

sports

Ducks finally get a breather this weekend as OSU visits

By MARK STEWART
Of the Emerald

After facing three of the best track teams in the nation the past three weeks, the men's track team will get a reprieve Saturday when it faces lowly Oregon State at Hayward Field.

OSU, which won its first Pac-8 dual meet in three years two weeks ago, has a squad with some holes in it talent-wise, according to Oregon coach Bill Dellinger.

"There will be some exciting events, but the meet will not be close," Dellinger said. "I'm not saying we're going to walk away, but we're heavy favorites."

Oregon State appears weakest in what are some of Oregon's strongest events — the weights (hammer, discus, shot), steeplechase, and 5,000 — and are strongest where Oregon has been having problems — hurdles, long and triple jumps and the 400 meters.

The Ducks might be thin for the second week in a row in the sprints depending on the condition of Don Coleman, who is suffering from muscle spasms. Dellinger said a decision to run Coleman will be made Saturday.

If Coleman doesn't run, Andrew Banks will again run solo in both the 100 and 200. Coleman is also on the 440 relay and if he cannot run, a replacement will be decided on Saturday.

Both Greg Walton and Bruce Nelson will be back this week after missing the last two meets because of injuries. Walton, Oregon's only quarter-miler, will be moved up to the 800 this week because of a lack of speed work in practice. Dellinger said he thinks the 800 could be Walton's best event. Nelson will be running in the 1,500.

In the long jump, Oregon State has a 26-foot-jumper in John Okoro, the Pac-8 champ in the event in 1976 and a member of the Nigerian Olympic team. Okoro was injured and did not compete last year. Joining Okoro is Bruce Smith, who has gone 25-4 last

year and has a lifetime best of 25-9½. Jon Ogard is Oregon's most likely challenger, but he has jumped only 23-11 this year.

Oregon State has another ex-Olympian in Kasheef Haason, from Sudan, who is the Beaver's number one 400 and 800 runner. He has run 46.6 in the 400 this year and will be teamed up with Greg Barnes, who has run a personal best of 47.22 in the event this year.

In the 800, Haason leads a trio of Beavers with times better than 1:53. Haason has run a personal best of 1:49.89 this year. Rich Kumm has run a PR of 1:52.8 this year and Jake Groth has run a year's best 1:51.8. Oregon's Bruce Green has run 1:53.4 this year and has a personal best of 1:51.08.

Chris Goodrich and Jim Bell will be Oregon's only entrants in the high hurdles and intermediate hurdles respectively. Both will be up against stiff competition from the Beavers.

Ken Spearing is Oregon State's top high hurdler with a lifetime best this year of 14.3. Goodrich has run 14.4, but his best this year

has been 14.89. Oregon State's Joel Johnson has run a 15.0 this year in the highs.

Bell will be pushed by Gary Susac, who has a lifetime best of 51.26 and a best this year of 52.1. Bell set his personal best mark of 51.66 last weekend against San Jose State.

High jumpers Jan From and Ogard might get some competition from Oregon State's John Edwards, who tied for second in the event at the Pac-8 meet last year. Edwards has a lifetime best of 6-10 and has gone 6-8 this year. From has gone 6-10 this year and Ogard 7-0.

Dellinger said Matt Centrowitz will be attempting to qualify for the NCAA meet in the 5,000 running alongside Alberto Salazar and Steve McChesney.

Mike Chriss, who usually runs both hurdle events, Kevin Tarpinning and Paul Doyle will be in a decathlon meet at Mt. Hood Community College this weekend, trying to qualify for the Pac-8 meet. Assistant coach Frank Morris declined to speculate on his decathletes, but said he hopes one will qualify for the Pac-8 meet.

