

Ducks could be absent-minded

Bill Dellinger absent-mindedly toed the shot put circle at Hayward Field Thursday

By PAUL BUKER
Of the Emerald

and hedged a bit about Saturday's dual meet with Washington State.

Forgive Dellinger's Ducks if they go after the Cougars the same way.

"I'm sure there'll be somewhat of a letdown," he admits. "Especially after something like UCLA."

Oregon came out 67 points better last weekend by international scoring and there's no reason to think it won't be different at Pullman.

"We try to take them one meet at a

time," says Dellinger, "but ultimately we're looking forward to the Pacific-8."

The Cougars admittedly have some outstanding performers, notably half-miler Dale Scott (1:48.5), three-miler John Ngeno (13:21.8), high jumper Bob Niehl (7-0), and hammer-thrower Tony Tenisci (209-8).

Still, the Ducks could sweep every event on the track, with the possible exception of

the three-mile. If such a rout materializes, Steve Prefontaine will get the day off.

"We'll take him along," nodded Dellinger at Thursday's practice. "If it comes down to the three-mile and we need the points, we'll run him."

"I'd like to let him take the week off to get some of the zip back in his legs."

Zip means a superhuman double, like 3:56.8 in the mile and 13:06.4 in the three mile 70 minutes later. That came against UCLA and rates as the all-time best one-day performance.

Prefontaine's heroics of course weren't enough to beat the Bruins, and of late he's been openly critical of the development of the Ducks as a team.

Early this week he pointed to Oregon's sprinters and said "they didn't come through like they should have."

It was UCLA's Gordon Peppers who won both sprints from Webfoot sprinters Al Hearvey and John Mays.

"I think our sprinters are better than what they showed last Saturday," said Dellinger.

"I don't know what happened. Maybe they just got beat by a better sprinter. I'd like to think they just got beat by one who's just a little farther along."

Hearvey and Mays will probably find the stiffest challenge coming from each other at Pullman in the 100. Morris Noble (9.7) has the top time for the Cougars this year and he'll have to run 9.5 to beat either of the Oregon runners.

The 220 could also be an Oregon monopoly between Hearvey (20.7) and Bob Martin (21.3).

On the track, the best races should come in the 880 and the mile.

Steve Bence spent the entire race last week waiting for UCLA's Anthony Veney to wear down. He didn't, and the Duck sophomore ran second at 1:49.6.

This week he meets WSU's Scott, the national high school record holder who last week was shifted to the mile by Cougars' Coach Jack Mooberry.

The strategy figured to cut into Oregon distance points but Scott finished seventh and WSU settled for fifth and sixth in the 880.

Mooberry's strategical finesse won't mean much if Todd Lathers runs the mile. After running the fastest steeplechase (8:35.0) in the nation a week ago, he was bubbling with confidence.

He should. Nobody's come close to him all year, such is his conditioning at this point.

"He's back where he was a couple years ago," smiled Dellinger. "Todd's an extremely talented runner."

In a strategical ploy of his own, the Duck Coach isn't saying where Lathers will go. "He might run the steeple again, I don't know."

The Cougars don't have anybody like Super-Mac Wilkins, but the struggle in the field should be interesting. Wilkins of course will triple, probably taking a little away from what could have been a monumental hammer competition.

WSU's Tony Tenisci is a 200-foot thrower but Wilkins extended him to the wire last week. Mac got a school record 189-8 and teammate Mike Bolliger went 183-3. Tenisci pulled out a 191-7 on his last throw to win.

Wilkins' 59-10 1/2 best in the shot is almost five better than the Cougar best. In the discus, he's over 30 feet farther (202-3).

Quite a margin of error there. The same holds true for the Ducks.

Men's, women's crew teams to race Saturday

Oregon concludes its home crew season Saturday at Dexter Reservoir.

Oregon boats face Stanford and Oregon State lightweights in races which begin at 10 a.m. The Duck lightweights are 4-1 on the season.

Three Oregon women's teams will also race Saturday on the same program.

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Photo by Phil Waldstein

Wilkins will battle WSU's Tenisci in hammer Saturday

Griswold's sick, but in contention

Golfers long gone in team race

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. — Oregon's Craig Griswold put together a three-over 75 Thursday in the second round of the Far West Intercollegiate Golf Tournament at Santa Cruz.

Slightly miraculous, figures Duck Coach Jim Ferguson. Griswold was the only Oregon man to make the cut in the three-day meet, which ends today.

"His performance was amazing," said Ferguson Thursday night. "He's been sick all week with a terrible sore throat and head cold."

Playing on 50-year-old Pasatiempo Golf Course, a narrow, tree-filled horror made doubly difficult by strong winds, Griswold had one of the best rounds of the day.

While the Webfoots are already out of the team competition, the All-American from Lake Oswego still has a chance for the individual championship.

His 75 yesterday and a one-over 73 on Wednesday gives him a two-day total of 148 — just three shots off the lead.

Six golfers are tied for first at 145: Bob Harris of BYU; Beau Baugh of Cal-State Long Beach; Don Baker of USC; Tom Purtzer of Arizona State, and Mike Kranz of Cal-State Long Beach.

It's BYU leading the team race. The Cougars overhauled first-day leader USC and Cal-State Long Beach is in third place.

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Griswold is tied for third with one other golfer. Two more are bunched at 147, just two strokes off the pace.

Oregon's six-man team, with the exception of Griswold, ran into disaster Thursday at Pasatiempo.

Peter Jacobsen shot an 81 and finished the meet with a 160 stroke total. Carl Schwantje had a credible 76 in Thursday's round but his first-day 84 put him out of contention early. He totaled 160.

Mike Shoup tries to solve his late-inning problems and Oregon tries to stay alive in the Pacific-8 Northern Division baseball race today in Seattle.

Shoup is set to pitch against Washington's usually lowly Huskies. Of course the Ducks have to sweep the three-game series to remain in playoff contention.

"It won't be as easy as everybody thinks," said Duck Coach Mel Krause before the team left Thursday.

It sure won't.

While compiling a team batting average of .321 in Pac-8 play, the Ducks have

Bob Beauchemin shot a 79 and finished at 162 while Dick Shafer, Jr. shot an 83 and was at 166. Duck John Adler skied to a horrendous 87 the first day and never recovered. He shot 82 yesterday and was dead last on the team with 169.

Oregon's failure to place comes on the heels of a tie for 18th in the All-American Classic at Houston. While Jacobsen turned in a respectable four-day total there, everyone else was way down the list.

A sweep? Won't be easy

earned the adjective "The Agony and the Ecstasy" in struggling through a 3-3 campaign to date.

Pitching has been spotty in a word. Oregon bats boom with regularity but the opposition's big inning has been fatal.

Greg Richards (2-0) and freshman Brian Shandera (2-0) will pitch Saturday's doubleheader, and Krause is hoping he won't have to go to his bullpen.

In the other divisional game first-place Washington State (5-1) hosts Oregon State, and the Beavers (4-2) need to win at least one of the three to stay in contention.

The Ducks need that one OSU victory, too.