

Forbes opens regional meet with win

By JODY MURRAY
Of the Emerald

Oregon's Eryn Forbes won the 10,000-meter run in school-record time Thursday to kick off the Northwest Collegiate Women's Sports Association track championships in Corvallis.

Forbes clocked a 33:55.8 to erase her own mark of 34:23.4 set earlier this season. Defending champion Brigitte Baker of Montana was second in 35:12.0.

Four events of the heptathlon also were completed during the first day of the three-day meet. Oregon's Jeanne Borchardt is third with 2,776, behind Oregon State's Cindy Griener (3,141) and Washington State's Teresa Lenardon (2,808).

Like last year and the year before that, the race for the region's team title is academic. Oregon has dominated the region since 1978. Last year, the Ducks scored 244 points to out-

distance second-place Oregon State by 117 points.

Oregon should score big again this year, led by Lexie Miller, who is entered in the long jump and both hurdle events. Miller is the defending champion in the long jump and 100 hurdles and has the region's best time this year in the 400 hurdles (59.9).

The javelin will provide the best in both quality and competition, says Oregon coach Tom Heinonen. Oregon's Sally Harmon, who has thrown 165-11 this season, will face Washington State's Jeanne Eggart and Oregon State's Teri Cooper. Harmon has a personal best of 169-10 and the other two have bests in the 170 range, but none have thrown as far this year.

"It will probably be the highest quality field of any region in the country," Heinonen says.

There will also be a couple rematches from Oregon's dual meet last Saturday with Oregon

State. Miller and OSU's Colleen Gibson will probably duel for the long jump title. Miller won the first match last Saturday with a 19-6¾ leap in the wind and rain at Corvallis.

Miller has gone 19-9½ this year, 2¼ inches shy of the AIAW qualifying standard. Gibson went only 18-11½ last weekend, but has a 19-5½ leap to her credit this season.

OSU sprinter Asa Pennington, who swept the Ducks in the 100 and 200 last weekend, will attempt to dethrone Oregon's Melanie Batiste, who has won the region 100 title the past two years.

Still hampered by a hamstring injury, Batiste's best 100 time this year is a wind-aided 12.03. Pennington has run 12.06 and 24.67 in the 200. Batiste has a personal best of 23.66 but only has gone 24.8 this year.

Batiste will be backed up by teammates Lena Fritzson

(12.14w/24.73) and Kris Costello (12.24w/25.10).

The 400 relay crew of Batiste, Fritzson, Costello and Grace Bakari will try to join the mile relay squad at nationals by meeting the qualifying standard of 46.04. Their season best is 46.62.

Another running event — the 800 — will be an intriguing race, Heinonen says. The top con-

tenders will include no less than five Oregon athletes (Ranza Clark, Joslyn West, Tammy Cook, Mary Hanlon and Pat Lane), plus two runners from Washington (Susan Gregg and Anne Phillips).

Today's competition begins at noon with the heptathlon long jump. The javelin competition will start Saturday's events at noon.

Baseball team plays last games against Beavers

Baseball fans will have their last chance to see the Oregon baseball team in action this weekend — after Saturday, the team will be disbanded.

But despite the University administration's decision to drop the baseball program, Oregon coach Mel Krause says the three-game series against Oregon State will not be any "grand finale."

"Like every game, we'll play to win," Krause says. "It'll be our last games, but we'll play them out without any fanfare."

The series is also Oregon's last chance to assure finishing over .500 this season.

The Ducks, 15-17-1, are the lone occupant of the Pac-10 Northern Division cellar with a 1-12 mark. Oregon's only con-

ference win came with an 11-4 victory over the Beavers early in the season.

OSU is second in the conference with a 9-5 mark.

With an earned run average of 6.3, the Ducks' pitching must improve, especially because the team is hitting so well, Krause says. The Ducks are hitting .279.

"Not one of our pitchers has come through like I thought they would. Every one of them seems to be having a bad season at the same time."

"But the hitting is great," Krause says. "I couldn't ask for more from our guys at the plate."

Friday's game will begin at 3 p.m. at Howe Field, while the Saturday double-header will begin in Corvallis at 1 p.m.

Rockets claim NBA game two

BOSTON (AP) — Houston center Moses Malone scored 31 points to lead the Rockets to a 92-90 upset of the Boston Celtics Thursday night to tie the National Basketball Association championship series at one vic-

tory apiece.

The Celtics held an 82-75 edge with 7:09 to play, but were limited to eight points down the stretch as the Rockets rallied to win.

The next two games of the best-of-seven series will be played in Houston Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

The victory broke Boston's 14-game winning streak against the Rockets, a string that began Dec. 12, 1978.

It was Houston's eighth playoff victory away from home, an NBA record. The previous mark of seven was held by the 1968 Boston Celtics.



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