

Shooting For The Stars

Oregon may not win the AIAW team title, but Patty Kearney is likely to bring the Ducks at least one individual championship

With an impressive dual meet season under its belt, the Oregon women's track team appears to have the nation's top dual meet ranking locked up. And one big reason for the Ducks' success this year has been the improved performance of javelin hurler Patty Kearney.

Kearney already holds the Oregon javelin record, as well as the top collegiate mark of the season (180-7). But she will be shooting for bigger game this week when the AIAW national championships open today at Hayward Field.

"It should be pretty competitive," says Oregon throws coach Scott Irving. "I would think it will take a throw in the 180's to win the meet, but I believe she'll be in the running for the championship."

Kearney hasn't always been among the nation's finest, however. In fact, when she first came to Oregon, she wasn't

even considering going out for track.

"I hadn't planned on athletics at all, but I was really at a stalemate for something else to do," Kearney says. "I went to a track meet and saw they were only throwing maybe ten feet further than what I'd done in high school, so I figured 'Well, heck, I should be able to be competitive.'"

Kearney hasn't regretted that decision. Each year has seen a steady improvement in her marks — 132 feet that first year, 154-11 as a sophomore and 166-11 last year. But since this season is her last at Oregon, Kearney has decided to give it her best shot.

"I'm definitely putting my all into it," she says. "In my practices, for weights and stuff like that, I'll come in on a day when I don't feel like doing it, but I'll just kick myself in the rear and say 'get going.' And on those days it seems like I have my best

workouts."

Another indication of how seriously Kearney is taking this season came last fall, when Irving arranged for her to spend four months in West Germany to train under national javelin head coach Wolford Hurst.

"I'm very grateful to Scott for arranging the trip," says the thrower. "It was a good experience, not only for javelin, but culturally it was great."

Also training under Hurst were Eva Helmschmidt, West Germany's top thrower and fifth-ranked in the world last year, and Karen Smith, America's No. 2 thrower.

"I was throwing alongside two over-200-foot throwers, and that's got to help some," Kearney says. "Watching those two javelin throwers in their training, they were just more intense, more aggressive. Their workouts didn't have to be long, they just had to be good quality."

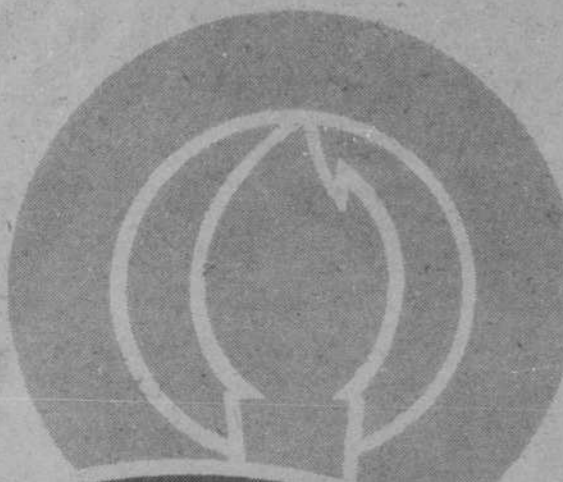


Photo by Martha Stanton

Kearney leads the nation in the javelin with a best of 180-7, an Oregon school record.

That intensity took a little adjusting, too. "Wolford would watch each one of our throws and mention something about it every time. I was really frustrat-

(Continued on Page 7)



**Enjoy
an Oregon
Summer**


**It's yours
for the asking**

**University of Oregon
Summer Session
June 16 to August 8, 1980**

Pick up your copy of the Summer Time Schedule of Classes and file an Intent to Register card today. Time schedules and Intent to Register cards are now available at the Summer Session Office, 64 PLC, or the Registrar's Office. Plan now to enjoy an Oregon summer.

Lazar's Bazar
Bongs & Pipes
on Sale

1036 Willamette 687-0139, 687-9766



**NIKE
EUGENE**

"the only **NIKE** only store"

**IN THE ATRIUM
10th & OLIVE EUGENE 342-5155
MON-SAT 9-6 PM, FRI TIL 7:00 PM**