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Sports

Budget cuts concern coaches

By Jasen Emmons
Of the Emerald

Eugene likes being called "Track City, U.S.A.," and the University's track and field program deserves most of the credit for the title. Oregon's track heritage extends from the teams of Bill Hayward and Bill Bowerman to this year's men and women's teams who won their respective conference championships.

It is now time to discover how well the Eugene community is willing to support Oregon track teams.

The budgets of both the men and women's track teams were recently slashed in an attempt by Athletic Director Bill Byrne to get his department out of the red.

The result was that the men's track and field budget was cut from \$248,000 a year to \$202,000, of which head coach Bill Dellinger must raise \$15,000. The women's track and field budget went from \$215,000 a year to \$194,000, of which head coach Tom Heinonen must also raise \$15,000.

"Those people over there aren't bad guys," Heinonen said. "They're just trying to do what they have to do to keep the Athletic Department afloat. We're the ones chosen to go out and fund raise based on what they think we're capable of doing."

Dellinger understands Byrne's reasoning and is trying to be positive about it.

"In the long run it may be a positive thing that we have to go out and raise the money for the program because I think it is more than just a University program," he said.

The problem is that neither coach believes his 1986-87 budget will be sufficient to maintain the quality of past teams.

Dellinger said that after paying three coaches

their salaries and benefits totaling \$105,000, and awarding the NCAA limit of 14 scholarships totaling \$85,000, he will be left with \$12,000 for travel, equipment, recruiting and promotion. This year's expenses alone for the men's dual meet against California at Berkeley cost \$9,000.

Dellinger sees the cuts as a trend among universities to view college athletics as a big business. Non-revenue sports such as track, softball and wrestling are supported by revenue sports like football and basketball.

"Throughout the country I think you're seeing the programs that are really strong in the non-revenue sports are coming from programs that have good football and basketball programs: Arkansas, Alabama, Tennessee, Texas, Georgetown."

The combined budget for this year's men's and women's track teams is \$470,000, but they made only \$39,000, an annual loss of over \$430,000. Since Oregon's football and basketball teams do not generate nearly enough income to support the non-revenue sports, Dellinger and Heinonen must find ways to raise enough money to maintain the quality of their programs.

Dellinger's main idea is to pre-sell next year's season tickets at reduced rates. He would like people to buy tickets to show their support of the track program, even if they do not plan on attending the meets, which will include, among others, a men and women's quadrangular against Tennessee, Texas and Washington State.

"We need to show the University and administration here that track is supported by the community," Dellinger said. "A good way to do it is to get season tickets bought."

His goal is to sell 10,000 tickets, "which is awfully optimistic. I have to tell you," he said. "We sold like 700 season tickets this year. So it might be dreaming."

Oregon ultimate season best ever

By Tim Moloney
Of the Emerald

Finally a road trip without 20-hour rides in vans packed like sardines and sleeping in motels instead of on lumpy playing fields.

The Oregon ultimate team flew from the sunny skies of Eugene only to be dumped into

the muggy, gray-brown skies of St. Louis, Mo.

This wasn't enough to dampen Oregon's spirits as the team sped from the airport tarmac to "rental" rubber over the streets of St. Louis. After arriving late Thursday the Oregon team had a day to explore and acclimate themselves to the sights and sounds of St. Louis, and maybe take in a Cardinal game or investigate the famed beechwood aging process.

By Friday evening most of the teams had arrived via every possible means — planes, motorhomes, luxury buses and rental cars.

The motel became a zoo of ultimate animals. Discs were flying everywhere, winging from the ground floor to the third floor balconies, up to the rooftops and down to the parking garage. This was all to the shock of wary patrons.

Saturday dawned another gray, muggy morning. The 12 teams were divided into two pools.

Pool A consisted of Georgia, California at Santa Barbara, Kansas, Carnegie-Mellon, Cornell and Oregon. Pool B had Massachusetts, Stanford, Texas, MIT, Princeton, and Southern Missouri.

The first game for Oregon pitted it against Mid-Atlantic champion Carnegie-Mellon. Oregon started flat, and Carnegie-Mellon took command. The Ducks never regained momentum and lost 17-14. The loss would come back to haunt them later.

Oregon then took on the University of Georgia. The Bulldogs took the full brunt of Oregon's earlier frustration as the Ducks won 17-9.

The final game of the day matched Oregon with regional rival UCSB. Oregon's back was to the wall, and the Ducks desperately needed a win to stay alive.

The pace was fast and furious. Offense was marked by

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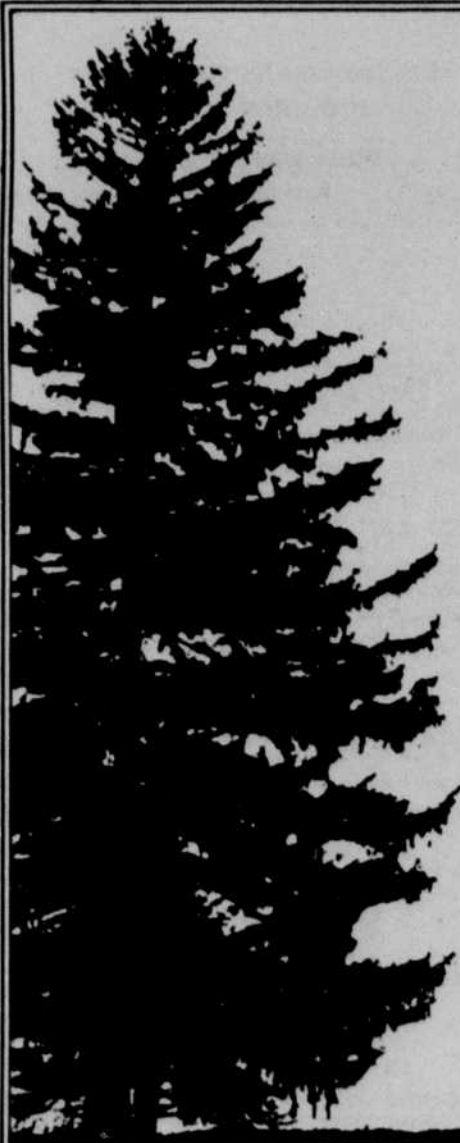
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