THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

Walters sues agent who represents the Sonics' McKey

From Wire and Staff reports

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. - Sports agent Norby Walters, who avoided criminal charges by agreeing this week to pay the University of Alabama \$200,000, Thursday filed a civil lawsuit against Norman Blass, the agent who represents former Tide player Derrick McKey.

The suit, filed Thursday in Circuit Court in Tuscaloosa, alleges Blass "intentionally interfered with contracted relations, causing the plaintiff to suffer damages." McKey now plays for the Seattle SuperSonics in the NBA.

Walters, a New York-based sports and

entertainment agent, faced misdemeanor charges for his dealings with McKey and another former Tide basketball player, Terry Coner.

The university lost \$253,447 in tournament revenue when the NCAA learned the players were under contract to Walters during the latter part of the 1986-87

On Thursday Alabama Attorney General Don Siegelman announced a settlement had been reached that would allow the dropping of charges against Walters. Siegelman said Walters has already paid the

university \$50,000 and has offered a bank letter of credit guaranteeing \$163,500 over the next two years.

In addition, Siegelman said, Walter was ordered in a consent decree never again to recruit or represent any SEC

Don Stewart, Walters' attorney, said he was happy to end the criminal case so W ers would be "a little bit freer to proceed with the civil lawsuit now."

Walters was charged with tampering with a sports event, commercial bribery and deceptive trade practices for signing

contracts with McKey and Coner while they were still playing for Alabama.

Alabama Athletic Director Steve Sloan also praised Siegelman's aggressive prosecution of sports agents.

"I think the attorney general sent a pretty clear message to sports agents that if they deal in this state, they'd better do it in the frameworks of the rules and law," Sloan said.

In a trial that ended March 1 in Opelika, a Lee County jury sentenced former sports agent Jim Abernethy of Atlanta to one year in jail and a \$2,000 fine for his Valeska.

dealings with Auburn University cornerback Kevin Porter.

The Walters settlement also rescinds the guilty plea entered by Walters' former associate, Lloyd Bloom, who was indicted in Tuscaloosa on the same three charges and pleaded guilty to deceptive trade

The plea bargain, which called for Bloom to wash state trooper cars for one week, was conditional upon a conviction of Walters. Since charges against W were dropped, Bloom will not have to wash cars, said Assistant Attorney General Don

Newcomer Heintzelman shares Kemper lead at 66 with Twitty

The Associated Press

POTOMAC, Md. — Webb Heintzelman, competing in only his second PGA event, shot a five-under-par 66 Thursday to share the lead with Howard Twitty after the first

round of \$800,000 Kemper Open. Defending champion Tom Kite, Keith Clearwater, Ken Green and Bobby Clampett were one shot back, and nine players had 68s on the 6,867-yard Tournament Players Club at Avenel course.

The group of 14 players at 69 includes Curtis Strange, who won the Memorial Tournament last week, and two-time Kemper runner-up Larry Mize.

Heintzelman, an assistant pro at a suburban Maryland country club, performed miserably in the qualifying tournament last week. But he gained a berth in the 156-man field when his name was pulled from a hat, and made the most of the opportunity with a bogey-free round that included three consecutive birdies.

Twitty, a runner-up at the Kemper last year, was three under after four holes and capped the round with birdies on two of the final four holes.

"Seems like I've taken up where I left off," Twitty said, referring to the seven-under-par 277 last year that enabled him to finish in a second-place tie with Chris Perry.

Perry also picked up where he left off, although he would have preferred otherwise. Perry, the son

of former major-league pitcher Jim lead at 70, and Nancy Taylor was Perry, shot a 75, the same score that took him out of contention in the fi- 71. nal round last year.

Kite, meanwhile, did not have a bogey and made two birdies on both nines to stay in contention for the \$144,000 top prize.

"No wind, soft greens, cool weather," Kite said. "Who could ask for anything more?"

Certainly not Heintzelman.

"I'd be giving lessons now if my name wasn't picked," said Heintzelman, who failed to make the cut at last year's Kemper after following an opening 71 with a 79.

