

# Dellinger blasts Bowerman as 'vindictive'

By Mike Riplinger and Steve Turcotte  
Of the Emerald

Allegations by former Oregon track and field coach Bill Bowerman that Oregon athletes received free athletic equipment from Nike and Adidas has Oregon track coach Bill Dellinger furious.

"Bowerman is vindictive," Dellinger claimed Wednesday. "He is causing a lot of problems for his company and the University of Oregon track program."

But Bowerman said he had no knowledge of the incident.

"I really don't know what you are talking about," Bowerman said Wednesday night when he was contacted about the allegations.

Bowerman, one of Nike's original stockholders, noticed last spring that Oregon athletes switched shoes from his company's products to those of Adidas.

The changes were noted in a Sept. 17 four-page letter from Vice Pres. for University Relations Curt Simic to Bowerman which addresses concerns that the former track coach apparently had expressed to University officials.

The letter detailed the circumstances under which Nike and Adidas equipment was given to two track and field athletes at Oregon last summer, and also mentions another athlete who was paid \$450 for consulting work on a shoe design.

The three athletes are distance runner Jim Hill, and weightmen Dean and Brian Crouser, according to the Oregonian's evening edition, which did not specify where it received its information.

The letter is the result of Simic's investigation this September into Bowerman's allegations.

Simic's letter addressed two issues — "the relationship

between equipment companies and athletes currently at the University, and the relationship between an equipment company and coaches currently employed by the University."

But Dellinger indicated that the use of free shoes is common practice for track and field teams all over the country.

"The NCAA violation is for receiving free equipment. Because the shoe giveaway is so big, the NCAA has just turned its head. Bowerman is bringing it to the point that the NCAA is going to have to do something about it," Dellinger said.

"This all goes back to the Pac-10 meet when (Dean) Crouser switched shoes from Nike to Adidas," he said, referring to Oregon's NCAA discus champion.

"The athletes' switching of shoes prompted Bowerman to hire a private investigator."

But when asked about Dellinger's charge, Bowerman said that "the only thing that I have done for the Oregon track program is that Dellinger has asked me for some help with funds, and within the limits of conference rules. I have always tried to help him."

"As far as violations, I just don't have any knowledge," Bowerman said.

Adidas' adoption of a webbed shoe designed by Dellinger — which Nike rejected when Dellinger approached them with the idea first — is at the root of Bowerman's charges, according to Dellinger.

"Ever since the Adidas shoe with the webbing has become popular, Bowerman has become vindictive. He is trying to discredit the University of Oregon track program," Dellinger said.

Bowerman, however, says he doesn't know anything about any alleged violations.

"I think there has been some

kind of misrepresentation," he said. "I think it ought to be cleared up."

The letter refers to a meeting between Simic and Bowerman last summer in downtown Eugene at the Town Club. Bowerman "suggested that an equipment manufacturer was paying U.O. athletes to wear a particular brand name," the letter stated.

Yet according to Bowerman, no meeting between the two ever took place. "I certainly did not talk to Mr. Simic earlier this summer," Bowerman said.

According to Dellinger, Bowerman's private investigator looked into the use of shoes by Oregon track and field athletes.

"All the shoes companies are giving away shoes," said Dellinger. "I don't tell the guys on the team what kind of shoes to wear. They wear what they want."

Shoes and other equipment were given away by Nike if an athlete met specified times or marks, according to the letter.

In the letter, an unspecified athlete "attempted to have his name placed on a special Nike list which would entitle him to whatever equipment he needed."

He "was told that he would have to meet a standard ... in order to qualify for the list ...," the letter said.

A member of Oregon's track and field team, who asked not to be named, concurred that Nike offered free shoes and other equipment to Oregon athletes depending on their times or marks.

Shoes were given to athletes who met the specifications stated in a "B" list, while athletes making the more stringent "A" list were offered sweatsuits and other Nike athletic equipment, including shoes.

As an example, a runner who



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ran a 10.6 100 meters last year qualified for the "B" list, according to the Oregon track athlete, while the "A" list required a time of 10.4 or better in the 100 meters.

"There are probably 50 athletes on our team receiving free shoes," Dellinger said.

"I think it is unfortunate that Bill is trying to make the University of Oregon track program look bad by getting three athletes ineligible," Dellinger said. "It could hurt the whole track situation in the United States."

