

AAU track meet proves too hot:



Amid upper 90-degree temperatures Friday and Saturday, the American junior track team defeated their Soviet counterparts with a combined men's and women's score of 217-163.

The annual US-USSR track meet began Friday at the Ed Weir track on the UN-L campus, as the thermometer registered 97 degrees. At the end of the day's events, the U.S. men led 64-53 and the U.S. women led 67-61.

On Saturday, while the temperature reached 95 degrees in the stands and 122 degrees on the field, the American team widened its lead. The final scoring breakdown was 129-105 for the U.S. men and 88-58 for the U.S. women.

Nebraska's only representative in the meet, Nancy Kindig of Hastings, won the pentathlon (five-events) with a score of 3,919 points. The other contestants and their totals were Galina Zhilo, 3,737; Alli Alikso, 3,707; and Cindy Mitchell, 3,576.

Kindig pulled a leg muscle in the long jump, the second-to-last event in the pentathlon. She won the long jump, however, with a leap of 18-feet, 10 and 3/4 inches. She led her nearest rival, Zhilo, going to the pentathlon 200 meter sprint.

"I forgot about the pulled muscle during the race," she said. "I just wanted to stay close enough (to Zhilo) to win the pentathlon."

Although Alikso won the pentathlon sprint, Kindig came within one-tenth of a second of beating the Russian.

Both U.S. coach Ernie Bullard and Soviet coach Viktor Ivanovitch complained that the athlete's performances would be hurt by the hot weather. The 11,000 fans who watched the meet both days saw 10 meet records fall and four others tied.

Darrell Elder of Marin City, Cal. broke the old discus record of 182-6, set in 1972 by Nikolay Vichor, with a toss of 192-8. Elder said after setting the record that he is not sure that he will try for the Olympics.

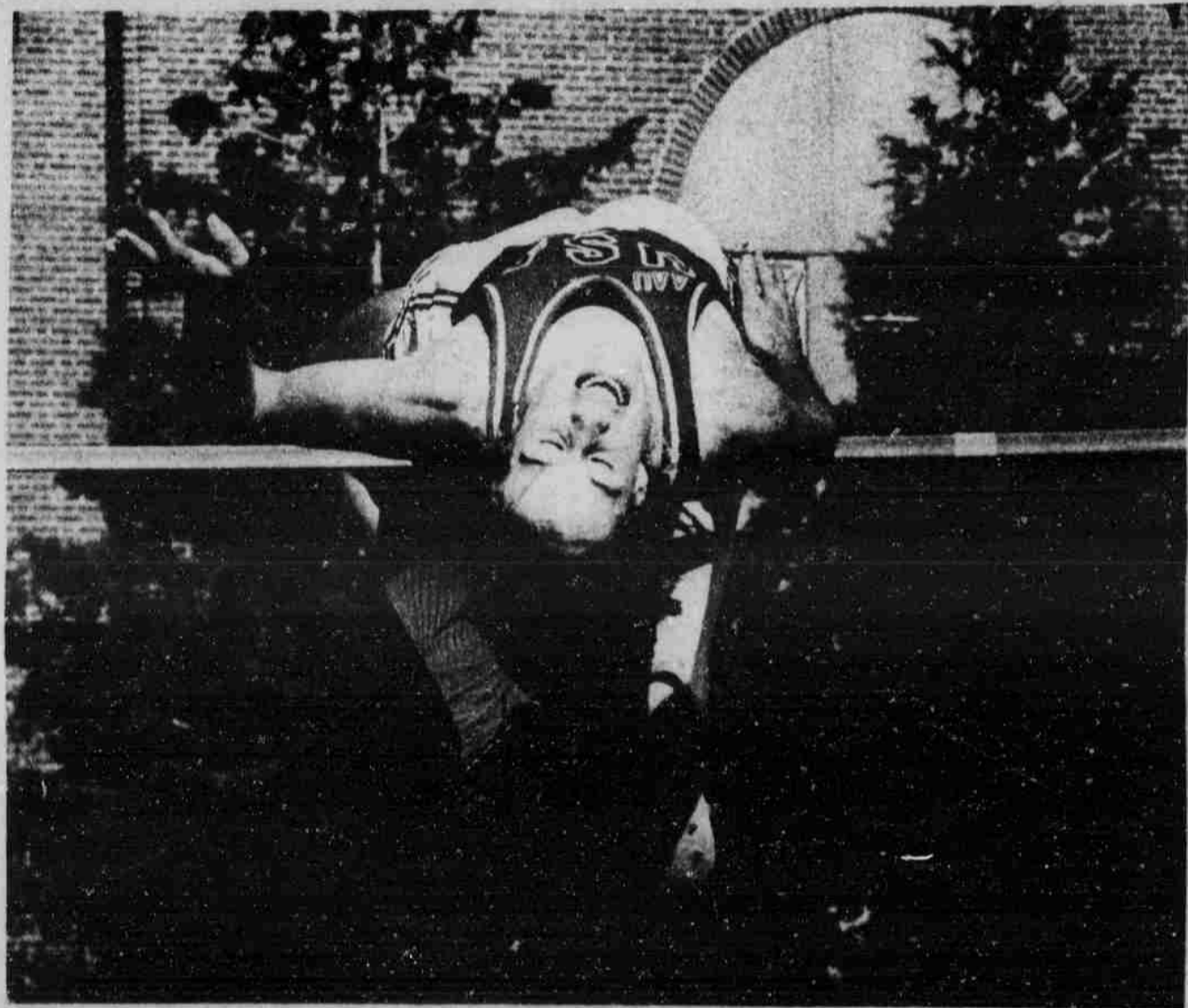
"I have to study the Russians' technique," Elder said. "They have the best technique, like the way they move across the ring so fluidly."

The junior meets, in which male athletes are 19 and under and the female athletes are 18 and under are regarded as "farm system" for the Olympics.

Another meet record was set by the U.S. Women's 4x400 meter Relay Team. The U.S. relay team ran the event in 3:37.9 seconds, lowering the old record of 3:38.4 set last year by a U.S. team.

A member of this year's 4x100 meter relay team, Brenda Morehead, of Toledo, Ohio, set two other sprint records. She ran the 100 meter race in 11.4 lowering the old record of 11.54 seconds. The sprinter ran the 200 meter race in 23.2 seconds, lowering the old record of 24.34.

The Soviet men also set meet records in the shot put, javelin, pole vault and high jump. Vladimir Kiselev raised the shot put record from 60-10 1/4 to 61-1; Ivan Gromov threw the javelin 254-1 to beat the old record of 248-10; Vladimir Andreev raised the previous high jump record from 6-2 1/4 to 7-feet, and Alexandr Vostrikov pnce vaulted 17-1 to raise the old standard of 16-8 and 3/4.



Top: varying expressions mark the faces of the U.S. women's team as the opening ceremonies; center, A backward high jump style just might be a winner for this U.S. contestant; bottom left,

pre-competition euphoria may have been a tension release for this U.S. men's team, and bottom right, the anguish of defeat marks any sports competition.



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