

Oregon too much for the Huskies to handle

By Jesen Emmons
Of the Emerald

Before the dual meet between the Oregon men's track team and the University of Washington, Oregon head coach Bill Dellinger felt the meet could only be close if his athletes took it too lightly.

They didn't, winning 17 of 19 events and crushing the Huskies, 119-44.

The Ducks dominated to such an extent that when Oregon's Mark Dannis told Dellinger before the 400-meter relay that his oft-injured hamstring was sore, Dellinger replaced Dannis with the only athlete he could find who was warmed up — Karl Hedeén.

Hedeén, a senior long jump and triple jumper who last ran the 400-meter relay in high school, learned minutes before the relay that he was running the third leg. Hedeén had to be told when to start sprinting and which hand to take the baton in, but when he did get the baton from Richard Curtis, he held his

own and passed off about even to anchorman Gary Uribe. Oregon won in 41.37 to Washington's 41.72.

"After it was over it was fun, a lot of fun," Hedeén said, "but until that point it was very nerve racking."

Uribe had an excellent day, winning the 100 meters and 200 meters in addition to his leg on the relay. His times of 10.65 in the 100 and 21.68 in the 200 are the fastest he has run this season.

Oregon also got two victories from Uchenna Agu, who won the long jump and triple jump with leaps of 23-11½ and 49-7.

Oregon's Ken Flax, who narrowly lost to WSU's Tore Gustafsson last week, won the hammer throw with a toss of 241-3. The sore abdomen that has plagued him for the last two and a half weeks has improved and is no longer hindering his throwing. Flax was pleased with his winning mark, but is

now looking forward to throwing farther.

"I was happy with it," Flax said. "Last year I was out to beat everybody. This year most of my competition has been 40- or 50-feet behind, so it's hard to get fired up. Last year I got burned out trying to keep the competitive spirit. I need some bigger meets now where I have the competition."

Oregon freshman Elden Pfeifer also had a good day in the hammer, throwing a personal best 203-6 for third.

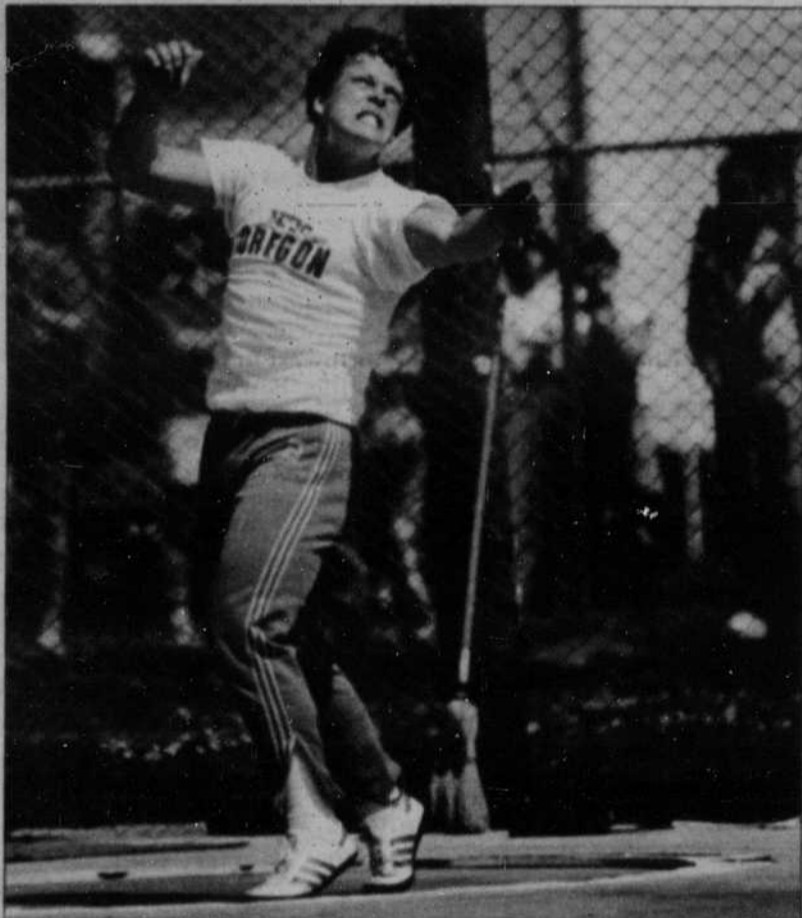
The Ducks were overwhelming in the distance events. Garth Morrisette led a 1-2 finish in the steeple to start things off. Harold Kuphaldt then won the 1,500 meters in 3:46.84, outspringing Washington's Bruce Stirling in the final 100 meters, with Dave Bailey finishing third. Dub Myers easily won the 800 meters in 1:49.74, and Rick Bergeson was first in an Oregon sweep of the 5,000 meters.

In the end, Oregon simply had too much of everything for the Huskies to handle. The Ducks took 26 of a possible 36 points in the jumping events, 21 of 36 in the throws and 14 of 18 in the hurdles.

Overall, Dellinger liked what he saw. He pointed to Jay Davis' pole vault mark of 16-10¼, which was good for second behind teammate Tim Canfield's winning jump at the

same height, as encouraging since Davis had been in a slump lately.

"I thought Jay Davis jumped well. I thought Uribe looked pretty good," Dellinger said. "I can't think of anyone that looked bad. We just had too much talent and depth for them, really. They had some key people missing. But even if they'd had them it wouldn't have made any difference."



Emerald file photo

Oregon's Ken Flax won the hammer throw Saturday as the Ducks crushed the University of Washington Huskies, 119-44 in Seattle, Wash.

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