

# Men's, women's cross country ready for Pac-10 championship

By Cam Sivesind  
Emerald Sports Reporter

Oregon's men's and women's cross country teams travel to Stanford tomorrow with hopes of defending their Pacific 10 Conference Championship crowns.

The Stanford Golf Course is the site of this year's championships, with the women beginning competition at 4 p.m. and the men at 4:30 p.m.

The Ducks captured both the women's and men's team and individual honors last year. Brad Hudson ran away with the men's title as a junior while Liz Wilson took home the women's crown.

## MEN

Hudson has a good chance to repeat if he can alleviate an academic deficiency problem in time for the meet. Other top men finishers at last year's championships were Danny Lopez in fifth, Steve Richards in sixth, and Peter Fonseca in seventh.

Fonseca, a junior, and Lopez, a senior, are both scheduled to compete tomorrow. Richards, also a senior, will compete if Hudson is ineligible.

Oregon earned one first place vote in this week's NCAA poll and moved up to No. 3 overall. Arizona is the only other Pac-10 team in the rankings. The Cougars look to be the Ducks main competition at the championships.

"I think our competition will come from Arizona," men's coach Bill Dellinger said.

Junior Marc Davis from Arizona is the overall favorite to take the individual championship. Davis won the 5000 meter title in the Pac-10 and in the NCAA last year as a sophomore. He is undefeated in competition this year. Davis finished 26th at last year's Pac-10 championships, but was troubled by stomach cramps.

Dellinger hasn't counted a couple of his runners out of the individual title though.

"If Brad (Hudson) is eligible, certainly I think he is the caliber runner that has a chance to beat him," Dellinger said. "Perhaps Peter Fonseca, who has run a couple of good races for us, can do it."

"I think the team is one of the better teams that we've had at Oregon in terms of just enthusiasm, positive attitude, and pulling for one another to run well," Dellinger added.

"I think all seven of the people that we will take down there will be in the top one-third of all the runners."



Eric Peterson



Lisa Karnopp

The Pac-10 meet pales in comparison to the NCAA Region Eight meet November 11.

"Even though we'd like to win the Pac-10 and it's nice to win the conference championship, it's not nearly as important as the regional meet," Dellinger said. "There you either have to be first or second as a team to go to the NCAA."

## WOMEN

The women have won all three of the Pac-10 Championships and had won four straight Nor-Pac titles before that. Junior Stephanie Wessell is the only team member who competed in last year's meet where she finished 15th.

Liz Wilson, who won the Pac-10 individual title last year, redshirted this season to recover from a foot injury. She is now back in training to prepare for the outdoor track season.

The only other Oregon runner who has had any Pac-10 championship experience is junior Amy Petrone, who came over from the defunct Oregon State track program.

Women's coach Tom Heinonen faces a situation he hasn't had to face in a number of years. His team is extremely young with two redshirt freshman; Ginny Cornog and Carol Holmen; two freshman, Andrea Anderson and Nicole Woodward, and one sophomore; Lisa Karnopp, in her first year of collegiate competition.

"We will be the least experienced team in the meet," Heinonen said.

This inexperience doesn't worry Heinonen too much, and he knows his team is ready.

"I think they're eager to run this race. This is the first step toward going to nationals," Heinonen said.

Heinonen added that it's odd

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