

Lopez wins second track honor

Sets PR in weekend meet

For the second time this season Oregon's Danny Lopez has been named the Pacific-10 Conference men's track athlete of the week.

Lopez won the 3,000-meter steeplechase in last Saturday's dual meet with Nebraska in 8:28.44 breaking his old personal record of 8:39.73.

Lopez's time is the fastest in the nation this season and is also the fourth-fastest time in school history and the 10th-fastest time in Pac-10 history.

Lopez also won the award back on April 9 after he ran 8:42.35 in a dual meet with Washington State that qualified him for the NCAA meet in Durham, N.C., to be held May 30-June 2.

Washington State's Stefan

Wickstrom wins the men's field athlete award after he broke the conference record in the javelin.

Wickstrom threw 257-2 this past weekend to break the new implement record of 257-1 set by another Cougar, Jan Johansson, in 1986. Wickstrom's previous best was 252-3 which he threw the week before in a dual meet with Washington.

On the women's side, Stanford's Chryste Gaines wins the track award of the week and California's Sheila Hudson won the field athlete award.

Gaines won the 100-meter dash at last Saturday's S&W Invitational in Modesto, Calif., in a time of 11.39. Gaines' time was just off her seasonal-



Danny Lopez

best of 11.31. Gaines also won the award back on April 9.

Hudson, the American record-holder in the triple jump, won the award for the third time in the last four weeks.

Less-than-impressive Beavs to visit Howe

By Tracy Sumner
Emerald Sports Editor

This week in Oregon softball offers one of those proverbial good news-bad news situations for the Ducks.

First, the bad news.

The Ducks, 31-21 on the season, are in a situation where they very probably must win their remaining four games to have a shot at a berth in post-season play.

The good news?

All four of those games are against Pac-10 softball whipping boy Oregon State, starting with today's 3 p.m. double-header at Howe Field.

So just how bad are the Beavers?

To start with, Oregon State is a miserable 6-36 overall with a Pac-10 record of 0-18. The Beavs have dropped 12 in a row coming into today's double-header, with their only wins in the last 24 games coming in a sweep over Western Oregon and a split with Linfield.

"The truth of the matter," said one observer, "is that the Beavers only have two or three girls who could even play for another Pac-10 team."

One look at the latest Pac-10 softball statistics shows that person was probably being kind to the team.

On offense, Oregon State is dead last in batting with a .148 team average. That's a full 91 points behind the Ducks, who were second to last as of the latest Pac-10 stats report.

Individually, Oregon State has little to be proud of in any offensive category. The latest Pac-10 stat sheet shows that out of the seven major statistical categories, not one Beaver is to be found. Nada.

Beaver pitching has been equally horrendous this season, too. The team's 3.19 team ERA is not just the worst in the Pac-10. It's more than twice that of OSU's nearest competitor.

During the Beavers' current 12-game slide, the team has been outscored by a mind-boggling 64-4 margin. That includes nine shutouts and two double-digit outbursts by the opposition.

If there has been a bright spot for the Beavers this season, it may have been in last Saturday's double-header loss to California. Oregon State was shelled 6-0 in the opener but came back in the second game to play the eighth-ranked Bears tough before falling 2-1 in nine innings.

"There's no doubt that was our best game of the year," said OSU coach Vickie Dugan of the second game. "It's just really frustrating to come that close but still come away with the loss."

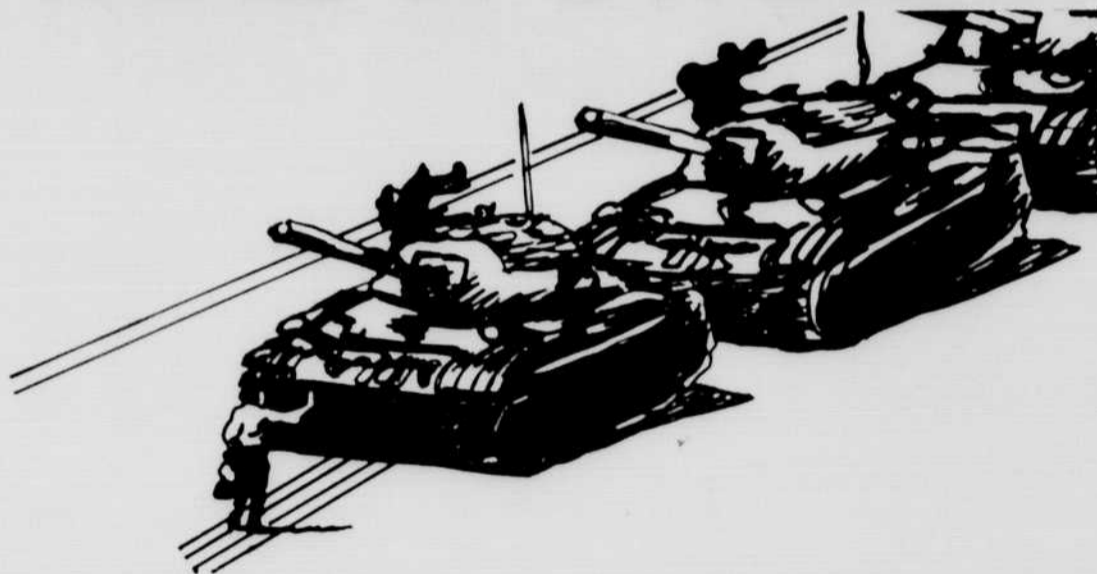
"I'm proud of the way everybody on the team played," Dugan continued. "It was an outstanding effort. Hopefully we can pick up a couple of victories against Oregon this week."

If earlier Civil War encounters this season are any indication, OSU will have a difficult time keeping from being embarrassed this week. Last Thursday, an emotionally drained Oregon team went to Corvallis and drilled the Beavers twice in a pair of 7-0 wins.

The Ducks had just finished a painful split with Portland State and were having internal problems on the team, but still took two easy wins.

This time, Oregon State will face a physically and emotionally well Oregon team that has something to play for.

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You'll be able to comment on the five potential sites currently under consideration, while LTD and Eugene City staff are on hand to answer any questions you may have.

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