

# Duck women come up short against Nebraska

## Worst loss in history

By Cam Sivesind  
Emerald Sports Reporter

The Oregon women's track team may have suffered its worst dual meet defeat ever, and its first loss since 1983 at home, with an 80-56 loss to Nebraska at Hayward Field Saturday, but a lot of good came from the meet as well.

Oregon coach Tom Heinonen had his pre-meet form chart pegged at 81-55 for the Cornhuskers, so the loss was a not a surprise. Heinonen was still visibly disappointed after the meet.

"We've never been beaten that bad anywhere before," Heinonen said.

Two weeks earlier, the Cornhuskers were in Seattle to battle the Washington Huskies. Nebraska coach Gary Pepin made the trip without his full squad and narrowly defeated a determined Husky team 73-72.

No chances were taken against the Ducks.

"I guess we can thank Washington for this. Nebraska certainly took us seriously," Heinonen said.

The good to come from Saturday's action was in the javelin competition. Oregon sophomore Kim Hyatt became the first NCAA automatic qualifier for the Ducks.

Hyatt threw a personal record 177-9 on her fourth attempt to surpass the NCAA standard of 173-11. Hyatt backed up her PR with throws of 176-2 and 176-11, which also eclipsed her old best of 171-8.

"It's nice to get a throw that far," Hyatt said. "The weather was good and the competition was outstanding."

Nebraska's Nora Rockenbauer provided the competition Hyatt and teammate Paula Berry had lacked so far this season. Hyatt led last year's third place NCAA finisher after her 177-9 throw, but the Cornhusker answered.

Rockenbauer hurled the javelin a season-best 187-9 on her fifth attempt to take first place. Hyatt finished second.

"That's one heck of a throw she had. It kind of knocks the wind out of your sails. She's outstanding," Hyatt said.



Photo by Sean Poston

Oregon distance runner Stephanie Wessell leads the pack for third place in the 3,000 meters at Hayward Field Saturday. Wessell set a seasonal-best in the event as did Oregon runner Liz Wilson who finished second.

Berry had a throw well past the NCAA automatic mark, but the wind carried the spear a few feet wide for a foul. Berry still grabbed third with a toss of 165-10.

Jill Smith, former NCAA champion in the event, had her best throws in the javelin since suffering an elbow injury at last year's Pacific-10 Conference meet. Smith had a toss of 155-11.

The Ducks started strong in the meet, and Heinonen began to wonder if he was not a little harsh on his form chart.

Oregon swept the long jump with junior Kamala Kohlmeier leaping a wind-aided 19-2 for first place.

Freshmen Kelly Blair and Karen Weidmann grabbed second and third.

Liz Wilson and Stephanie Wessell finished 2-3 in the 3,000 behind Nebraska's Sammie Gdowski. Both Ducks clocked season-best times despite the hot and windy conditions. Wilson ran a 9:22.77, and Wessell clocked in at 9:35.87.

After Laurel Roberts won the high jump for the Ducks by clearing 5-10 1/2, things began to go downhill.

The Ducks had a 22-14 lead after four events, but

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