

# Runners Capture Desert Title

By GENE LUBE  
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Next scheduled stop for the powerful College of the Desert track and field squad will be the Southern California Preliminaries set Wednesday at Chaffey Junior College.

Capturing six firsts and eight seconds, the Roadrunners swept cover five other teams Friday night to win the Desert Conference Championships.

The victory made COD the undisputed track power in the Desert Conference this season with wins in every dual meet and a decisive win in the conference qualifying championships.

COD racked up 111 points to 80 for the MiraCosta Spartans who for years have been rivals with the Runners in track and field.

Third place went to Victor Valley Rams with 29 points, while Imperial Valley Arabs had 25, the Barstow Vikings had 11 and the Mt. San Jacinto Eagles 8.

And the Runners did it on a night that was cool (70s-80s) and perfect as far as the weather was concerned.

COD coach John Marman said, "It's been the same all year. This is an emotional team which is able to rise to the occasion. It was a great effort by everybody on the squad."

Four new meet records were set with COD chalking new marks in the shotput (Dave Burkheimer, 49-8 $\frac{3}{4}$ ) and the mile relay (Jaime Barron, Tom Taylor, Gary Cardiff and Tommy Mike, 3:36.).

MiraCosta set records in the javelin (Bill Gardner, 200-11) and the pole vault (Cliff Schneider, 14-7).

But the turning point for Marman, who relished the six firsts and eight seconds as well

as the six thirds and the fourths and fifths, was his team's performance in the jumps.

Even though Burkheimer won the shotput, the Spartans led after the first event on the basis of a second, third and fourth, 9-7.

And while MiraCosta's Gardner won the javelin, Robbie Carian, Dennis Alexander and Gary Cardiff took second, third and fourth to give COD

16-15 edge.

After that the Runners never looked back and Marman pointed to the performances in the long jump (Paul Hearne set a new COD record), the high jump (Don Ott tied the COD record), the triple jump (Ed Elliott and Hearne got important points) and the pole vault in which Richard Arce and Jaime Barron took second and third for enough points to stretch COD's lead to 63-52.

Following Larry Hamilton's win in the 120 high hurdles, Tommy Mike and Barron put on a fantastic show in the 440 with both sprinters neck and neck going down the stretch before Mike got the edge at the tape.

Cardiff and Tom Taylor were one and two in the 880 and Hamilton returned to win the intermediate hurdles with Philip Ballagh taking a valuable third place that gave COD a 90-62 lead over MiraCosta.

The Runners closed out the meet with a new record in the mile relay with legman Mike more than 100 yards ahead of the Spartan runner.

Marman said, "We felt we would win by 15 points if we had a good night, but this effort far exceeded our expectations. We're going all out for individual performances in the prelims now."

## Desert Conference Track Results

**Final score:** COD 111, MCC 80, VV 29, IVC 25, BC 11, MSJ 8.

SP — Burkheimer (COD), Semita (MCC), PoaPoa (MCC), Tanguana (MCC), Curtis (COD), 49-8  $\frac{3}{4}$ . (new conference record, old record was set by Burkheimer (COD), 48-8  $\frac{3}{4}$ , 1974).

Javelin — Gardner (MCC), Carian (COD), Alexander (COD), Cardiff (COD), Meidell (VV), 200-11. (new conference record, old record was set by Gardner (MCC), 200-9, 1974).

LJ — Brown (VV), Hearne (COD), Cook (MSJ), Ott (COD), Wyrick (MCC), 23 9  $\frac{1}{4}$ . (new COD record, old record was 22-9  $\frac{1}{2}$  set by Charles Castleberry, 1972).

HJ — Mason (MCC), Ott (COD), Cook (MSJ), Green (MCC), Jones (COD), 6-4. (Ott tied COD record of 6-4 set by Joe Stuart, 1969).

Discus — McBroom (MCC), Burkheimer (COD), Neymre (COD), Ellis (COD), Simeta (MCC), 136-11.

440 relay — MCC (John Harris, Ron Harris, Tony Ricketts and Russ Wyrick), 44.4. COD (Paul Hearne, Gary Cardiff, Ed Elliott and Lew Rappaport), 44.4; Imperial.

TJ — Brown (VV), Elliott (COD), Green (MCC), Cook (MSJ), Hearne

(COD), 45-1  $\frac{3}{4}$ .

Mile — Bryant (VV), Smith (IVC), Bajan (IVC), Gonzales (COD), Estes (MCC), 4:29.4.

120 HH — Hamilton (COD), Green (MCC), Arce (COD), Gamble (COD), Pankratz (COD), 14.8.

PV — Schneider (MCC), (new conference record, old record was 14.6, set by Arce, 1971).

440 — Mike (COD), Barron (COD), Burns (IVC), Graves (MCC), Ott (COD), 51.6.

100 — Nance (VV), Greenway (BC), Harris (MCC), Bonner (COD), Elliott (COD), 10.2.

880 — Cardiff (COD), Taylor (COD), Ray (MCC), Thompson (MCC), Ramirez (BC), 1:55.5.

1H — Hamilton (COD), Marquis (MCC), Ballagh (COD), Horn (IVC), Smith (COD), 58.0.

220 — Harris (MCC), Nance (VV), Ricketts (MCC), Rappaport (COD), Wyrick (MCC), 23.0.

3-mile — Clennon (BC), Gonez (IVC), Gonzales (COD), Bajan (IVC), Matalana (IVC), 15:14.

Mile Relay — COD (Jaime Barron, Tom Taylor, Gary Cardiff, Tommy Mike), 3:36. (new meet record, old record 3:27.2, set by COD, 1972.)