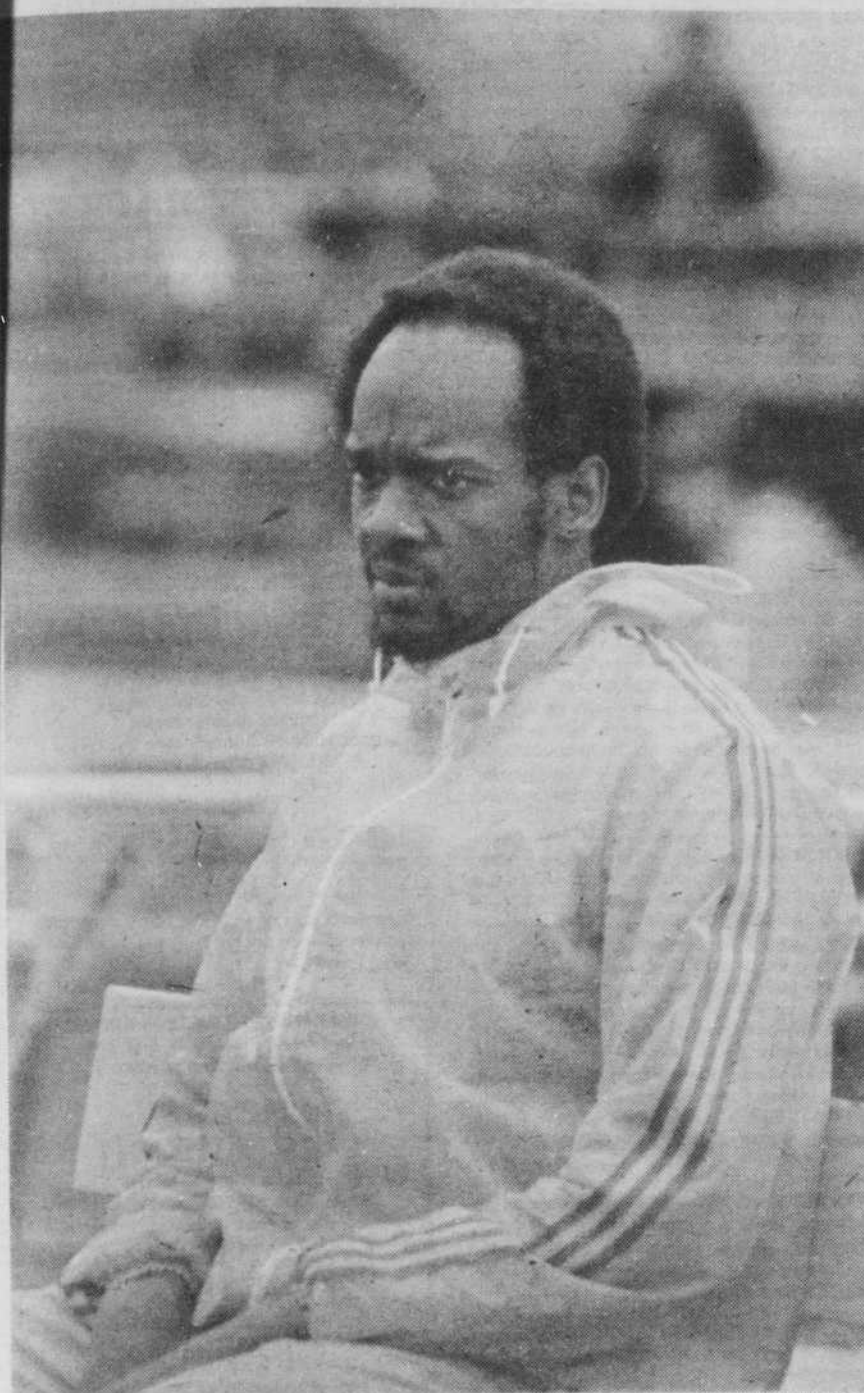


Photo by Mike Baer

James Bell's thoughts will be on Oregon State's Gary Susac, whose best time is only one-half second behind Bell's time in the 400 hurdles.

Netters face Huskies in crucial league tilt

By TIM LEONARD
Of the Emerald

The Oregon women's tennis team will face Washington tomorrow beginning at 10 a.m. on the Alder Street courts, amid the possibilities of having a couple of varsity players out of action due to illness or injury.

Washington leads the Northwest conference, has not been defeated yet this season and handled the Oregon netters easily 8-1 earlier in the season.

Mo Hermann, playing number two singles and doubles reportedly has a sore right arm extending to the elbow, and her readiness will not be determined until late today.

Tina Mickelson, number five, has been recently tending a case of strep throat and may not play. Patti Marihart, number six, returns after a week of illness and although feeling better, gets winded easily but probably will see action.

In the event that a varsity player is unable to perform, Coach Marti

She plans on having two junior varsity members come in to help. Kim Jessup and Sue Olsen, both freshmen, may test their tennis playing ability against some of the toughest competition they will ever face in Northwest play.

The Oregon team is familiar with the rough, slow surface of the Alder streets, a home match advantage but they will need more than that to upset the visitors. In Washington earlier, four matches went to three sets and the Oregon women will have to play strong tennis to take the close ones.



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