

Ducks pack both barrels to Seattle

Huskies lacking numbers in dual with Oregon men

By John Healy
Of the Emerald

Don't look for a close team battle Saturday in Seattle when Oregon faces Washington in a men's track dual meet.

It's doubtful the Huskies have the numbers to keep up with the Ducks.

This is a situation that is becoming increasingly familiar to Oregon head coach Bill Dellinger, who watched last week as Oregon rolled to an easy 93-60 win over Louisiana State at Hayward Field.

However, Dellinger does see a silver lining.

"I would assume we would be the favorite, but they have some fine athletes back from last year," he says.

The Huskies should push Oregon in the weight events, specifically in the discus and javelin. Mike Mahovich, third in the conference javelin competition last spring, has a career best of 252-3½ and will face the Ducks' Frode Stormyr, who has thrown 253-10 this year in dual meet competition.

In the discus, Oregon's Dean Crouser has thrown 202-2 this spring but has a career best of 213-0. He will be matched against Doug Woolen, whose throw of 200-9 is second-best to Crouser on the conference discus list.

Crouser hasn't lost in a dual meet this year, having only been beaten in the Oregon Invitational. He also has bests of 66-7 in the shot put, which is almost two feet better than anyone else has thrown in the conference this year, and 195-6 in the hammer, which places him fifth on the recently released conference list.

Washington will also offer Oregon a challenge in the 800, where Rob Webster is a surprise leader in the conference this year with a best of 1:48.8. The Ducks' David Mack hasn't been pressed this year, and his career best of 1:46.03 would seem to indicate that he won't have problems with Webster.

But the weather may tighten the race considerably.

"The last two times we were up there (in Seattle), it rained," says assistant coach Dennis Whitby, "and Lake Washington can be a factor with the wind off of it.

"I don't know if it will get any better this weekend," says Whitby, who worries that the weather will affect performances in the technique events, as it did in the LSU meet.

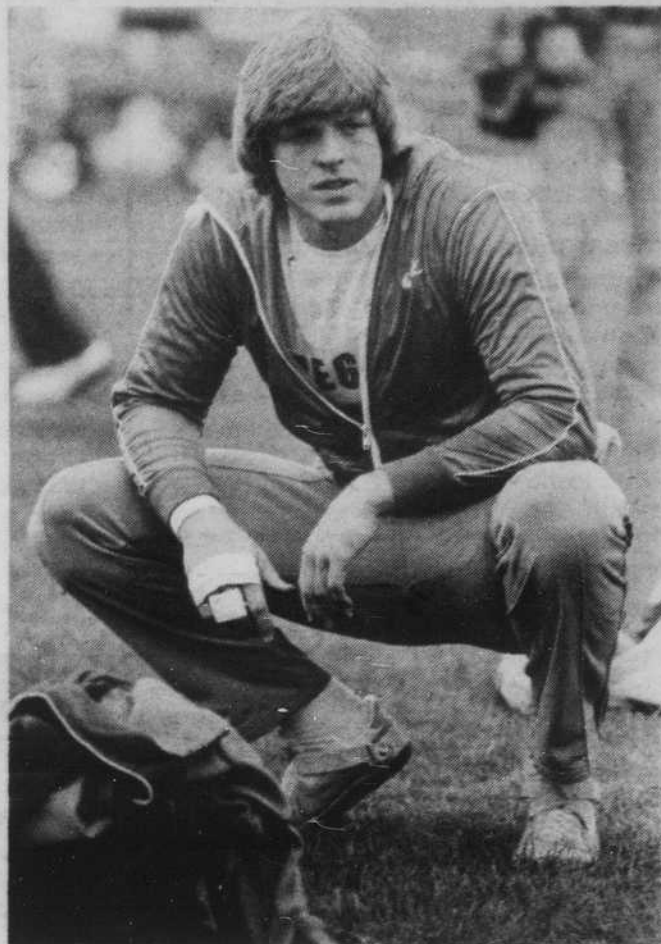
"The rain made it hard for some of the athletes like Phil Christain (high jump). The last two steps to his approach are very fast, and each time he just slipped," Whitby says.

It would seem that even with the rain, wind, and injuries to key Oregon competitors, the Huskies will have their hands full.

Horizontal jumper Lamar Hurd is still trying to come back from a hamstring injury, so he won't compete Saturday, and distance runner Bill McChesney won't run because of hip pain.

Don Ward, Oregon's top intermediate hurdler, will be entered Saturday for his first dual meet competition this year.

The meet will be broadcast by KUGN (590) starting at 2:45 p.m. Saturday. Oregon will return home to Hayward Field April 24 for a dual against Kansas.



Photos by Bob Baker

Above, Duck weightman Dean Crouser will battle with UW's Doug Woolen while Oregon's Kris Costello will run the sprint events for the women.



Oregon women to go easy on outclassed Huskies

By Mike Riplinger
Of the Emerald

After any tough test, students like to unwind and take it easy before priming themselves for the next one. That's exactly what the Oregon women's track team will do when they travel to the University of Washington for a dual with the Huskies Saturday.

Oregon, coming off a big win over No. 1 ranked UCLA last weekend, should have a much easier time of it with the Huskies. Washington has some class athletes, but they lack the depth to compete with Oregon in team score. So, the Ducks will hold back some of their runners to rest up for next weekend's dual with the powerful University of Arizona.

"They've got some excellent athletes, but they're not very deep," said Oregon coach Tom Heinonen.

Heinonen will rest Leann Warren, Kathy Hayes, Ranza Clark, and Grace Bakari, and will move some other runners around to new events to break the monotony of a long season.

"This meet will give us a break," Heinonen said. "It comes at a perfect time as long as it doesn't snow," he said, looking out the window to check the cloud cover.

"This has been a bad spring — needless to say," Heinonen said. "I've never seen it so bad. We are nowhere near where we could be."

The Huskies' Jackie Henry (46-0) should give Quenna Beasley (46-9½) a lot of competition in the shot put, and Regina Joyce, the collegiate record holder in the women's 3,000 should dominate her event, but the Huskies should not be able to mount much of a threat to the Ducks.

Deanna Carr, who split up Oregon's dominance in the javelin in the Golden Bear Meet in March, will be tough, but Oregon's own Lynda Hughes is on a hot streak and should be able to handle her.

"What more can you say about Lynda — three PR's (personal records), three school records in three meets — what more can you ask for? She's doing very well," understated Heinonen.


All of the Oregon throwers are doing well, and if you have any questions, just ask Scott Irving their coach. They had a bet with Irving that if they outdistanced the UCLA women, and if the Ducks won the meet, then they would get to shave off Irving's beard.

"I guess they'll be after his head next," laughed Heinonen.

Heinonen might hold out more of his athletes than announced, and move others around to new events, depending on how the meet goes.

"Al Bonney (Washington's coach) thought in the past that we were running up the score when we weren't, and he used to get upset. But now we understand each other much better. We try to set up good competition when we can, but they don't have the athletes we do. We could blow them off into Lake Washington if we wanted to.

"Al asked me not to run Leann (Warren), and we solved that problem by not running her, which we were going to do anyway. He wants Regina Joyce to run fast and win, which would attract more attention to their program then if she ran fast and lost."



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