

MEN

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points. Arkansas was next with 36 points, followed by Baylor with 34 points and Florida with 33½ points.

Leading the way for Oregon was McGee, who became the Ducks' first national champion since 1987 by coming from behind to win the hammer.

McGee had been the NCAA favorite all season and came into the competition with the best collegiate throw at 225-1. He qualified for Saturday's final with the top throw Thursday, but had some problems Saturday.

McGee had only one fair throw among his preliminary tosses and was in seventh place at 207-11 after the prelims.

He then fouled on his fourth and sixth throws, but managed to uncork a toss of 217-8 on his fifth throw to win the competition.

The victory by McGee ended a national champion drought for the Ducks, who

last had a national champion when Dan Nelson won the steeplechase at the 1987 NCAA meet.

If there were any pleasant surprises for Oregon, it was Wright's fourth-place showing in the 400-meter hurdles.

Wright qualified for the NCAA meet a year ago but didn't make it out of the qualifying heats. This year it was a different story.

On Wednesday, Wright won his qualifying heat in the hurdles and posted the third-fastest time overall. During the semifinal heats Friday, Wright again had the third-best mark overall and looked ready for Saturday's final.

He didn't disappoint on Saturday, running 50.23 to break his old personal record of 50.44 set last year.

Wright was only picked for eighth, at best, on the pre-meet form charts, but after running three races a day during the dual-meet season, he certainly benefited by running only one race a day at NCAAs.

The most points Oregon got from any

one event came in the steeplechase where Lopez finished second and Mestler sixth for 11 points on the 10-8-6-5-4-3-2-1 scoring basis.

Lopez, the pre-meet favorite, wasn't able to stay with Ohio State's Mark Croghan, who ran away from the pack with 600 meters to go.

Croghan won with a time of 8:36.19 while Lopez clocked 8:36.86 for second.

Mestler, who was eighth a year ago, moved up to sixth this time with a time of 8:46.16 for his second all-American performance. The top eight competitors in each event earn all-American status.

Also earning all-American status was long jumper Latin Berry, who became an all-American for the fourth time in either the long jump or triple jump.

Berry wasn't able to improve on his fifth place showing of last year, or his school record of 26-8¼, but he did finish eighth with a jump of 25-3¼.

Two events the Ducks were hoping to score in, the triple jump and the 10,000 meters, produced nothing.

Spencer Williams closed out his career in the triple jump Saturday, seeking to improve on last year's fourth-place finish.

However, Williams never got in the groove and failed to make the finals, finishing 10th with a best of 51-5¼.


It was the same story in the 10,000 where Oregon had Peter Fonseca, Pat Haller, Brad Hudson and Terrance Mahon competing.

Only Fonseca was in position to score at the end of the race, but finished 10th in a time of 29:09.25. Haller and Mahon finished 13th and 15th, respectively, while Hudson didn't finish.


Dellinger was named as the men's national collegiate coach of the year during the NCAA meet at Durham. Next season he should have another strong squad as eight of this year's 14 NCAA qualifiers return.

Returning are daSilva, Haller, McGee, Mahon, Mestler, Skipper, Tye Van Schoiack (who competed in the steeplechase) and Wright.

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