



File Photo

The Ducks' Alan Foster (right), a freshman, has given already-rich Oregon even more depth in the distance events.

Duck freshman sensation Foster anchors awesome distance team

By Jack Millikin
Emerald Sports Reporter

It's a funny thing about freshman Alan Foster.

He doesn't look like a prodigy.

Maybe that explains his success as an Oregon middle distance runner. Maybe it's part of his strategy to line up for a race, check his elder opponents, flash them a classic 'I'm-just-hoping-to-do-well smile and later', just as his victims near the home stretch, make a mad dash to the finish line to give his opponents the best possible view of his backside.

Then again, it could be that Foster has more up his sleeve than just a good strategy.

Since the Ducks' track season began, Foster has not only lived up to the expectations thrust upon him since coming to the Webfoot track team as a key member of one of Oregon's most highly prized recruiting classes in history; he has quickly become one of the top guns in the Ducks' high-powered lineup which has bullied its way to a 7-0 season dual meet record and has surpassed the 100-point barrier in each of the six scored meets the Ducks have conducted this year.

His recipe for success has been simple thus far: he combines hard work- which propelled him to an all-American rating from Track and Field News in the metric mile as a senior at Aloha High School in Beaverton- with a genuine enthusiasm for running, one which can be detected from the

outermost regions of Hayward Field.

"He's got a lot of enthusiasm and charisma about him," Oregon head coach Bill Dellinger said of the lanky 800 and 1,500 meter runner who has also run legs on the Ducks' mile relay team. "I think he's going to be good for Oregon track."

"He's been a winner, number one," he continued. "He's been a state champion (captured 1988 AAA state title in 800 with 1:51.97 and the 1,500 in 3:51.31, adding these titles to his cross country crown) and he's the all-time best 1,500-meter runner from this state, and he's a top student, so those are things you look for."

This season, in addition to moving up to a higher competitive level, Foster seems to have brought his performances up a notch as well, recording a career best in the 1,500 of 3:45.33 at the Oregon Invitational April 29 at Hayward Field, less than three seconds short of the NCAA standard of 3:42.70.

Foster, who one day hopes to become a physical education teacher, has also posted some impressive numbers in the classroom. He posted a 3.8 GPA last fall and carried a 3.3 winter term.

Naturally, Foster's bid to add himself to the list of nine Oregon NCAA qualifiers in 10 events has attracted the attention of local media, as well as a few other followers.

"If you start running well, you've got to expect some publicity," he said.

Still, for a freshman, to be hounded by hordes of writers

drawing comparisons of Foster to former Duck great Dub Myers (the 1986 NCAA 1,500-meter champ, like Foster, was once an Oregon high schooler)

Turn to Foster, Page 85

Bogue tells of steroid use in sprinter's club

TORONTO (AP) — The head of the Canadian Track and Field Association rejected a surefire plan to catch Ben Johnson using banned steroids in 1985, a federal inquiry was told Wednesday.

Glenn Bogue, former athletes' representative with the federally funded group, said one of Johnson's teammates told him of rampant steroid use at the sprinter's Toronto track club.

Bogue said sprinter Desai Williams feared for Johnson's health and was frustrated by the star's artificially aided gains.

The pair made a plan whereby Williams would tell Bogue when Johnson would be on the chemicals and would surely fail a drug test.

"It was the best evidence short of testing positive at a major competition we were going to have," Bogue testified. "I went right to (association head) Wilf Wedman."

"Wilf's attitude was: 'Prove it. Get the (informant) to come forward and sign an affida-

vit.'"

Bogue said he wanted to set up a "crime hotline" whereby athletes could anonymously inform officials of cheating. Wedman rejected it, he said.

Bogue told the commission the athletes "were taking a lot of stuff."

A government laboratory analyzed five vials of a milky white substance obtained last November from the teammate who stocked Johnson's drugs.

Andrew Holmes, a forensic chemist with Health and Welfare Canada, testified the vials contained stanozolol and had properties similar to Winstrol V — a veterinary form of the synthetic hormone.

Johnson has denied he knowingly took banned drugs. Those close to him said they couldn't understand how he tested positive at last year's Olympics for one drug — stanozolol — when they thought he was taking another. They said Johnson's urine sample must have been sabotaged after he won the 100 meters, although Wednesday's testimony indicated it was not.



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