

# Ducks hope for experience in NCAA finals

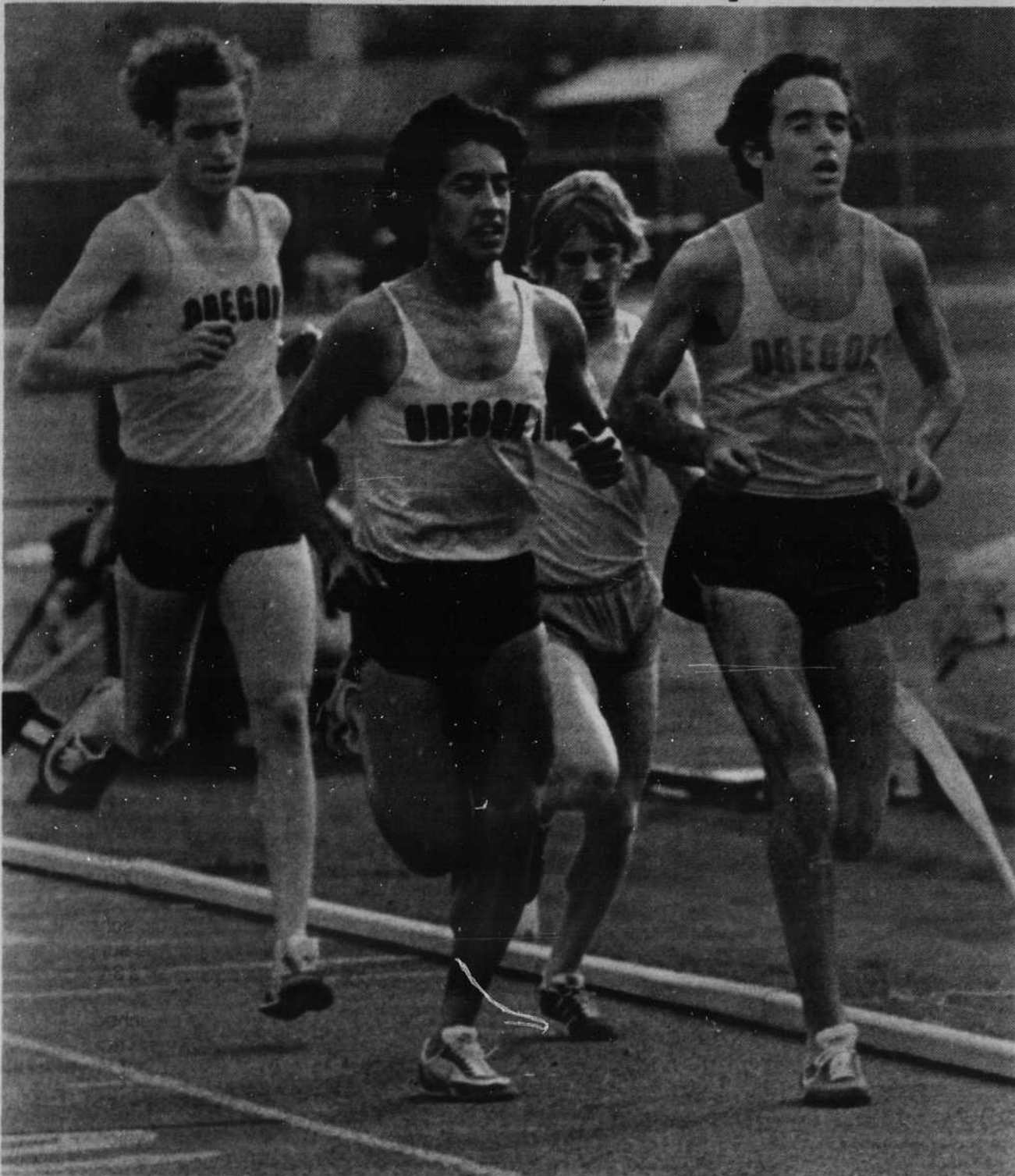


Photo by Terry Geraths

Dave Taylor, far left, will compete in his fourth NCAA championships track meet, while Rudy Chapa, second from left, and Alberto Salazar, far right, get their first taste of national collegiate competition as the NCAA meet unfolds this week in Champaign, Ill. All three will run in the 5,000 meters for Oregon.

