

# Sports

## Oregon squeaks out a 'bizarre' victory in California

By **Jasen Emmons**  
Of the Emerald

Oregon track coach Bill Dellinger summed up the general feeling about his team's 80-79 victory over the University of California Golden Bears very well.

"It was a bizarre ending to a hell of a track meet," Dellinger said.

With three remaining events, Oregon needed only to go 1-3 in the triple jump and 2-3 in the 5,000 meters, while assuming the sprint-laden Bears would take the mile relay. Uchenna Agu was leading the triple jump and Spencer Williams was third.

In the 5,000 Oregon had three entrants and California only one, which meant the Ducks were assured of going 2-3.

At the bell lap of that race, Oregon's Mark McMonigal led California's Jay Marden and Rick Bergesen, who had just caught up to the leaders. Marden, seeing Bergesen come up, tried to sprint past McMonigal before Bergesen did and ended up tripping and nearly falling. When he regained his balance, Marden won the race and Bergesen and McMonigal were second and third.

With Williams in third in the ongoing triple jump, Dellinger figured the Ducks had won the meet.

But the meet officials disqualified Bergesen and McMonigal for "intentional boxing" and suddenly Oregon needed Williams to finish second because the Ducks were expected to lose the mile relay.

On his final jump, Williams leaped a personal best 51-9 to beat California's Mike Harris for second by 1 1/2 inches and give Oregon its one point victory.

Dellinger, however, was upset that Bergesen and McMonigal had been disqualified for something they had not done.

"There's no way there was any game playing or boxing on Marden," Dellinger said. "In all my years of coaching I've never seen anything like that."

Dellinger wanted to appeal the decision, but was told the head official had already left the meet. Dellinger discussed the ruling with California head coach Erv Hunt, but Hunt agreed with the officials.

"I don't have any idea whose fault it was," Hunt said. "But I've always told our distance runners not to get into situations like that. I think that just tells you how Oregon is coached. They're very good about coaching distance runners and getting the most out of them."

Dellinger thought Hunt's statement was ludicrous. "I can't believe he would make a statement that I

teach my guys to box," Dellinger said. "If you talked to any of the runners I've coached, all of them would tell you I don't teach them how to box."

In the end the decision did not make a difference in the results. What did were several key performances. Oregon did not expect to do well in the hurdles and sprints and did not, but they made up for it elsewhere.

Agu and Williams went 1-2 in the long jump and triple jump, Agu getting a personal best of 52-6 1/4 in the triple jump.

Kevin Carr won the discus throw on his final attempt at a point in the meet when the team scores were tied. His throw of 198-11 was more than four feet beyond his lifetime best.

Richard Curtis also performed well in the 400-meter intermediate hurdles, getting a crucial second in 51.44.

Except for the disqualification in the 5,000, Oregon dominated the distance events. Dub Myers won the 800-meters and 1,500-meters in 1:50:34 and 3:44:80. Oregon's Dag Jensen was second in the 800, while Harold Kuphaldt was second in the 1,500. Dan Nelson led a 1-2 finish in the steeplechase, winning in 8:53.48.

## BYU snips Ducks' streak at 20

By **Robert Collias**  
Of the Emerald

When Oregon women's track coach Tom Heinonen took a look at the competition at this weekend's double-dual meet against the Brigham Young University Cougars, and the California Golden Bears he knew his team's string of 20-straight dual meet victories was in jeopardy.

"BYU is going to give us some problems, and Cal has some great performers, but I don't know if they have enough to compete with us or BYU," Heinonen said prior to the meet.

He turned out to be a prophet as his team beat the Bears, 91-73, but lost to the Cougars, 87-80.

"We did everything we wanted to do, except win the meet," Heinonen said. "It really isn't fair to ask this team to hold a streak that was set mostly by other teams."

Heinonen mentioned that the bulk of the string dating back to 1983, was made while names like Warren, Groenendaal, Harmon, Beasley, and Hayes were wearing Oregon singlets.

"We just don't have the guns we had last year or other previous teams," Heinonen said.

The loss of the streak did not come as surprise to Heinonen, and it didn't disturb him that much mainly because the Ducks came up with some encouraging marks in the meet.

Yvette Brown continued to please Heinonen as she won the shot put with a lifetime best of 50-5 1/4.

"Yvette had the competition won going in to the last throw, so she just relaxed and everything fell together," Heinonen said of her big throw.

The Ducks were minus distance ace Brenda Bushnell, the only returning scorer from last year's NCAA championship team, who came down with a sore hip Thursday.

"Brenda was ready to run,

but was sore Thursday and her trainers told her not to run," Heinonen said.

Instead of dwelling on the loss of the meet Heinonen was more concerned and excited about the prospect of returning home to run in the familiar confines of Hayward Field.

"We've got the month of May coming up mostly at home, and it is going to be good," Heinonen said. "Hopefully the competition will be good, the weather will be good, and we know the fans will be good."

The Oregon-Pepsi Relays are first on the Ducks' agenda, May 3, and Heinonen is excited that the Ducks will be home, and competing in such an important meet with the possibility of adding to the list of NCAA qualifiers.

"The Pepsi Relays is going to be a great meet," Heinonen said. "Right now there are three competitors listed at under two minutes for the 800 meters, and there are some meets in the nation that can't buy that kind of talent, and it looks like we are getting it for free."

"I don't know if we have anymore (NCAA qualifiers) left," Heinonen said. "This weekend should give us a chance to find out."

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## Sports Shorts

The Oregon wrestling team announced the signing of **Richey Ford**, a 136-pound AA state champion from Ranier, to a national letter-of-intent according to Ducks' coach Ron Finley.

Ford posted a 32-1 record his senior year at Ranier High School, and is projected to wrestle at 142 pounds for Oregon.

In addition to his athletic talents, Ford accumulated a 3.9 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, and plans to major in accounting.

The Oregon basketball team announced the hiring of **Morris Hodges**, a former assistant at California, and head coach at

San Francisco State, to replace **Rod Snook** as an assistant coach for the Ducks effective June 15.

Snook has accepted the head coaching job at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg.

Hodges posted a 15-15 record at San Francisco State this past season, and was an assistant to former Cal coach Dick Kuchen from 1982-1984. Hodges contributed heavily to the recruitment of Cal standouts Leonard Taylor, Kevin Johnson, and Chris Washington. Hodges expressed his happiness at returning to Division I coaching, while Oregon coach Don Monson expressed his happiness at gaining a man of Hodges ability to recruit and coach.



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