



Photo by Steve Dykes

Junior discus thrower Kathy Picknell has consistently thrown 150 feet in practice, and will try to improve upon her meet record of 149-11 Saturday in a dual meet with Seattle Pacific College at Hayward Field.

Duck women look to set records in Saturday discus competition

By KEN SANDS
Of the Emerald

Woman discus throwers Kathy Picknell and Mary Stevenson will challenge Julie Hansen of Seattle Pacific College Saturday at Hayward Field, and coach Tom Heinonen says both Oregon throwers are ready to improve upon their best throws.

Stevenson has thrown 151-7 this year, and Picknell has thrown 149-11. Hansen has one of the best marks in the country this year at 166-6, and will provide the competition the Duck throwers need, says Heinonen.

"They didn't have anyone to compete against last week (against the University of Washington), and it was kind of a let-down for them," says the coach.

Hansen and teammate Marcia Mecklenberg have both thrown farther than either of the Ducks. "On one hand they are looking for a breakthrough, but on the other hand they are trying to avoid a 1-2 SPC sweep," says Heinonen.

Stevenson and Picknell have both been consistent this year, and Heinonen says that's why he thinks a breakthrough is near.

Picknell agrees. "I've been throwing in the 150s consistently in practice, and it's just a matter of getting it all together at the same time. The long one is there, and it's just a matter of time before it pops out."

Picknell, now a junior, amended her style as a freshman and she says she has just recently found it comfortable. "When I came here my technique was so bad Frank (Morris, assistant coach) said I didn't even look like a discus thrower, but now he says I do."

She will have a chance to prove her ability Saturday, as will the rest of the field event entrants. Heinonen says SPC is also very strong in the shot put, high jump, long jump and hurdles. "They've got great people in the field events, but on the other hand, we could win every race."

Oregon will have its top six middle-distance runners entered in the 1,500 as a team effort to get a fast tempo and get some good marks," says Heinonen.

Since Oregon should dominate the track events, adds Heinonen, and Seattle Pacific will be strong in the field events, the meet will be imbalanced. "I doubt the score will be close, but no doubt they have some exciting athletes," says Heinonen, who predicts an Oregon win.

But he adds that it shouldn't be a dull dual meet. "We're loading up the events with our fastest people. In addition to the 1,500 meters, Heinonen points to the 200 meters as a potentially exciting race. Melanie Baptiste, Debbie Adams and Dawna Rose will all run the race for the Ducks."

sportfolio

Baseball team faces league leader

Washington State brings its league-leading baseball team to Eugene today to face the Ducks in the first of a three-game series this weekend.

The Cougars are 3-0 in league play after last week's sweep of Oregon State, overall record before this week's games. Duck coach Mel Krause says he is aware of the difficult task his club faces.

"Statistically, we shouldn't even be on the field with them," Krause says, adding that WSU is strong in all aspects of the game. After their first 29 games, the Cougars had a .299 team batting average, and the lowest average in the starting nine was .288.

Krause notes that WSU has seven of its top eight pitchers returning from last year's squad. Cougar pitchers have compiled a 2.52 overall

earned-run average this season.

"They also played solid defensive baseball," says Krause, whose teams have managed only three wins in 24 tries against the Cougars over the past four seasons.

As if WSU doesn't already provide a gloomy outlook for the 8-16 Ducks, the weather forecast calls for more rain before the weekend is over. Playing conditions at Howe Field are already suspect says Krause, who says one of two games might be delayed until Sunday.

The Duck schedule calls for a 3 p.m. contest today and a doubleheader Saturday beginning at 1 p.m.

Krause plans to use Dean Kegler, Mike Talia and Bill Gwinn as his starting pitchers for the series, but was undecided on who would pitch today's game.

Netters travel to Idaho tournament

The University men's tennis team will play five matches in three days beginning today in the Inland Empire tournament at Moscow, Idaho.

"It's going to be a physical drain," says Duck captain Tom Goldman. Oregon faces Idaho and Washington today, Boise State and Washington Saturday and Eastern Washington Sunday.

Idaho may present a challenge for Oregon. "They were fairly strong last year, and I think they are just as strong this year," says Duck coach Emory "Buzz" Summers.

The Ducks have won four of their last six matches and seem to have recovered from their 1-4 start. "I think the team is 20 to 30 percent better than I thought we would be," says lead singles player Gerry Farmer. "We

have more confidence and we know what we are up against and that helps."

"The coach is running us well and putting us through hard workouts," says freshman Stewart Bartlett, who adds that the Inland Empire tournament will also grant the Ducks with another shot at Washington. The Huskies beat Oregon two weeks ago 5-4.

"When we played Washington, we came so close. There were just a few close turns," says Bartlett.

Number two singles player Tom Greider hyper-extended his knee during practice last week. "It's sore," says the left handed junior, "I just can't go from one direction to the other very well."

He said he expected to be ready to play this weekend.

Golfers finish 16th in California

The University's golf team finished 16th in the Western Intercollegiate Tournament in Santa Cruz, Calif. Thursday. The Ducks, 32 strokes back after Wednesday's round, dropped to 64 strokes behind tournament winner San Jose State (1,105).

"This is the worst any team has played for me since my first year at Oregon," said coach Jim Ferguson. "I don't know what it is — if I did I would definitely make some changes."

Ferguson's team was fourth in last year's tournament. "I didn't expect us to do as well as we did last year, but we should be playing better."

The Ducks were led by Jeff Sanders (76-80-73-229) and Jon Heselwood (71-82-76-229) for a 1,169 total. Dave DeLong (77-79-80-236), Lawrence Zech (79-82-83-237), Glen Luikart (77-83-79-239) and Doug Hixson (79-82-84-245), also competed for the Ducks.

Duck wrestlers sign recruit

The University wrestling team signed its first high-school recruit Wednesday. Allen Goldman of Cherry Creek High School in Englewood, Colo. (near Denver), became the first wrestler to sign with the Ducks.

Goldman, Colorado State champion his sophomore and senior years at 119 pounds and runner-up his junior year, compiled a 106-6 record during his four-year career. Four of the losses came during his freshman season.

Duck wrestling coach Ron Finley said "Goldman is very possibly the best 118 pound recruit in the nation. He is what I call a blue-chipper."

Recruited by Iowa State, Wisconsin, Louisiana State, Arizona, Arizona State, Oklahoma and Colorado, Goldman became committed to the Ducks in December, said Finley.

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