"I hope to be here four days," he said. "That's my first goal. I'm not even thinking about winning."

First-round scores, Page 10C Lopez shoots 68, takes

one-shot lead in Toledo The Associated Press

TOLEDO, Ohio — Nancy Lopez took advantage of a late tee-off time that gave her good weather for most of her opening round on, and she shot a four-under-par 68 to take a one-stroke lead in the LPGA Jamie Farr Toledo Classic.

Lopez, winner of three tournaments this year, had five birdies and one bogey in an afternoon round after rain plagued golfers who had teed off in the morning on the 6,235-yard course at Glengarry Country Club.

Laura Davies and Janet Coles were tied for second at 69. Jan Ste-said. phenson was two strokes off the

the only other golfer under par, at

"The weather was fine for us this afternoon," Lopez said. "But it was a little cool for us at first, and the wind on this type of course drives you crazy, going through the

Davies, considered one of the longest drivers on the LPGA Tour, was among the leaders despite having teed off in the morning, just before rain forced a 40-minute delay.

The interruption didn't seem to bother her, because she came back to make a 20-foot birdie putt on No. and a chip and a two-foot putt for a birdie on No. 2. She stayed under par the rest of the round.

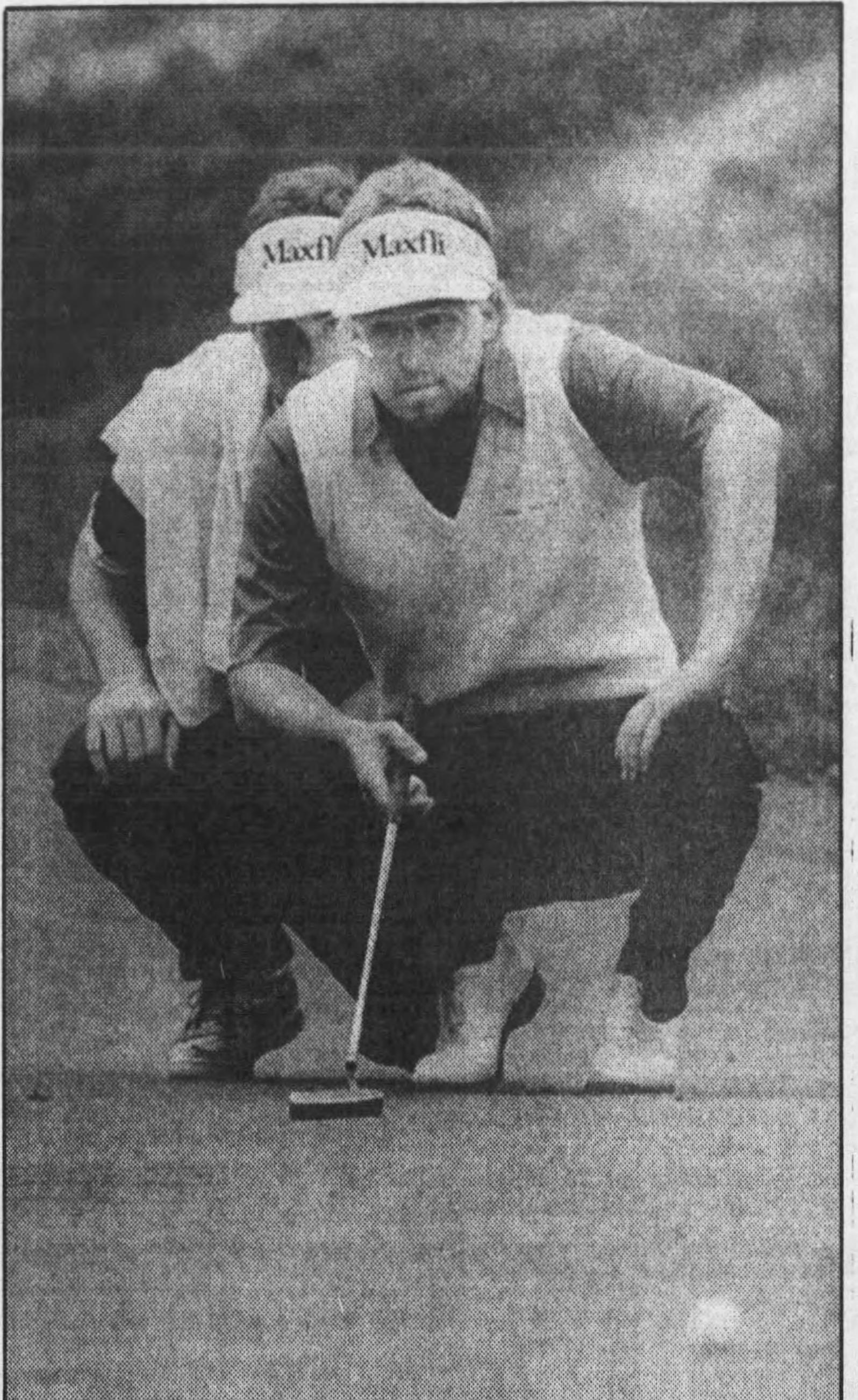
Davies, winner of the Tucson Open this year and the U.S. Women's Open last year, said she felt comfortable at Glengarry because it reminds her of her home course in England.