Dellinger said that Bowerman should quit living in the past, and that Bowerman's vindictive attitude will cost everyone in the long run.

"If the NCAA would say that the three athletes are ineligible, then they should audit Nike and its giveaway program and look at all the athletes getting free shoes," Dellinger said.



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'I think there has been some kind of misrepresentation'

Bill Bowerman

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### MEETINGS

The next meeting of the IFC will be held today at 5:30 p.m. in the EMU Forum Room. The agenda is expected to include: AVENU, EMU request (possibly), Balance Forwards, and Resolutions.

ORCA's elections will be held tonight at 7 in 112 EMU. All voting members are eligible to hold an office. Any non-members wishing to get involved are encouraged to attend and join. For more information, contact Greg Stewart at 342-8528.

The Eugene Council for Human Rights in Latin America and the University Latin American Support Committee will be meeting tonight at 7:30 at 1236 Kincaid. Included on the agenda is a discussion of refugee support programs and the up-coming tour of Tamara Sanchez Pena, a Bolivian Congresswoman.

Oxfam America, a world hunger relief agency, will hold an organizational meeting for its annual Fast For A World Harvest in Century Room F, EMU at 7 p.m. tonight. Please use this as an opportunity to really make a difference. For more information please call Cynthia at 485-1755 or Bruce Godfrey at 485-4591 (nights).

### SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS

"Sex and God" is the title of a class held each Thursday from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. at the Wesley Center, 1236 Kincaid. The information/discussion session is facilitated by Stuart Shaw, United Methodist Campus Minister.

"Peacemaking Through Communication" is the title of a study in communication styles and skills, and their role in peacemaking in our society. Listening skills as well as speaking skills will be stressed. The study is held every Thursday night from 6 to 7:30 at the Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid. Everyone is welcome. For more information call 484-1707.

"Polarity Self Help" is the title of a workshop this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The workshop will be instructed by Ellen Greenlaw, who has studied Merrill polarity for six years. It will involve simple postures to align and energize the body with instruction on healing the subtle bodies the aura and astral. Special attention will be focused on the pelvis and shoulders. The fee is \$7 and preregistration and prepayment is necessary. For more information and to preregister call 341-3560.

### SPEAKERS

"Noun Classification in Jacaltec" is the title of a lecture to be given by Professor Colette Craig,

Department of Linguistics, today at 3:30 p.m. in 145 Straub.

The University's department of geology is sponsoring a lunchbagger today with Juergen Schieber speaking on the history of the Helena embayment (Montana), an epicontinental proterozoic basin. The program starts at 12:30 p.m., room 307 Volcanology.

### MISCELLANEOUS

The Asklepiads pre-health honor society will be sponsoring a free blood pressure checking clinic today from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Student Health Center.

Maude Kerns Art Center is having an Auction at the Eugene Hilton tonight from 7 to 10 p.m. The merchandise for this fundraising event has been donated by the local business community to help the Art Center with their fall fund drive. Admission is free and there will be a no-host bar.

"Black River" is the title of a fast-paced Cuban drama featuring Nelson Villagra (The Last Supper) and Sergio Corriera (Memories of Underdevelopment). The film will begin tonight at 7:30 in 150 Geology and will cost \$1.50. Sponsored by Cuba Study Group.

Womens Referral and Resource Service is having an open house today from 3 to 6 p.m. This is a chance to meet the new coordinators and to talk with other women. Everyone is welcome.

Attend the People's Law School this week and learn all about wills. The class is free and meets Oct. 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Patterson Community School, 1510 W. 15th. You'll learn how a will is prepared, whether a will is necessary and how to avoid problems. There is no cost or registration. For more information contact Sue Heintz at 342-6056.

### POLICY

The Emerald's et al. column is open to anyone wishing to announce meetings, lectures, seminars, exhibits, scholarships or miscellaneous events. Et als are run once and are subject to space limitations. They must be typed and triple-spaced and include all pertinent information. Also, list a name and phone number in case we have questions, and the date you want the announcement to run. Events with a donation or admission fee will not be accepted unless the organization is non-profit. All items must be turned in by noon the day before publication at the Emerald office, Suite 300, EMU, 686-5511.