said. "It has to be the greatest dual meet from the standpoint of marks."

Here are some of them:

—USC's Billy Mullins won the 400 in 45.03 and was chased by teammate James Sanford (45.77) and UCLA's

Donn Thompson (45.90)—each a lifetime best.

—The Trojans' sprint relay team of Kevin Williams, Mullins, Edwards and Sanford ran the fastest time ever by a U.S. collegiate team composed entirely of American runners. UCLA's second place time of 39.25 wasn't shabby.

—USC senior Rayfield Beaton set a meet record of 1:46.5 in winning the 800 meters and Perez got another meet standard by taking the 3,000-meter steeplechase in 8:52.1.

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Still, the Bruins had a chance with three events left. The Trojans were expected to go 1-2 in the 200 with Edwards and Mullins. But Mullins had a muscle twinge in his leg and an upset stomach from taking too many salt tablets, and Wolfe held him out of the race—saving him for the concluding mile relay.

Edwards didn't really get moving until five yards out of the turn and then he powered down the straightaway to victory over Foster in 20.03, which is also a collegiate record.

It was such a fast race that Sanford was caught in 20.48 for third and UCLA's Millard Hampton, showing improvement, in 20.51 for fourth.

So instead of clinching at least a tie with an anticipated 1-2 in the 200, the Trojans were still being pressed by the Bruins. UCLA had to take 1-2 in the 5,000 to make the meet hinge on the mile relay.

Williams won, but Shawn James, who finished second to Perez in the steeplechase, dropped out with 3½ laps left—and took the Bruins' hopes with him. USC got second (Perez) and third (Richard Crowell), picked up four points and sealed the meet with 78 points out of a possible 154.

Even though the mile relay was anticlimactic, the Trojans put together their best team (Joel Andrews, Beaton, Sanford and Mullins) and won in 3:06.6.

A crowd of 11,432 on a mild, overcast afternoon watched USC win its 18th straight dual meet over the past three years (third straight over UCLA) and probably clinch the mythical U.S. dual meet championship. The USC-UCLA winner has received this award since it was created in 1970 by Track & Field News.

"I'm proud of my team and they did a job, but the Trojans did a better one," Bush said. "The Trojans are the best team in the country now, and if they get any better . . . gawd."

"But our team is improving and we'll be better in the NCAA meet. Hampton (the 1976 Olympic silver medalist in the 200) and James Owens (1977 NCAA and AAU hurdles champion) are almost back to form."

Wolfe was expected to double Omwansa from the 1,500 to the 5,000, but the Kenyan didn't run the longer race. The USC coach was confident Perez could get a second and was also counting on winning the mile relay.

"I figured that if we didn't win the mile relay, we didn't

deserve to win the meet," he said. "How about this for a meet. It's the greatest you'll find regardless of who wins."

It has been that way for many years.

Track Notes

Edwards got a poor start in the 100, but his time was second only to Auburn's **Harvey Glance** (10.17) in the U.S. this year and equaled his meet record set in 1977. "I got going at 50 meters," he said. "As for the meet, I wasn't as psyched up as I was last year (he was a double sprint winner). The second time around you're more used to things. I think the 200 time would have been faster if Mullins (who has a '78 best of 20.5) had been in the race. Edwards said the Trojans will shoot for the world record in the 800-meter relay (1:21.4) Saturday night at the Fresno Relays

Other than the athletes who had lifetime best marks, there were 12 season highs for the Trojans, three for the Bruins. Stadium records were set in the 200- and 400-meter relays . . . Edwards exploded on the third leg of the sprint relay and gave Sanford a comfortable lead that he held. Wolfe on Edwards: "He's stronger, relaxed and more confident this year. There's no telling what he'll do". Only **Valeriy Borzov** of the Soviet Union has run a faster 200 (20.00) at sea level than Edwards .

100 METERS—1. Edwards (USC), 10.16; 2. Foster (UCLA), 10.33; 3. Williams (USC), 10.34.

200—1. Edwards (USC), 20.03; 2. Foster (UCLA), 20.41; 3. Sanford (USC), 20.48.

400—1. Mullins (USC), 45.03; 2. Sanford (USC), 45.77; 3. Thompson (UCLA), 45.90.

800—1. Beaton (USC), 1:46.5; 2. Suhr (UCLA), 1:47.1; 3. L. Johnson (USC), 1:48.1.

1,500—1. Omwansa (USC), 3:46.5; 2. Williams (USC), 3:47.42; 3. Russell (UCLA), 3:50.01.

5,000—1. Williams (UCLA), 14:37.46; 2. Perez (USC), 14:38.36; 3. Crowell (USC), 14:43.17.

3,000 STEEPLECHASE—1. Perez (USC), 8:52.1; 2. James (UCLA), 8:54.2; 3. Watkins (UCLA), 9:44.2.

110MH—1. Foster (UCLA), 13.46; 2. Owens (UCLA), 13.56; 3. Graybehl (USC), 14.34.

400IH—1. Graybehl (USC), 49.4; 2. McNeal (UCLA), 50.9; 3. Young (UCLA), 52.1.

400 RELAY—1. USC (Williams, Mullins, Edwards, Sanford), 38.85; 2. UCLA (Owens, Hampton, Thompson, Foster), 39.25.

MILE RELAY—1. USC (J. Andrews 46.7; Beaton 47.1; Sanford 46.3; Mullins 46.0); 2. UCLA (McGlothin 47.8; Suhr 47.7; Thompson 46.3; Goldstein 47.3); 3. 3. 1.

SHOTPUT—1. Laut (UCLA), 62-1; 2. McKenzie (USC), 60-2; 3. Kurasch (USC), 57-7½.

LONG JUMP—1. Banks (UCLA), 25-7½; 2. Lancaster (UCLA), 24-4; 3. J. Andrews (USC), 23-11½.

JAVELIN—1. U. Paananen (USC), 243-4; 2. DeMill (UCLA), 222-1; 3. I. Paananen (UCLA), 228-1.

TRIPLE JUMP—1. Banks (UCLA), 55-3; 2. Assaf (USC), 52-1¼; 3. Jackson (USC), 50-6¼.

DISCUS—1. Elder (USC), 193-8; 2. Montgomery (USC), 179-9; 3. Kurasch (USC), 177-4.

POLE VAULT—1. Tully (UCLA), 17-5½; 2. Brown (UCLA), 17-0½; 3. Johnson (UCLA), 16-0½.

FINAL SCORE—USC 84 UCLA 70

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