

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

1978

MEDIA GUIDE

CONTENTS :

- * SEASONAL OUTLOOK
- * COACHES BIOGRAPHIES
- * VARSITY ROSTER
- * PLAYER SKETCHES
- * 1977 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS
- * 1978 SCHEDULE
- * USC FACTS

HERITAGE HALL
UNIVERSITY PARK
LOS ANGELES, CA 90007
(213) 741-7693

1977-78 WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Athletic Director
Associate Athletic Director
Head Track & Field Coach
Assistant
Sports Information

Dr. Richard Perry
Barbara Hedges
Sherry Calvert
Tom Zotovich
Becky Kummerfeld

"The young women who represent the University of Southern California in Intercollegiate Athletics can be described most accurately as a magnificently special breed of young Americans. While participating in an athletic program that has gained national prominence and leadership in the brief period of its existence, these young women have at the same time received honors and recognition for their scholastic achievement. The rapid rise of the Women's Intercollegiate program is a tribute to dedicated and determined athletes and coaches.

As the University of Southern California approaches its 100th Anniversary in 1980, with pride in its tradition of leadership in higher education, our goals are to encourage prospective student-athletes to attend the University of Southern California and to provide for them an atmosphere in which athletic and academic opportunity and achievement go hand in hand."

BARBARA HEDGES
ASSOCIATE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

1977 - 1978

WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD ROSTER

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>HOMETOWN</u>
Gail Berger	SR.	400 M/Mile Relay	San Francisco, Calif.
Jennifer Biller	JR.	400/800 Mile Relay	Greenwich, Conn.
Rosetta Birt	SR.	Sprints/Relays	Whittier, Calif.
Brenda Bruce	SR.	Pentathalon	Palos Verdes, Calif.
Diane Byington-Clapper	JR.	800/Relays	San Bernadino, Calif.
Charee Copenhauer	SO.	400/Relay	Riverside, Calif.
Alexis Crampton	SR.	Javelin	San Pedro, Calif.
Stephanie Davis	SR.	Long Jump/Relays	Pasadena, Calif.
Gail Douglas	JR.	Long Jump/Sprints/Relays	Compton, Calif.
Marian Eastern	FR.	400/Relays	San Diego, Calif.
Honour Henry	SO.	Shot Put/Discus/Javelin	Los Angeles, Calif.
Carey Hill	SO.	Pentathalon/Relays	Ridgefield, Conn.
Lori Jepsen	SR.	Javelin	Arcadia, Calif.
Marley Jung	FR.	400/800/1500/Relays	Los Angeles, Calif.
Julie Lendl	SO.	High Jump	Simi Valley, Calif.
Mitzi McMillin	JR.	High Jump/Long Jump Hurdles/Relays	Seattle, Washington
Linda Molo	SO.	Sprints/Relays	Los Angeles, Calif.
Diana Powden	SR.	400/800	Rosemead, Calif.
Joyce Simley	SO.	Shot Put	Akron, Ohio
Lisa van Benthem	FR.	Javelin	La Jolla, Calif.
Lorelei van Benthem	FR.	Javelin	La Jolla, Calif.
Lynne van Benthem	FR.	Javelin	La Jolla, Calif.
Donna Van Puyvelde	JR.	800/1500/Relay	Saugus, Calif.
Patty van Wolvelaere	JR.	Hurdler/Sprinter Relay	Renton, Washington

COACH BIOGRAPHY

HEAD COACH - SHERRY CALVERT

Sherry Calvert, Women's Track and Field Coach, is the first woman in the history of the University of Southern California to win an AIAW National Championship. As a USC alumni, Sherry is an outstanding athlete who at one time held the National Collegiate record for the Women's Javelin throw.

In 1967 Sherry made her international debut in athletics winning three Gold Medals at the Central American Games in Mexico City and was voted athlete of the meet by journalists. Sherry went on to compete in both the 1971 and 1975 Pan American Games winning the Gold Medal in 1975. Sherry competed in her first Olympic Games in 1972 in Munich, Germany and in 1973 was named to the Collegiate Hall of Fame. She was honored at graduation by USC as outstanding senior for athletics, scholarship, and leadership.

In spite of a rigorous schedule which included coaching and studying for her doctorate in Physical Education, Sherry has been able to continue her training, and was recently rewarded for her dedication to sport by being selected to the 1976 U.S. Olympic Team competing in Montreal, Canada.

Coach Calvert is presently dividing her time between teaching in the Physical Education Department at USC and fast building one of the finest Women's Intercollegiate Track and Field Teams in the nation.