"This is the most like an English course I've ever seen over here," she said. "This is very similar to my home course. It's very tree-lined, but the trees are set well back from the fairway with a lot of rough in between, so it reminds me of West Byfleet a lot."

Stephenson, who played in Davies' threesome, said she had asked tournament officials, without success, to cancel the round because of the nasty morning weather.

"I would have given anything to tee off this afternoon," Stephenson

First-round scores, Page 10C



The Associated Press

Webb Heintzelman made the Kemper Open field when his name was

drawn out of a hat.

Pac-10 ready to flex muscle in College World Series

From Wire Reports

OMAHA, Neb. — Arizona State coach Jim Brock and Stanford coach Mark Marquess have long been tooting their conference's horn while winning their share of games at the College World Series.

Last year, Stanford won its first championship in six CWS showings. Arizona State is 46-23 at the Series, with five championships in 15 trips.

The Pac-10's Southern Division has three entrants in this year's NCAA championships, with California joining the Sun Devils and Cardinal in the eight-team tournament beginning here Friday.

"We certainly are happy to have three in," Brock said. "We are very proud how they have all done to this point."

"This is believed to be the first time three conference teams have qualified for the tournament in the same year," said Jim Wright, media coordinator for the NCAA at the College World Series.

"There may have been somebody way

first time for three from the same league."

Brock's Arizona State will likely start senior pitcher Linty Ingram (17-4, 3.47 ERA) against Cal in tonight's opener. Cal's Bob Milano is expected to counter with sophomore Travis Willis (9-7, 5.13 ERA).

Arizona State (56-11) and California (40-23) open the Series at 5:10 p.m. EDT. Wichita State (54-14-1) and Florida (47-17-1) are scheduled to play at 7:10.

In Saturday's group, Fresno State (56-10) meets Stanford (41-22) in the first game and Miami (51-12-1) faces Fullerton State (41-16) in the second game.

Each team may lose once in group play but, under a new format, the survivors meet June 11 in a single-elimination championship

"I really think a one-game (title game) is not that bad when you figure that two or three years ago and maybe more than that, both teams already had one loss," Milano

three at home and both Willis and Ingram go-

"Now we'll find out how that equation works at a neutral park," Brock said.

Rosenblatt Stadium tends to favor speed and pitching, with dimensions down the lines of 343 feet, power alleys at 370 feet and cen-

ter at 420. Arizona State led the Pac-10 Southern Division with 88 homers, 17 from Tim Spehr, a senior catcher from Waco, Texas. California batted less than .300 but led with 119 stolen. bases. Darren Lewis swiped 25, Todd Mayo

24 and Darryl Vice 18. Stanford won last year's tournament by downing Oklahoma State 9-5. The victory went to Jack McDowell, now with the Chicago White Sox. No team has repeated as College World Series winner since Southern Cal won from 1970 through 1974.

