

Sports

Ducks to challenge talented WSU team

By Ashley Conklin
Emerald Sports Reporter

The men's dual meet Saturday at Hayward Field between Washington State and Oregon could be very interesting for several reasons.

The Ducks string of 26 straight dual meet victories came crashing down last week in Seattle where Washington exposed Oregon's weaknesses in events such as the shot put, discus and high jump to take a 84-79 win.

To say the least, Oregon coach Bill Dellinger is anxious to see how his squad responds to the loss.

"I think it will be interesting to see how we will respond, and hopefully it will be for the better," he said. "We need to bounce back and be competitive and pull for one another and give a good team effort."

Not only do the Ducks have to bounce back from the loss, but they have to do so against the Cougars, one of the nation's best dual-meet teams over the past decade.

Washington State was ranked as the eighth best dual-meet team in the nation last season by *Track & Field News*, and despite losing four straight to the Ducks, Cougar coach John Chaplin has a 150-13 record in 17 years at Pullman.

Chaplin has another outstanding team this year with his distance runners leading the way.

E.J. Guo was the Pacific-10 Conference champ in the 10,000 meters last season and finished sixth in the NCAA indoor meet in the 5,000 this season.

Marty Stroschein is the defending Pac-10 champ in the steeplechase and leads a talented steeple corps that has turned in three of the fastest five times in the conference this season. In fact, the meet has the top five steeplechasers in the Pac-10 in Washington State's Stroschein, Robert Price and John Hill and Oregon's Danny Lopez and Rick Mestler.

"I think both teams match-up evenly and I think it will be a good dual meet," Dellinger said. "I think the steeplechase will be a good one, the 1,500 will be good and the 5,000 should be good."

Although Stroschein is the only steeplechaser who has run below the NCAA standard of 8:44, the other four runners are all within eight seconds of the mark this season. Both Lopez and Mestler made the finals of the NCAA steeplechase last season.

In the 5,000 Oregon will try to counter Guo with Brad Hudson, Terrance Mahon and Pat Haller. Both Guo and Hudson were NCAA qualifiers last year.

Not only do the distance events have big-time performers, but the high hurdles, pole vault and long jump should also give the Hayward Field faithful their money's worth.

In the high hurdles, the Cou-
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