ASSISTANT COACH

TOM ZOTOVICH

A senior in Physical Education, Tom is in his second year as assistant coach with the Women's Track and Field Team, working primarily with jumpers and weight event throwers. Tom lettered in Varsity Football, Basketball, and Track (high jumping) at San Gabriel High School. He then attended Cal State University Long Beach where he lettered in crew, before transferring to USC his junior year. Tom provides a broad competitive background helpful to the diverse events of track and field in assisting with many coaching responsibilities.

#####

SEASONAL OUTLOOK

As the '77 season began within the constraints of a newly established conference, the season took on an early change in the type of competition provided. Due to the smallness of our conference it was necessary to seek outside competition. The addition of Mitzi McMillin proved a healthy boost to performance. An excellent hurdler and jumper, Mitzi became a most valuable team member. Patty Van Wolvelaere, returning after a year out of competition due to serious injury, demonstrated early in the season that she was in top form and would be the prime contender as the best hurdler in the nation once again.

The team made an outstanding showing in the Arizona Invitational, placing third, in addition to the successful A.A.U. Relay Championship in Santa Barbara where the team placed second by two points behind an outstanding team from the area. The track season culminated with competition at U.C.L.A. for A.I.A.W. Nationals. Patty Van Wolvelaere became the first National Champion of an official U.S.C. Women's Track and Field Team. In the 440 Relay, Patty ran the team from last place into sixth place. The relay team improved their performance by one full second to finish in sixth and Rosetta Birt, Anna Biller, Jackie Gordon, and Patty Van Wolvelaere are to be commended for their ability to work together in achieving this goal. Scoring in these events, USC placed 15th out of 380 participating schools.

Nearly every athlete improved on their previous best performances as is indicated by the fact that thirteen of eighteen school records were broken. This is an outstanding percentage which is also indicative of the growth of women's track in general as well as improved high school opportunities for women athletes.

All things being considered, the team should place better than ever nationally this season. Patty Van Wolvelaere will undoubtedly demonstrate her excellence in the hurdles by repeating as national champion. Mitzi McMillin, a pentathlon stand-out previously, will compete in individual events this season. This could result in an ultimate increase in point scoring for the team as a unit. Mitzi will likely place in the hurdles, high jump and possibly the long jump.

(MORE)

Another attractive addition is Gail Douglas, a solid performer who will be a great asset in the sprints and long jump. Adding to the team's potency are triplet javelin throwers, Lisa, Lorelei and Lynne van Benthem along with veteran thrower Lori Jepsen. A number of other athletes could move any amount on the scale of success, and be pleasant surprises for the Trojan women spikers. It is a young team, more adequately balanced in most events than U.S.C. has had available in previous seasons. It should be an exciting team to watch develop during the season.

A significant plus for the team is the great competition encountered in track and field in Southern California. U.C.L.A., 1977 National Collegiate (A.I.A.W.) Champions, has great depth and is a definite favorite to repeat as National Champions. Cal State Northridge and Cal State Long Beach are other local teams of National promise and offer prime competition for U.S.C. athletes.

Coach Calvert offers a beamish smile when asked about the 1978 season claiming, "We'll improve, succeed and live through it all."

#

* U S C FACTS *

Founded:	1880	Enrollment:	23,000
Colors:	CARDINAL/GOLD	Nickname:	TROJANS
Conference:	WCAA	(WESTERN COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION)	
Regional Association:	WIAW	(WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS FOR WOMEN)	
National Association:	AIW	(ASSOCIATION OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS FOR WOMEN)	

#

TRACK AND FIELD 1977 - 1978

PLAYER SKETCHES

NAME

GAIL BERGER:

Year: Senior; Event: 400/Mile Relay

A good example of hard work and dedication to a goal, Gail is a three year veteran of the team looking better than ever in her last collegiate season. She provides depth to the 400 meter event and for the mile relay.

JENNIFER BILLER:

Year: Junior; Event: 400/800/Mile Relay

Younger sister of just graduated sprinter Anna, Jennifer is outstanding at the middle distances. She has unusual strength for a runner of such distances and has spent the fall studying in Spain. A personable young athlete who improves every year she adds much in depth competing in individual and relay events. Former school 800 M record holder.

ROSETTA BIRT:

Year: Senior; Event: Sprints/Relays

School record holder in the 200 m - - 3rd place national finisher 1975, 100m, 1977 AIAW 6th place 400 m Relay; also excellent high jumper. Recovering from a serious pre-season illness, once she regains her strength she will be stronger and readier than ever.

