

Nine in a Row

UPI Telephoto

All eyes are on Tony Waldrop as the University of North Carolina senior heads for the dressing room after winning the ACC mile race in 3 minutes, 59.8 seconds, the ninth straight time he has run the mile in less than 4 minutes.

Waldrop doesn't seem elated by his feat, perhaps because he had a severe cold and fell far short of Jim Ryun's world record of 3 minutes 15.1 seconds, which he had hoped to challenge. (Story on Page 47).

Waldrop Is Satisfied 1974

May 15, 1974

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) It is a measure of what Tony Waldrop has accomplished this year that he can run a mile in 3:59.8 and then be asked what went wrong.

That's what happened to the North Carolina senior Tuesday after he won the mile and the outstanding performer award in the Atlantic Coast Conference track championships.

Waldrop's race, though it was more than six seconds slower than his best this season, was the highlight of a lackluster meet in which Maryland won its 19th consecutive team title. No meet records were broken in the two days of competition.

"I don't worry about the time. I'm satisfied to win. If some people want to worry about the time, that's their problem, not mine."

Ironically, Waldrop's excuse for the "slow time" was a cold he caught on a trip to New York last week. He was attending a ceremony commemorating the 20th anniversary of Roger Bannister's first four minute mile in 1954.



"The cold's coming along fine, but it cut down my mileage in training this week. I was kept awake several nights coughing."

Waldrop ran partly to please a crowd of 7,800 friends, classmates and relatives who had come to watch his only race in Chapel Hill this year.

"I really hate to leave Chapel Hill. It's been a great experience. I've done a lot more than anything I ever dreamed of doing."

Waldrop, whose next race is at the California Relays on May 25, plans to move to California to concentrate on running next year.

Apart from Waldrop's mile, the meet belonged mostly to Maryland. The Terps won the team championship by a wide margin, 127 to North Carolina's 52.

They also clinched the Carmichael Cup, the symbol of total athletic supremacy in the ACC. It is based on standings in all league sports.

The Terps had a pair of double winners. Nick Basciano won the 100 in 9.6, the 220 in 21.6, and anchored the victorious 440 relay team. Jeff Nichols won the 120 high hurdles in 14.5 and the 440 intermediates in 53.7.

Andy Bilmanis led the Terrapin field events

strength with a 50-9 leap in the triple jump. Mike Johnson won the 440 in 48.7. Dave Watt took the 880 in 1:52.7. Don Fisher took the jayelin at 234-1.

In addition to Waldrop, the Tar Heels' winners were Danny Deacon in the pole vault at 15-6; Sam Beasley in the long jump at 24-9½; and Terry Taylor in the discus at 153-1½.