

# Sports

## Distance corps pave Oregon women's way to third place

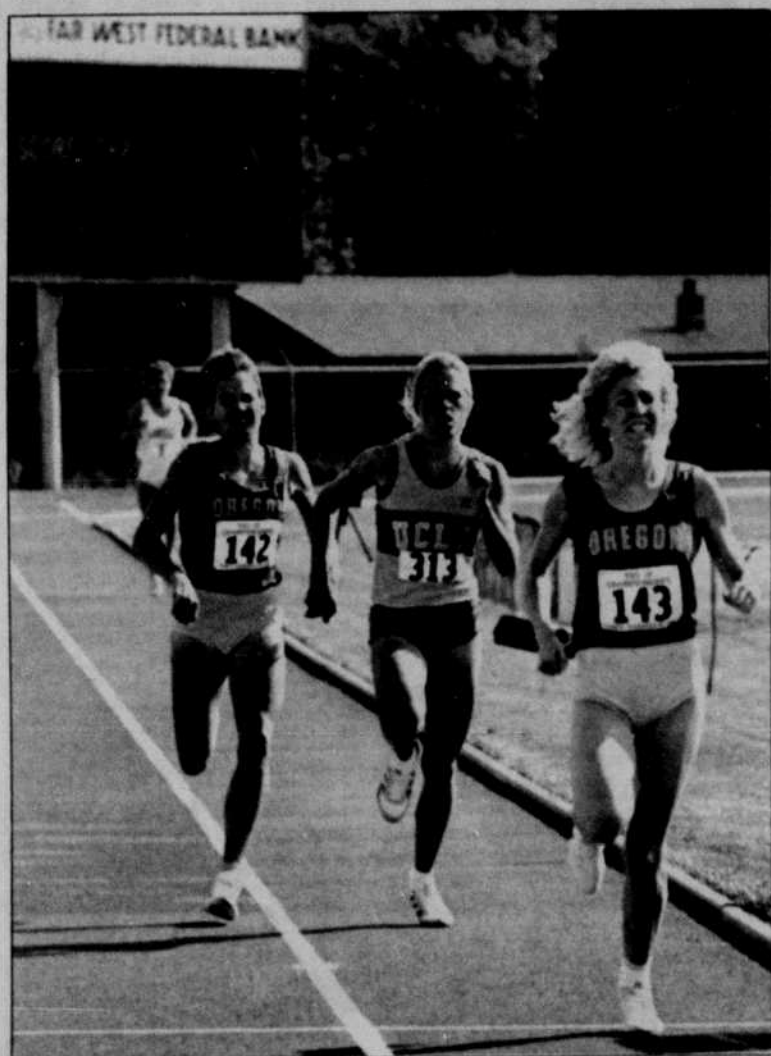


Photo by William Haines  
Oregon's Annette Hand outkicks UCLA's Polly Plumer and teammate Penny Graves for a Pac-10 individual championship in the 3,000 meters.

By Lucinda Dillon

Of the Emerald

Led by junior distance runners Penny Graves and Annette Hand, Oregon women performed as expected in the Pacific 10 Conference track and field championships in Corvallis this weekend.

Women's track coach Tom Heinonen said there were no great surprises as his Ducks scored in 16 of 19 events to finish third with 85½ points behind powerhouses UCLA, 121, and Southern Cal, 107. "We performed solidly and did what we expected to do. It was our first time meeting some of these teams from the south in several years. We had never seen USC until this meet," Heinonen said.

He was happy with the way the meet turned out — and with good reason. In all, Hand won in the 3,000- and 5,000-meter distances with Graves coming in third in the 3,000 and stealing a 1,500 win from Cal-Berkeley's Marilyn Davis in the last 100 yards.

Friday's 3,000 turned into the tactical race of the day as Hand and UCLA's Polly Plumer traded the lead throughout, followed closely by Graves and Arizona's Camilla Heron. At the bell lap, Plumer pulled away from the three briefly before Hand reclosed the gap and edged out front on the last turn. From then it was a race for se-

cond, but Graves was unable to catch Plumer before they crossed the line; Hand in 9:13.86, Plumer, 9:14.54, and Graves, in 9:14.62.

"The 3,000 was the tougher race, but it was a fun race," Hand said. "Penny and Polly were real tough; maybe mentally I just hung in there. It's hard to say."

But Saturday's Penny Graves was mentally armed to a tee after the disappointing finish Friday. "I had to shake that out of my system. I thought about it ... tried to get excited and it happened."

It happened to the tune of 4:18.57, Graves' personal best and fifth on Oregon's all-time list.

In trying to keep from getting boxed in, Graves followed Davis the majority of the race until USC's Laura Chapel tried to shoot past the two from third position on the backstretch. At this point Graves knew Davis wasn't gaining. "I thought, 'this is the new leader,'" she said of Chapel.

Graves kicked hard in the final 80 yards and beat Davis. "I was just hoping she wouldn't have anything left," Graves said

of Davis, who came in at 4:19.00. Chapel followed with 4:22.21.

In Saturday's 5,000, Hand said she "just got lucky" with her 16:03.46 win, as Arizona's Herron misjudged the number of laps to go and started her kick at what she thought was 600 meters remaining. But actually there was 1,000 meters still to

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## Duck men pull up short for 2nd

By Aaron Knox

Of the Emerald

The UCLA Bruins amassed 129 of its 176 points on the final day of competition Saturday to run away with the Pacific 10 Conference men's track and field championships at Patrick Wayne Valley Field in Corvallis.

Defending champion Oregon rode the strong performances of its horizontal jumpers and a few other individuals to finish second with 108 points, while

Washington State managed 79 points for third place.

"Clearly, UCLA is the best team in the conference," conceded Oregon head coach Bill Dellinger. "They certainly were on Friday and Saturday. They were much better than they were last year."

Still, Dellinger could not help but be disappointed, as his squad failed, for the first time all season, to rise to the occasion. "I thought that we had a chance to equal last year's score

(134 points), but we were just average out there," he said.

Even breakthrough performances by every Duck would not have slowed the UCLA juggernaut, as the Bruins claimed seven individual titles (including double-winner Jim Banich in the discus and the

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