

Awesome Ducks

Women's track team should be tough

By Todd Fletcher
Of the Emerald

What word best describes the 1982 version of the Oregon women's track team? **Awesome** seems to be appropriate.

The Ducks return seven of the eight scorers from last year's national meet return — **Awesome**.

Last year's third-ranked team returns virtually intact, save for five-time all-American Melanie Batiste, who graduated — **Awesome**.

The Ducks open their season March 13 at home in the Oregon Open.

"We expect to do better than last year," says seven-year coach Tom Heinonen. "We have a lot of depth and a good balance among distance runners, sprinters, throwers and jumpers. No one group will have to carry the load. All we have to do is stay healthy."

An added bonus that could benefit the Ducks' tremendous depth this year is a new scoring format that will be used at the first NCAA championship for women in Provo, Utah in June. Heinonen sees the new format helping the Ducks chances at capturing a national title.

In its initial year, the NCAA meet will score 12 instead of the normal six top finishers in each event — a move Heinonen says will help teams like the Ducks.

"We have a big strong team," the coach says, "and we can bring a lot of solid performers to the meet."

"Last year we would have edged ahead of Florida State (Oregon tied FSU for third last year) if this new format had

been used."

Oregon returns national champions to the distances, sprints, throws and jumps.

In the distances, the Ducks are led by three-time national champion, Leann Warren, and all-Americans Eryn Forbes and Lisa Martin. Several newcomers, including freshman cross country all-American Kathy Hayes will provide the Ducks with plenty of depth.

Warren, a junior, who was selected as the 1981 Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women athlete of the year, qualified for the national meet last year in the 400, 800, 1500 and 3000 meters, along with the 1600-meter relay. She captured the 800 and 1500 titles last year, and plans to double again this year.

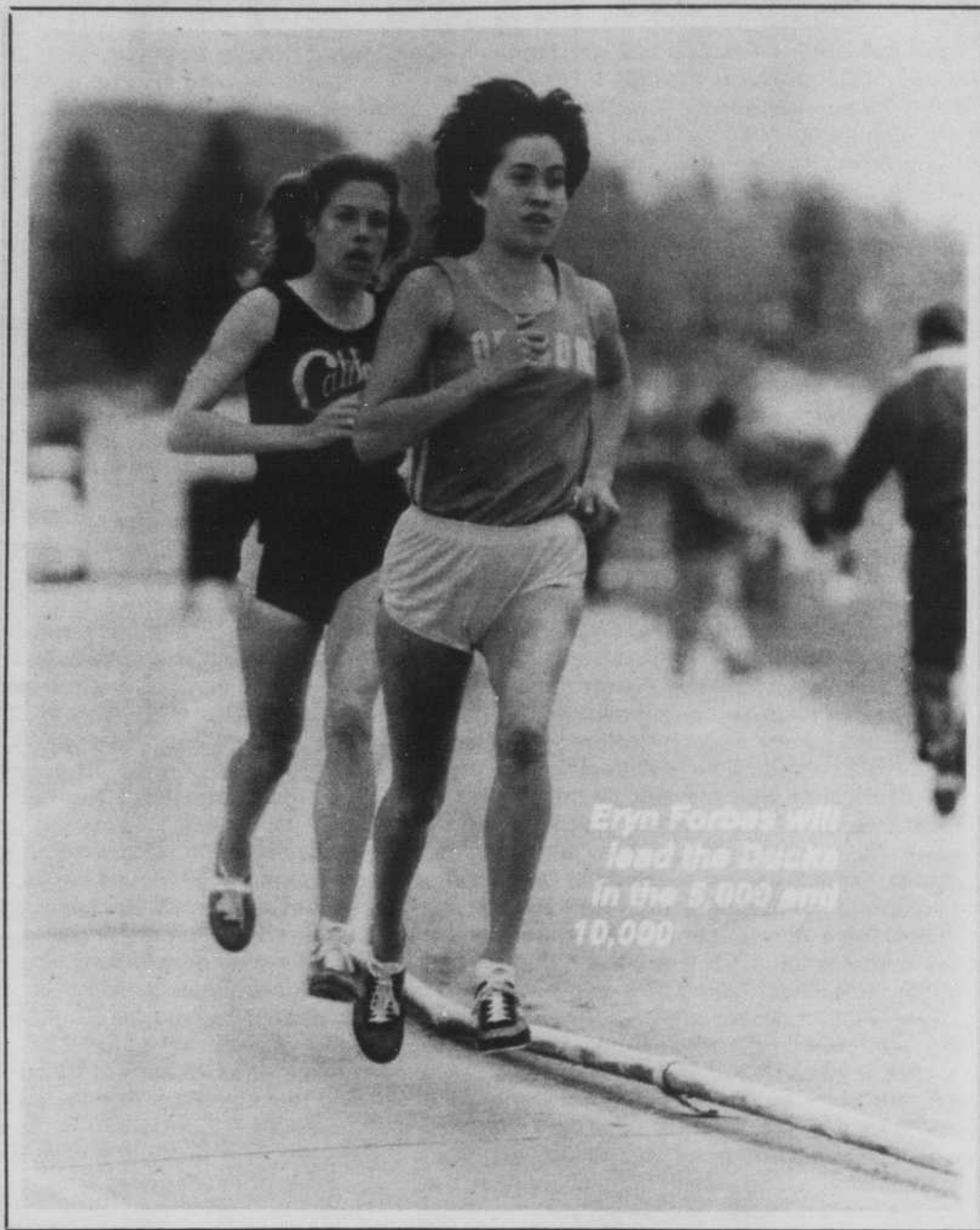
"I'm ahead of last year, strength-wise, because of training year around, and the experience from the summer meets," said Warren, who holds collegiate records in the 800 meters with a time of 1:59.63 and the mile in a 4:30.36 clocking.

In the 800 meters, Warren is joined by sophomore Ranza Clark, who has a 2:04.19 lifetime best, and was an 1981 AIAW 800 finalist. Karen Drake, a transfer from Colorado, has run the 800 in 2:11.5 and should be the No. 3 runner.

The team will be strong in the 1500 meters, with Warren backed by Hayes and freshmen Claudette Groenendaal and Rosa Gutierrez.

Martin, the school-record holder in the 3,000 meters with a time of 9:22.4, will be race with Forbes, who holds University

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Eryn Forbes will lead the Ducks in the 5,000 and 10,000

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'No other way to live,' says teen figure skater

EDMONDS, Wash. (AP) — Rosalynn Sumners has given up a normal teen-ager's life to pursue the fame — and hopefully fortune — of her sport.

There is no other life for America's newly crowned figure skating champion, Sumners says.

"To me, these aren't sacrifices, though," Sumners said. "I wouldn't want my life any other way."

"I find other kids' lives boring. I'm sure it's not boring for them but it is to me. What they do just doesn't appeal to me at all," the 17-year-old said last week, before leaving for the world championships, which run Thursday through Saturday in Copenhagen.

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