

sports

Regionals bring no surprises for champions

SPOKANE—There were no surprises Saturday for the Oregon women's cross country team.

By finishing five scoring runners in the first 12 places, the Ducks won their second straight North-

west College Women's Sports Association (NCWSA) title and qualified for the National meet set for Nov. 19 in Austin, Tex.

Oregon, the heavy favorite going into the meet, scored 36 points, while the University of Washington was next in line with 63 points and Seattle Pacific was third with 81.

SPU's Debbie Quatier won the 5,000 meter race in 17:52. Ellen Schmidt of Oregon was second (18:15) as the expected close competition between the two never really came off.

Quatier took the lead from the very start, running the first mile in 5:08. Schmidt was only two seconds behind her at the mile post, but Quatier broke away as they hit the hilly and rough ground in the middle section of the course.

"It went pretty close to form," said Oregon coach Tom Heinonen. "The course was a lot more difficult than what we thought."

"Quatier can run pretty well on rough ground," he added. "A flatter course is more conducive to Ellen's style."

Following Schmidt across the line for Oregon were Heather Tol-

ford, fifth; Debbie Richie, seventh; Kim Spir, 10th; Charlene Marino, 12th; Molly Morton, 15th; Katy Mountain, 19th; Jennifer Bates, 21st; Jody Parker, 29th, and Sandy Trowbridge, 34th.

"This race was good for us because it was fast," Heinonen said. "The 5:10 Ellen ran in the first mile ... that's the kind of tempo that everybody will be running at nationals."

"What I'm really pleased about is everybody ran excellent races down the line," he said. "It has been like this every week, nobody flops."

portfolio

Field Hockey splits two

Oregon's Field Hockey team split two games in the Willamette Valley Tournament in Salem Saturday.

The Ducks, led by two-goal performances of Caryn McComas and Anne Hassert, defeated Oregon State in the opener, but fell to Southern Oregon, 2-1, in the second game of the day.

Oregon next hosts Oregon College on Tuesday.

Volleyballers fall in Berkeley

Playing in the championship bracket of the Berkeley Invitational Volleyball tournament, Oregon's women's team dropped matches to San Francisco State and Sacramento State on Saturday. S.F. State moved into the championship bracket by beating the Ducks 15-3, 15-10, 13-15, 15-2, and Oregon's loss to Sacramento has their record at 19-10.

Wrestling slated Monday

All intramural wrestlers who lost in the semi-finals (excluding forfeits) should be prepared to wrestle at any time. Finalists will be determined in the matches scheduled in Mac Court starting at 7 p.m. Monday night.

Bruin defense carries burden while UCLA offense struggles

By DAN LINDAHL
Emerald Sports Editor

For most of the afternoon Saturday at Autzen Stadium, UCLA played as if it had left its offense back in the balmy surroundings of Los Angeles.

But unfortunately for Oregon, the Bruin defense was very much alive and well and made its presence known enough times to insure UCLA's 21-3 victory.

With inexperienced quarterbacks Dan Daly and Tim Durando filling in for the injured Jack Henderson, the Ducks rarely, if ever, moved the ball well. Durando engineered Oregon's best offensive effort of the bleak and rainy day in the fourth period when he drove the Ducks 79 yards on 20 plays.

But the effort went for naught, when on a fourth and goal play at the six-yard line, Durando ran into teammate Kim Nutting, leaving him one yard short of the end zone.

Other than the fourth period drive, Oregon's offense was put on ice by a stifling Bruin defense.

"The key to the game was our defense," remarked UCLA coach Terry Donahue after the

win which kept UCLA in the Rose Bowl race with a 4-1 record. "The defense just played outstanding."

It was the UCLA defense, in the person of safety Mike Molina, which turned in the biggest play of the day.

With Oregon trailing 7-0 and faced with a fourth and 12 situation on the Bruin 47, late in the first half, Daly went looking for tight end Bill Vincent in the right flat. Instead, he found Molina who swiped the pass and cruised 52 yards for the touchdown which raised UCLA's lead to 14-0.

"I had flat responsibility, so I was out there, mirroring the quarterback and I saw him throw my direction," recounted Molina. "I had so much time to think it really made it tough. A lot of things were going through my mind, but I just said 'I gotta get that ball.'"

Molina got it all right, and in doing so, jabbed a dagger deep into Oregon's upset hopes.

"There is no question that the interception was the key play," said Donahue. "That gave us some momentum."

Molina's interception was a case of the Bruin defense rising to

the occasion to bail out the faltering offense. It is something that the Bruins consciously think about.

"When the offense is having trouble we talk about putting points up on the board defensively," admitted Frank Stephens, UCLA's outstanding linebacker. "First we just want to shutout the opponent until the offense can get going. But we can also win the game defensively, if we have to."

In holding Oregon to 222 yards total offense, including just 96 rushing, UCLA continued a string of fine defensive efforts which have been critical to the Bruin's resurgence. At one point this season Donahue's club was 2-3 and seemingly headed for a disappointing and dismal year. Now all that has changed and UCLA is riding a four game winning streak and has a good shot at the Rose Bowl.

"I don't know what the difference has been," said Donahue. "I know we've struggled and this team has great character."

If the coach doesn't know where things turned around, the players certainly do.

"We knew after the Stanford game (a 32-28 loss) that if we wanted to go to the Rose Bowl we had to get our act together," explained All-American linebacker Jerry Robinson, who topped the Bruins with 15 tackles.

"The Stanford loss really shook us up. We kind of snatched a loss from the jaws of victory," said Molina. "It was like a cold slap in the face. After losing our Pac-8 opener, we knew we had our backs to the wall."

Saturday it was Oregon that took the slapping.

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