

Skipper sets javelin school record

One of three to qualify for NCAA finals

By Ashley Conklin
Emerald Sports Reporter

Sophomore Art Skipper's school-record performance in the javelin at the Oregon Preview March 17 highlighted many outstanding performances in a pair of track meets for the Oregon men over spring break.

Not only did Skipper break his own school record in the first home meet of the season at Hayward Field, he was also one of three Ducks who added their names to the list of qualifiers for the NCAA Championships.

Skipper, hammer thrower Scott McGee and distance runner Brad Hudson joined distance runners Peter Fonseca and Terrance Mahon as tracksters having earned a trip to the national meet in Durham, N.C. May 30-June 2.

Unlike last season when Skipper struggled to qualify in the javelin, he wasted no time this season with a toss of 238-4, easily breaking his record of 228-2.

McGee, who also qualified for the NCAA meet in last year's Oregon Preview, tossed the hammer 207-5 to better the national standard of 204-2. However, his best effort came at the Sacramento State Invitational last Saturday where he set a personal record for a heave of 220-6, the fourth best mark in school history.

Hudson, who was hampered by viruses last season, qualified for the 10,000 meters in a time of 28:58.51 at the Oregon Preview, a PR. Hudson is the third Duck to qualify in the 10,000, joining Fonseca and Mahon.

Teammate Pat Haller, who finished a 10,000 for the first time ever, clocked 29:08.69 to just miss the qualifying standard of 29:08.

Head coach Bill Dellinger was pleased with the performance of his team but wasn't surprised to have three more athletes qualify for NCAAs so early in the season.

"It doesn't surprise me that our javelin thrower and hammer thrower qualified," he said. "In the 10,000 meters I can't say I'm totally surprised (at Hudson qualifying), based on what he did during cross country."

Pole vaulters Brian Cullen

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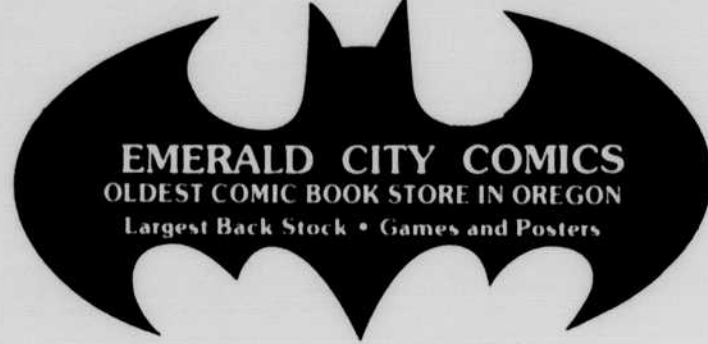
Oregon distance runner Brad Hudson set a new personal record and earned a trip to the NCAA finals in Durham, N.C. May 30-June 2.



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