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# Beavers in uphill battle

Some quality athletes returning to OSU track

By John Healy  
Of the Emerald

Times have been tough for the Oregon State men's track program.

The Beavers have fallen a long way from being a national track power in the mid '70s. Back in 1972, Oregon State finished the year as the sixth-ranked dual meet team in the nation. They followed that in '73 with a 10th-place ranking and in '74 with a fifth-place ranking.

And, in '74, the Beavers beat Oregon 88-75, the only time they have won the dual meet series since a win in 1969.

The Beavers took a nosedive in the late '70s, losing to Oregon by larger and larger margins. Current Oregon coach Bill Dellinger has beaten the Beavers eight out of nine times, and in the last three years the Ducks have scored over 100 points against the Beavers in

each meet.

Once again, it appears Oregon State just doesn't have the numbers to challenge Oregon.

But, unlike past years, the Beavers do have a few quality athletes, which is a definite step up from the late '70s, when Oregon State didn't have much of anybody.

Oregon State can thank Frank Morris, the former Oregon weight events coach, for starting Oregon State back on the road to respectability.

Although the Ducks have pretty much had their way with Oregon State since Morris arrived, thanks to superior depth, the new Beaver coach has improved Oregon State's stock in the Pac-10 championships, moving the Beavers from ninth to eighth to seventh in that period.

The steadiest — and flashiest — of the Beavers over the last few years has been '79 World Cup

and NCAA champion Kasheef Hassan. Known in the past more for his 400 meter times (45.18), Hassan has moved around this year, running the 200, 400 and 800. He'll be entered in the 200 (20.7) and 400 Saturday, and while he won't face much competition in the 400, the Ducks' George Wallcott, with a best of 20.83, should challenge Hassan in the 200.

The biggest surprise this year for Morris has been Mark Fricker, who ran 3:38.9 last week in the Mt. Sac Relays. He will face a stiff challenge from Oregon's Jim Hill (3:41.33), who also has the fastest 5,000 time (13:30.52) in the Pac-10 this year.

The only other Beavers of note are Mark White in the intermediate hurdles (51.1), Shannon Sullivan in the pole vault (17-7), and Ken Taylor in the triple jump (50-1/2).

Oregon won't be at full strength this weekend, as sprinters Parrish Nixon and Mark James will sit out the meet, as will jumper Lamar Hurd.

## Duck cagers lure 6-1 guard to Mac Court

Oregon basketball coach Jim Haney added a second recruit to his program with the signing of 6-1 guard Donald Dutton from Wilmington, Del.

Dutton, from Howard High School in Wilmington, was the second-highest scorer in Delaware high schools last season with an average of 24.7 points per game.

The Ducks add Dutton to a list of guards that includes 6-3 junior Fred Cofield, 6-3 senior Gary Gatewood, 6-4 senior Paul Bain, 6-1 sophomore Scott Perry, 6-6 sophomore Bryan Trendell and 6-3 sophomore Greg Bell.

Oregon hopes to utilize Dutton's scoring capabilities in the future, if he can break out from the pack of what has become a team with nearly half of its players at the guard position.

At Howard High, Dutton was a three-year starter on a team that compiled a 55-13 record in his three seasons. He was an all-state selection the past two seasons, and led his school to three straight state tournament berths, and the state runner-up title in 1981.

He was the only player from Delaware to be named to a 15-player all-area team from Delaware, New Jersey and Southeast Pennsylvania.

Dutton is the second recruit to join the Ducks, following the signing of 6-6 forward Kenny Sprague from Santa Monica, Calif. Sprague is a prep standout in Southern California who was highly recruited by Oregon State before having much interest in him drop off after an injury to his knee last fall.

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