



STANFORD MEDIA RELATIONS

Arrillaga Family Sports Center • Stanford, California 94305-6150
Telephone (650) 723-4418 • FAX (650) 725-2957 • www.gostanford.com

Stanford Men's and Women's Track & Field Teams open 2001 Outdoor Season

Stanford, Ca - Spring is nearly here, but it's already time for outdoor track & field at Stanford University. Both the Cardinal men's and women's teams open the 2001 outdoor season today when Stanford hosts Cal Poly. Field events get underway at 12:45 p.m., while the running events start at 1:45 p.m. Stanford is the defending NCAA men's team champion, while the Cardinal women are expected to field a team that will be highly-ranked throughout the 2001 season.

*Below is a season preview of the 2001 Stanford Track & Field Season.
Join us throughout the year in promises to be another exciting year.*

The Cardinal men will again be strong. Stanford returns all of its top sprinters and hurdlers from a year ago, including two Pac-10 scorers in senior **Michael Harte** and **Evan Kelty**. Also look for an excellent season from **Leroy Sims** in the 100 and 200 meters.

In the middle distances, Perhaps never has one school amassed as dominant a group of middle distance runners as Stanford has in 2001. In fact, the Cardinal will have the opportunity to place on the starting line the most talented and accomplished group of 1,500 meter runners ever assembled at one University. The core of the group is **Gabe Jennings** and **Michael Stember**, both semifinalists in the 1,500 meters at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia. **Jonathon Riley** is a sub-4:00 minute miler and last year ran a career-best 3:38.90 in the 1,500 meters. **Andy Powell** returns for his sophomore season after qualifying for the NCAA's as a freshman in 2000. **Powell** was the #1 ranked freshman in the U.S. last year. **Donald Sage**, a freshman, will be a runner to look for in 2001.

In the distances, Stanford must fill a void with the loss of multi-time All-Americans **Brad** and **Brent Hauser**. Leading the way will be **Riley**, who finished eighth in the 5,000 meters at the 2000 U.S. Olympic Trials. **Riley** is a nine-time All-American. Look for top results from **Jennings**, **Thomas Murley**, **Louis Luchini**, **Andrew Hill**, and **Adam Tenforde**, among others of top talent.

The Cardinal returns a number of solid performers in the vertical and horizontal jumps, including a pair of seven-foot high jumpers. Senior **Todd Beyerlein** is a three-time Pac-10 finalist in the high jump while **Michael Ponikvar**, the 1999 Pac-10 champion, returns to Stanford after sitting out the 2000 season while training for the Canadian Olympic Team. Two Pac-10 qualifiers return in the triple jump in **Warrick McDowell** and **Milton Little**. Both will also compete in the long jump.

In the throws, Stanford will be in excellent shape. In the shot put, **Chris Sprague** is set to challenge the 60-foot barrier, while **George Curts**, **Omer Inan** and **Nick Welihozkiy** will provide additional depth in the shot put. **Inan** and **Welihozkiy** will also score points in the discus after both competed in the event at last year's Pac-10 meet. In the javelin, **Chad Wassink** is a solid veteran.

Decathlete **Jay Goff** set a freshman school record last year with 7,007 points. Joining **Goff** will be **John Darcy** who has a career-best of 6,138 points.

The Cardinal women will produce a team with experience, youth and talent. In the sprints, the Cardinal will have the 1-2 punch of All-American **Jayna Smith** and **Wilsa Charles**. **Smith** set the school record in the 400 meters last year, while **Charles** has been a mainstay for the Cardinal in the 100 and 200 meters.

Stanford returns a pair of Pac-10 qualifiers in the hurdles in **Robyn Woolfolk** and **Danielle Spurlock**. The hurdle events will be bolstered by the addition of freshman **Lindsay Johnson**. **Johnson** was the Washington State high school 100 meter hurdles and 300 meter hurdles champion.

Traditionally strong in the middle distances and distances, Stanford returns all of its top middle distance runners from a year ago, including **Sally Glynn**, **Lauren Fleshman**, **Erin Sullivan**, **Julia Stamps**, **Elena Villarreal** and **Lindsay Hyatt**. This group has the potential to stand atop the victory stand at the NCAA Outdoor Championships this year. Stanford is loaded with a sizable amount of talented depth.

A number of Pac-10 qualifiers in the jumps and vault will return to The Farm in 2001, including a pair of pole vaulters that will contend for All-America honors. **Kathleen Donoghue** set a new freshman school record and tied Stanford's all-time record in the pole vault with a clearance of 13-0 1/4 in the pole vault last year. **Melissa Feinstein** is a two-time All-American in the pole vault and has scored in the last three conference meets, including a first place finish in 1998.

Senior **Julie Tinker** and junior **Shannon Overly** are the top returnees for the Cardinal in the horizontal jumps. **Tinker** has gained experience competing at the Pac-10 Championships while **Overly** is a strong competitor and Pac-10 qualifier.

Three Pac-10 qualifiers return in the high jump for the Cardinal, including a pair of Pac-10 scorers in **Cheryl Burdick** and **Kim Stone**. Both competed at the Pac-10's last year.

In the throws, Stanford returns five Pac-10 qualifiers, one All-American, and add one of the best recruiting classes in school history. Seniors **Allison Beatty** and **Maureen Onyeagbako** will be the leaders of this group in 2001. **Beatty** redshirted last year, but was a 1999 All-American in the javelin.

Joy Goff and **Whitney Drumright** finished sixth and eighth, respectively, in the javelin at last year's Pac-10 Championships and will look to improve their placing. **Onyeagbako** is the school record holder in the hammer. Three of the top 20 high school discus throwers in the United States will don the Stanford uniform as freshman in 2001. The list includes **Jill Camarena**, **Molly Meyer** and **Katherine Currier**.

Two of the top heptathletes in the Pac-10 return for their senior seasons on The Farm. **Joy Goff** was the runnerup at the Pac-10 Championships with a career-best 5,133 points. **Julie Tinker** placed fifth last year. Both will be threats to advance to the NCAA meet in 2001.