Without All-American Sanders

## Golfers gear for top 10 finish

Undefeated Oklahoma State, last year's NCAA golf champion, will offer the toughest competition for the University and about 35

other teams as the NCAA golf championships get underway next Wednesday through Friday at Colgate University's Seven

Oaks Golf Course in Hamilton, New York.

Oregon's selection to the tourney was announced Tuesday.

Oregon finished 10th in last year's NCAA meet but this year will be without 1976 All-American Jeff Sanders. Sanders finished third a year ago but a herniated disc suffered early this year forced him to sit out the season.

"Our goal is to finish in the top 10," said coach Jim Ferguson, "But it would have been a whole lot easier with Jeff."

However, the Ducks plan to rely on Brent Murray, who has the lowest scoring average during the season. Teammates Phil Currie, Jon Heselwood, Dick Schafer and Scott Tuttle will also represent Oregon against the tournament's 187 players.

Oregon has beaten nearly every team on the west coast with the exception of San Diego State, Arizona State, Georgia and Ohio State will also toughen the battle, predicted Ferguson.

"But those teams haven't played on a course like Seven Oaks, which is very much like the one we play on (Eugene Country Club)," added Ferguson.

University of Southern California, San Jose State, and Stanford round out the west coast representatives to the tourney.

The Ducks will leave Saturday. Practice rounds open Monday and Tuesday of next week and the three-day tournament begins Wednesday.

By STEVE GEIGER  
Of the Emerald

While the Oregon track team isn't likely to score many points in this week's NCAA championship meet, which runs Thursday through Saturday in Champaign, Ill., it will gain something of immeasurable importance: experience at the national level.

Head coach Bill Dellinger took 13 of his Ducks to the meet, 10 of which are underclassmen. Consequently, Dellinger is more concerned with his athletes just placing in the top ten and gaining experience in the meet, rather than battling for a national title.

"I don't think we have the ability to score the big points that we did last year, with Craig Brigham," Dellinger said. "We're about a year away from being a mature team at the national level."

While Dellinger doesn't have an overabundance of seasoned competitors to take to this year's championships, he does have Matt Centrowitz and Randal Markey, two of last year's four Oregon national placers, returning to this year's meet. Dave Taylor and Ray Burton, who each picked up seventh places a year ago, will also return to the NCAA's, as will Canadian Olympian Peter Spir. Dellinger also has a number of others who won his confidence this year during a successful 4-1 dual meet season.

"The guys we're taking are capable of being in the top ten," he said, "or else we may as well not even bother going."

Centrowitz was a late entrant in the 1,500 meters after Dellinger overlooked his disappointing, injury-ridden season and decided to take the Duck senior to the championships on the basis of his third-place finish in last year's NCAA's.

Bruce Nelson, who finished ahead of Centrowitz in last week's NCAA Preparation meet, will also make the trip to Champaign, giving Oregon four runners in that event.

Randal Markey and Spir will also run in the 1,500 meters.

Centrowitz said the knee problems that have plagued him since a mid-season auto accident are gone and the main problem is regaining conditioning. The New York product felt the two hard workouts he had before the prep meet and the pair of workouts since have him on the road to recovery.

"I just have to rest up and get ready for this meet now," he said.

Markey, meanwhile, will be trying to improve upon his fifth-place finish of last year after a last-place Pac-8 performance in the finals of the 1,500.

"Obviously, I'm just going to do the best I can," he said. "I'd need to finish at about 3:38 to get a shot at first. I wasn't too satisfied with my time Thursday (3:46.9). It wasn't very quick and I've got to run a lot better than that this week."