"It's always an honor to be defending national champion, but I think it puts a lot

CWS at a glance

What: The College World Series is the NCAA Division I-A baseball tournament to

determine the national champion. ■ Where: Rosenblatt Stadium, Omaha,

■ Format: Double elimination.

Today's games: Arizona State (56-11) vs. California (40-23), 5:10 p.m.; Wichita State (54-14-1) vs. Florida (47-17-1), 8:10 p.m. Saturday's games: Fresno State (56-10) vs. Stanford (41-22), 5:10 p.m.; Miami, Fla. (51-12-1) vs. Fullerton State (41-16), 8:10

Sunday's games: Arizona State-California loser vs. Wichita State-Florida loser, 5:10 p.m.; Arizona State-California winner vs. Wichita State-Florida winner, 8:10 p.m.

your players are familiar with Omaha, the field, the media, all the attention you get."

ing here last year is the experience. I think more pressure on you, especially during the Arizona State and California met six regular season," said Stanford coach Mark times this season, with each club dropping Marquess. "But I think the advantage of beback when, but to our knowledge, this is the

Major slow-pitch softball teams playing in Marietta

By Chuck Anschutz Staff Writer

Four of last year's top eight men's major slow-pitch softball teams in the nation will battle in the double-elimination grand finale of the 11-day Atlanta Coca-Cola Bottling Co-.Classic at Al Bishop Softball Complex in Marietta this weekend.

Seven men's major teams combine with 18 Class A (a step down) squads for the Classic's final tournament, which starts tonight with three games. The first begins at 7:30 p.m. The major teams start Saturday.

Among the players in town for the tournament is Howard's Western Steer (of Denver, N.C.) with powerhitting Rick Scherr, who has slugged 110 homers, knocked in 200 runs and established a .732 batting average in 44 games this season. Howard's was

ranked fourth in the country last year. Another example of power is Rich Plante of Marlton Trucking from Portland, Ore., ranked third nationally last year. In

the team's 20-0 start this season, Plante has slugged 44 homers with 90 RBI in just 83 at-

Other major teams in the tournament are Curt's Glass (formally Blanton's) from Fayetteville, N.C., No. 6 in the country last year; and No. 8-ranked Superior Sports from Windsor Locke, Conn.

Rounding out the teams on hand from the highest-rated United States Slo-Pitch Softball Association (USSSA) division are Georgia's top major team, Atlanta's Lighthouse; Dicky's TV, a recently sanctioned major squad from Asheville, N.C.; and Starpath from Louisville, Ky.

"These are some of the best slow-pitch softball teams in the nation," said Brooks Tinsley, spokesman from the Cobb Parks and Recreation Department. "These are the guys that hit home run after home run from

the top to the bottom of the lineup." In about 50 games, Tinsley said he ex-

pects "close to a thousand, maybe more" homers will be hit in the tournament, which ends Sunday at 3 p.m.

Also in the tournament are six of the state's top 10 USSSA Class A teams: Big Daddy's from Roswell (ranked third), Willis Trucking of Augusta (fourth), Action Awards of Snellville (fifth), Tri-County Merchants of Woodstock (eighth), Thompson Sporting Goods of Savannah (ninth) and the Upsetters

of College Park (tenth.) Also top Class A teams from North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Florida and Alabama will participate.

A coinciding Class B and C tournament, featuring 20 teams from the Southeast, is also set for weekend play at the five-field

Officials at the complex expect thousands to watch the final weekend of the Coca-Cola Classic, which started May 26 with the Women's Amateur Softball Association (ASA) Regional Qualifier and included several divisional tournaments of local girls slow-pitch and a six-team Special Populations (mentally handicapped) tournament. Finals for the Special Populations tournament, with teams from Alabama and Georgia, is set for tonight at 6:30 p.m.

Proceeds from the tournament, which Tinsley says could be about \$5,000, will go to the Cobb County Special Olympics Program.