BRENDA BRUCE:

Year: Senior; Event: Pentathalon

Pentathalon strength lies in the high jump and now 800m. Three time competitor at AIAW Nationals. Best finish of 18th in 1977 and 1975; Varsity basketball player - she is usually slow getting a start in track until the basketball season ends.

DIANE BYINGTON-CLAPPER:

Year: Junior; Event: 800/Relays

Outstanding, versatile distance runner - holds 4 school records at distance events and is a prime contender for a National placing in the 800 m this year. Member of the USC Orchestra.

ALEXIS CRAMPTON:

Year: Senior; Event: Javelin

Another veteran, Alexis should have her best year out of four. The influx of the triplets may lower the number of times she competes, however she will be a valuable team addition, especially in the event of injury to other throwers.

STEPHANIE DAVIS:

Year: Senior; Event: Long Jump/Relays

As a four year veteran Stephanie contributes a great deal to the team. She is an honor student and recipient of an award in business from the Union Oil Company. Majoring in Business Administration her academic excellence compliments her athletic talents and leadership ability for the team. 1978 will undoubtedly be her best year - - as she continues to improve with each season.

PLAYER SKETCHES CONTINUES:

GAIL DOUGLAS:

Year: Junior; Event: Sprinter/Long Jump/Relays

Gail is one of the finest all around track athletes to attend USC as a junior college transfer from Compton College. She is nationally ranked in several events. A versatile athlete, she has competed in nearly every track event exclusive of the distances. Gail adds great depth to the core of sprinters and long jumpers currently at USC. She should prove vital in team scoring for conference meets and placing at the national level.

MARIAN EASTERN:

Year: Freshman; Event: 400/Relays

Young competitor with much to learn, but excellent talent to do so. Should be a runner of the future to watch. Very strong with great determination; will add quality to the mile relay.

HONOUR HENRY:

Year: Sophomore; Event: Shot Put/Discus/Javelin

New to track and field she has shown potential in each of the throwing events. This will be a learning year for her but if she stays with it her future could be bright.

CAREY HILL:

Year: Sophomore; Event: Pentathalon/Relays

One of the hardest working team members, Carey adds great depth incorporating talent in several events. An outstanding 800 m runner, Carey is a pentathlete who is gaining controlling power in several other events, notably long jump and high jump. She missed qualifying for Nationals last year by less than 30 points. She should qualify with less difficulty considering her increase in strength and experience.

LORI JEPSEN:

Year: Senior; Event: Javelin

Returning veteran in the javelin, Lori is the current school record holder. She placed 12th last year in the AIAW Nationals. She aspires for further improvement and higher placing at this years National Championship.

MARLEY JUNG:

Year: Freshman; Event: 400/800/1500/Relays

An inexperienced runner with natural speed. Once she has gained the necessary strength and experience she will be an inordinate asset to the team.

JULIE LENDL:

Year: Sophomore; Event: High Jump

After suffering several setbacks resulting from injuries as a freshman, healthy Julie should blossom on the National scene as a quality jumper. Consistency will be a primary goal for the season.

MITZI MCMILLIN:

Year: Junior; Event: High Jump/Hurdles/Long Jump/Relays

A 1974 AAU Pentathalon Champion -- 1975 AIAW Pentathalon Champion and record holder; Mitzi is one of the most talented and versatile athletes in the U.S. concentrating on individual events this year her value to a team is immeasurable. In anticipation of a season free from injury, Mitzi should place nationally in three individual events, in addition to a possible relay.

PLAYER SKETCHES CONTINUES:

LINDA MOLO:

Year: Sophomore; Event: Sprints/Relays

A novice performer with good possibilities for future success. 1978 will be a learning year for Linda, but if she stays with it she will be a pleasant surprise.

DIANA ROWDEN:

Year: Senior; Event: 400/800/Mile Relay

Astounding innate ability as a runner. May be the biggest surprise performer for 1978 on the USC team.

JOYCE SIMLEY:

Year: Sophomore; Event: Shot Put

A varsity basketball player with little track experience she will need most of the season after basketball to establish a technique foundation for future years.

LISA van BENTHEM:

Year: Freshman; Event: Javelin

Best distance of the javelin throwing triplets - - at 161' Lisa has consistently placed at National Championships and no doubt will do as well and break USC School Record of 141'.

LORELEI van BENTHEM:

Year: Freshman; Event: Javelin

Second best distance - - closely paralleled with Lynne the third triplet..... A consistent qualifier and placer at the national level, she is also ambidextrous but will throw right handed at USC.

