

# Oregon receives good, bad news

By John Healy  
Of the Emerald

First, the good news about this week's NCAA track and field championships. Track and Field News, the prestigious national publication, has narrowed the 21-point gap between pre-meet favorite Washington State and Oregon to 10 points.

Now, the bad news. Oregon's Lamar Hurd won't be entered in the 110-meter high hurdles this week, and that means three less points for the Ducks if you go by Track and Field News' form chart, which picks Hurd to finish 10th.

That reduction in points theoretically drops Oregon into a tie for the runner-up spot with Southern Methodist, each with 87 points.

Hurd, a senior known more for his triple jumping abilities before this spring, injured a hamstring muscle earlier this month and missed the Pacific 10 Conference championships in Pullman, Wash., two weeks ago.

It was hoped that Hurd's leg would heal in time for the NCAA meet, but Tuesday afternoon Hurd tried a light workout

at Hayward Field and decided his hamstring wasn't up to the rigors of the NCAA meet.

But Oregon may not miss Hurd as much as expected, since there are a number of Ducks who have been in the background much of this year — yet could bank points for Oregon.

Probably the surest bet is sophomore Matt McGuirk, who has the seventh fastest time among collegians in the country this year in the steeplechase. It's doubtful that McGuirk is in the same class as pre-meet favorite Julius Korir of Washington State or Cougar teammate Richard Tuwei, or Weber State's Farley Gerber. But on the other hand, McGuirk (8:36.63) has a faster time than Iona's Kieran Stack by three seconds, and Stack is picked by Track and Field News to finish ninth.

Another potential breakthrough could come from junior John Zishka, who has been plagued during much of his two years at Oregon by a bone spur in his foot. A transfer from Penn State after his freshman year, Zishka ran a

13:47.43 in the Oregon Twilight last summer and then this spring clocked a 13:51.8 at the Oregon Pepsi Relays. If Zishka can run anywhere near his PR, he could finish in the top nine, instead of 12th, as Track and Field News has predicted.

Oregon might also get an

unexpected boost from a pair of javelin throwers who suddenly vaulted into the limelight at the Pac-10 meet with lifetime PRs. Junior Bobby George finished third at the conference meet with a heave of 260-1, while senior Frode Stormyr took fourth with a throw of 254-9.

## NCAA first-event winners

An unheralded entrant from a tiny Virginia school won the men's decathlon, while the daughter of an ex-Oregon national hurdling champion won the women's heptathlon, highlighting the second day of the NCAA track and field championships at Hayward Field Tuesday.

Robert Muzzio, a sophomore from tiny George Mason University, surprised a field of eight decathletes by winning with an NCAA meet and collegiate record 8,227 points. Muzzio was in the top four in all ten events and won two — the shot put and the discus.

In the heptathlon, the winner was freshman Sheila Tarr of University of Nevada-Las Vegas. Tarr is the daughter of Jerry Tarr, a former Oregon hurdler who won an NCAA championship in 1962.

The team standings after one event: Men — George Mason 15, Southern Illinois 12, Southern California 10, Wyoming 9, Idaho 8, Florida State 7, Washington State 6, West Texas State 5. Women — Nevada-Las Vegas 15, Tennessee 12, Maryland and Indiana 10, Southern California 9, Nebraska 7, Alabama 5, Murray State 3, Oklahoma 2, Wisconsin 1.

# Groenendaal, Clark to attempt NCAA middle-distance doubles

By Steve Turcotte  
Of the Emerald

The Oregon women's track team may not have enough ammunition to win this year's NCAA track and field championships at Hayward Field, but the Ducks have a surprise ready anyway.

Oregon was expected to generate a lot of its points from its middle-distance runners, Claudette Groenendaal and Ranza Clark. Clark was doped for points in the 800 and 1,500 meters, while Groenendaal was a top-five pick in the 800.

The surprise is that Groenendaal will now run both the 800 and 1,500, says Oregon coach Tom Heinonen.

Clark's is an expected double, but it took a last-minute decision for Groenendaal to enter both events. An Olympic Trials qualifying 4:15.86 in the 1,500 at the Oregon State Twilight Meet last Thursday was enough to convince her to go for the double.

"We talked about the pros and cons of doubling and she still decided she wanted to do it," says Heinonen. "It will be good preparation for her for the Olympic Trials."

Oregon, which has just nine entrants in this week's meet, will make a lot of noise in the distance events. The Ducks have eight people entered in races from 800 through 10,000, with the ninth qualifier being 100-meter hurdler Kay Garnett.

Groenendaal's presence in the 1,500 means the Ducks will probably get more than the 44 points predicted for them. And if two more athletes double, there could be additional points coming.

Heinonen has entered both Kathy Hayes and Eryn Forbes in the 5,000 and 10,000. Yet while both will run the 10,000 tonight, they are not expected to run the 5,000 Thursday.

"There is little chance they will run (in the 5,000)," Heinonen says. "We entered them in the 5,000 kind of as a safety valve in case something should go wrong for them in the 10,000."

The team-favorite tag belongs to a couple of schools — Florida State and Tennessee. Stanford could also contend for the team title, but will have to receive excellent double performances from its distance runners. Things could be close enough that the last event — the 200 — determines a team champ. The sprint-oriented Seminoles are favored to go 1-2 in that event, but Tennessee also has an entrant in Mary Bolden.

Other events to watch for Oregon fans include the 3,000, where Heinonen has entered three rookies — Brenda Bushnell, Deanna Schiedler and Birgit Petersen.

Garnett, who ran in last year's NCAA meet and has a best of 13.78, will need a near miracle to score in the 100 hurdles. "It'll take a PR from her just to make the finals," Heinonen says.

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