U.S. volleyball team to play here

Karch Kiraly, the top volleyball player in the world, is on his way to Atlanta to compete in what should be a preview to the Olympic Games. Kiraly, with the U.S. volleyball team, leads his outfit against the Korean men's team in an exhibition at Georgia State University's gym on July 13.

"He is the reigning superstar of the sport, no question about that," said Alan Smirin, spokesman for Pro Serv, the outfit staging the game. "The Atlanta event is part of a five-city tour as the U.S. team prepares to defend its gold medal at the 1988 Olympics."

In addition to Kiraly, the U.S. team has such players as Steve Timmons, most valuable player in 1987 USA Cup competition,

and Craig Buck, the talented middle blocker. The other cities on the five-stop tour between July 8-17 are New York, Chicago, Dallas and San Francisco. The U.S. outfit represents the U.S. Volleyball Association, which reports that 20.7 million Americans partici-

pate in the sport each year. Tickets, mostly \$10 and \$12, are available at all S.E.A.T.S. locations. They go on sale next Friday. There are limited \$16 seats at center court available.

- Bill Robinson

Two Tech hurdlers mtinals

Purvis, Morris win heats at NCAA meet

From Staff and Wire Reports

EUGENE, Ore. - Georgia Tech's James Purvis, the NCAA indoor champion, and All-America teammate Dirk Morris both won their 110-meter high hurdle heats on Thursday to advance to the finals at the NCAA Track & Field Championships at the University of

Oregon. Purvis had the top qualifying time among the three heats at 13.69, his second fastest time this season. Morris captured his heat with a clocking of 13.94, the fifth fastest time overall. Florida State's Arthur Blake won the third heat with the second fastest time overall behind Purvis at 13.73 to set up the

showdown. University of Georgia senior Gary Duncan, a two-time SEC champion, finished fifth in his qualifying heat of the 400 meter dash and failed to advance to Saturday's final. Duncan turned in a time of 46.17, the 10th fastest overall at the meet. Eight qualifiers advanced to Saturday's final. Georgia high jumpers Dothel Edwards and Troy Glasgow were among 12 jumpers to clear 6-11 and qualify for Saturday's

The appearance of Purvis and Morris in the finals, scheduled for 5:50 p.m. (EST) on Saturday, marked the first time in Georgia Tech history that two runners had qualified for the finals in the same

Purvis, a four-time All-America and 12-time ACC champion, is aiming to duplicate his national title from the indoor season in the 55meter high hurdles when he edged

Blake by 1/100th of a second.

Purvis and Blake will be the favorites in the finals. Blake entered the NCAA championships with the fastest collegiate time in the country this season at 13.45 followed by Purvis at 13.68.

Morris, who failed to advance to the finals the previous two years, finished fourth at the NCAA meet as a freshman to earn All-America

The trials in the women's 5,000 meters which included Georgia Tech's Bridget Koster was scratched on Thursday, and the final will be held on Saturday at 6 p.m. Koster is only the second female in Georgia Tech history to qualify for the outdoor nationals, following Kathy Harrison in 1987.

In other developments, Southern California's Wendy Brown, the two-time Pacific-10 Conference champion in the heptathlon, won the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships title The versatile Brown, also one of the nation's outstanding triple jumpers and a basketball player as a freshman at Southern Cal, accumulated 5,701 points during the two-day, sevenevent competition.

Crystal Young of Boise State finished second in the heptathlon with 5,659 points and Jamie McNeair of Purdue was third with 5,590.

The heptathlon was the only final on Thursday's schedule, which also included qualifying in five field events and trials in eight running

Defending champion Raymond Stewart of Texas Christian was impressive in winning his heat in the men's 100-meter dash in 10.16.

Houston's Joe DeLoach had a quicker time, 10.15, in winning another heat, but he was aided by a wind over the allowable two meters per second.

UCLA, the heavy favorite to repeat as men's team champion in the four-day meet, got its top two 400meter sprinters into Saturday's final — with the two-fastest times.

Danny Everett, the runner-up last year, won his heat in 45.24, and Steve Lewis took his in 45.00.

Results, Page 10C