LYNNE van BENTHEM:

Year: Freshman; Event: Javelin

The lefty triplet and smallest of the three she has distances equal to Lorelei and only injuries have kept her from competing in Nationals the last two years. Otherwise her distances would easily qualify and place her on the national level.

DONNA VAN PUYVELDE:

Year: Junior; Event: 800/1500/Relays

A much stronger runner than before she worked extremely hard during the summer. A varsity basketball player like others on the team, Donna will have a slow start but hopefully be fast in developing when basketball ends in March.

PATTY VAN WOLVELAERE:

Year: Junior; Event: Hurdles/Sprints/Relays

One of America's leading ladies in track and field. A veteran performer, twice Olympian 1968, 1972. Many times American record holder in 100, 200m hurdles outdoors, 60 yard hurdles indoors. Six times All-American, National Champion 4 times outdoors including collegiate and AAU - and a member of the first World Cup team. Also an excellent sprinter Patty was a 100 m finalist in AIAW National Competition 1977 - - collegiate and AAU All-American. Tremendous asset to relay teams at USC and a spirited force to many of the younger competitors. Already in 1978 she has set a world record indoors at the Times Indoor Games in the 60 yard hurdles of 7.68.

#####

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

1977 HIGHLIGHTS

100 METER HURDLES	PATTY VAN WOLVELAERE U.C.L.A. May 20, 1977	13.18 elec.
100 METER DASH	PATTY VAN WOLVELAERE U.C.L.A. May 19, 1977	11.78 elec.
200 METER DASH	ROSETTA BIRT UC Irvine April 30, 1977	24.51 elec.
1500 METER RUN	DIANE BYINGTON U.C.L.A. May 29, 1977	4:43.6
3,000 METER RUN	DIANE BYINGTON University of Redlands-March 26, 1977	10:44.4
5,000 METER RUN	DIANE BYINGTON Long Beach State - April 1, 1977	18:31.1
JAVELIN	LORI JEPSEN U.C.L.A. - May 19, 1977	141'0"
SHOT PUT	JULIE MORGAN Mesa Jr. College - Arizona March 19, 1977	39'93/4"
LONG JUMP	MITZI MCMILLIN Long Beach State - March 11, 1977	18'10"
HIGH JUMP	MITZI MCMILLIN Cal State U. Northridge April 3, 1977	5'73/4"
440 RELAY	ROSETTA BIRT, ANNA BILLER, JACKIE GORDON, PATTY VAN WOLVELAERE U.C.L.A. May 21, 1977	47.15
TWO MILE RELAY	CAREY HILL, GAIL BERGER, DONNA VAN PULVELDE, JENNIFER BILLER University of Redlands - March 26, 1977	9:43.8
PENTATHALON w/800 METERS	MITZI MCMILLIN Cal State U. Northridge - April 3, 1977	3739 points

USC WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD SCHEDULE

SPRING

1978

JANUARY	6	10:00 A.M.	U.C.L.A. - INDOOR QUALIFYING MEET
JANUARY	21		SUNKIST INVITATIONAL-SPORTS ARENA
FEBRUARY	4		TIMES INDOOR GAMES -- FORUM
FEBRUARY	27	9:00 A.M.	U.C. IRVINE - A.A.U. SEASON OPENER
MARCH	5	9:00 A.M.	LONG BEACH RELAYS - CAL STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH
MARCH	18	7:00 P.M.	U.S.C. vs. ARIZONA STATE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S DUAL MEET AT TEMPE, ARIZONA
APRIL	1	11:00 A.M.	TRI-MEET - U.C. BERKELEY, U.C.L.A., U.S.C., AT U.C. BERKELEY
APRIL	8	OPEN DATE	
APRIL	15	11:00 A.M.	W.C.A.A. CONFERENCE MEET AT U.C.L.A.
APRIL	22-23	ALL DAY	MT. S.A.C. RELAYS AT MT. S.A.C. ALL DAY BOTH DAYS
APRIL	29	11:00 A.M.	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS AT U.C. IRVINE
MAY	5	11:00 A.M.	W.C.A.A. CONFERENCE MEET AT CAL STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH
MAY	6	11:00 A.M.	PENTATHALON MEET AT U.C.L.A.
MAY	13	10:00 A.M.	S.P.A.A.U. DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS U.C.L.A.
MAY	25-27	ALL DAY	A.I.A.W. NATIONALS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

HEAD COACH: SHERRY CALVERT

ASST. COACH: TOM ZOTOVICH

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 741-7693 OR 741-7770