Centrowitz's and Markey's biggest opposition figures to be Wilson Waigwa of University of Texas-El Paso, Mark Schilling of San Jose State, and Steve Scott of University of California at Irvine.

"If they're at their best I can't beat them," Centrowitz said, "but

there can always be tactical mistakes, so you never know."

Burton will be looking to better his seventh-placing of last year in the discus, while sophomore John McArdle in the hammer and freshman Tom Hintnaus in the pole vault will be making their first appearances in the NCAA's. Dacre Bowen is a late entrant in the 400 meter sprint, while Don Clary and Larry Hurst have figured for weeks to be Oregon's top contenders in the steeplechase.

Taylor will run the 5,000 meters with freshmen Rudy Chapa and Alberto Salazar, who both doubled in the 5,000 and 10,000 meter races in the Pac-8 meet.

"Both of us (he and Dellinger) know it'd be dumb for us to run both this week," Salazar said. "I didn't feel too good after running that 10,000 Friday in the Pac-8's, so I didn't do as well as I'd hoped in the 5,000 Saturday."

## Blazers bombard Philadelphia

PORTLAND (AP) — Lionel Hollins and Maurice Lucas helped Portland race to a 19-point lead in the first half, then the Trail Blazers buried Philadelphia with a 41-point third quarter Tuesday night, routing the 76ers 130-98 to even their National Basketball Association playoffs at two victories apiece.

The Blazers led by as many as 41 points in the final period.

Hollins finished with 25 points and Lucas 24, even though both sat out the entire fourth quarter. By then the outcome had been decided.

Hollins got 10 of his points and Lucas nine in the sizzling third period during which Portland hit 16 of its 23 shots and outscored Philadelphia 41-21. The Blazers led 98-67 at the start of the fourth quarter, in which both teams used squads of reserves.

Julius Erving was about the only effective player for Philadelphia, scoring 24 points, 14 of them in the second quarter, as he tried to keep the 76ers in the game.

The fifth game of the best-of-seven final series will be played Friday night in Philadelphia. All four games have been won by the home team.

The sellout crowd of 12,913 roared with delight as the Blazers picked up where they left off Sunday when they beat Philadelphia 129-107. Portland's running game was working to perfection, its passing and ball-handling was precise, and its defense was tenacious.

The Blazers hit nine of their first 10 shots to break to a 19-4 lead in the first 5½ minutes of the game and Philadelphia never recovered.

Lucas, who has scored in double figures in all 17 of Portland's playoff games, hit his first three jump shots as the Blazers took a 9-2 lead in the first two minutes. After George McGinnis hit a basket for Philadelphia, the Blazers ripped off 10 straight points — six by Hollins and four by center Bill Walton.

## Sportfolio

### Sigma Chi claims IM crown

With the softball and golf championships yet to be played, Sigma Chi has clinched the overall title in this year's Intramural Sports Championships.

Sigma Chi amassed 1461 points in gaining titles in wrestling, racquetball, and cross country, and second place finishes in both A and B volleyball, weightlifting, soccer and track.

The fraternity has advanced to the semifinals in the remaining two events, and is assured of a new intramural total point record. The existing mark of 1507 was set last year by Theta Chi.

### Soccer squad splits four games

PALO ALTO — The University's women's soccer team advanced as far as the semi-finals, winning a pair and losing a pair in last weekend's Stanford Invitational Soccer Tournament here.

After opening the tourney with a loss to top-seeded Stanford, Oregon beat Santa Clara, 2-0, and University of California-Davis, 1-0, before falling to Cal, 6-1, in the semi-finals.

### Date changed for Pre Classic

The annual Steve Prefontaine Classic, originally set for Wednesday, June 15 has been changed to June 14 according to University Athletic Director John Caine.

Caine said that commencement exercises for Eugene's public high schools are scheduled for the 15th and would involve many persons who would be competing in, staffing or attending the track meet.

Advance sale ticket holders who won't be able to attend the meet may get refunds at the athletic ticket office in McArthur Court.

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