

# SPORTS

## Ducks dethrone UCLA as Pac-10 track champs

By Jake Berg  
Emerald Sports Reporter

Oregon is second best no longer.

After three straight years of finishing second to UCLA at the Pacific-10 Conference Championships, the Ducks wrested the title from the perennial champion Bruins, winning the meet with 130 1/2 points to UCLA's 112 1/2 this weekend at Tempe, Ariz.

"We competed hard all day Saturday and Sunday," Oregon Coach Tom Heinonen said. "We had our ups and downs, but the team just hung in there."

The Ducks' distance runners were responsible for much of the distance between Oregon and the rest of the Pac-10. Four Oregon distance runners ran two events over the weekend as Heinonen believed those points

could be the key to a championship.

"The tough part was on those who doubled," Heinonen said. "No one got fast times, but they scrambled for every point."

Stephanie Wessell didn't let a sore knee or the hostile warm temperatures stand in the way of gaining a Pac-10 title in both the 5,000- and 10,000-meter runs. Wessell's knee forced her to drop out of the 5,000 at the Oregon Twilight the weekend before.

"Stephanie didn't say a word about her knee," Heinonen said.

The Oregon senior, who won the 10,000 at last year's championships, ran a winning 10,000 time of 34:57.27 Saturday, breaking the 10-year-old Sun Angel Stadium record by more than nine seconds.

She came back Sunday and



Camara Jones

ran to a first-place time of 16:46.88 in the 5,000, where she took third at last season's championships.

Julia Saul backed Wessell up in the 10,000, running to a third-place finish in 36:29.38.

Behind Wessell in the 5,000 were teammates Lucy Nusrala, in a third-place time of 16:58.66, and sixth-place Nicole Woodward in 17:25.70.

Nusrala added more points to the Ducks' total by running the 3,000 and placing second in a time of 9:30.60. Lisa Karnopp took fifth in the race, running in 9:50.02.

The 1,500 also belonged to the Duck runners as Carol Holmen placed second in 4:26.90, and Karnopp took sixth with a 4:35.25 time.

Erika Klein surged from behind to snare second-place in the 800-meter run. Klein ran in a personal record time of 2:07.49, the eighth-fastest time in school history and a provisional NCAA qualifier.

Oregon's next biggest swing in the meet was an old-fashioned one-two punch from javelin throwers Paula Berry and Kim Hyatt. Berry repeated as conference champion with a meet record throw of 193-8, and Hyatt improved on last year's third-place finish by finishing second on a PR toss of 178-1.

"Paula had a fabulous throw," Heinonen said.

Defending NCAA champion Ashley Selman of USC was third behind the two Ducks, getting off a 173-8 toss.

Heinonen added that the Ducks would have gotten more points in the javelin throw Saturday had it not been for what he said was a "bogus call" by the judges on a throw by Oregon's Kelly Kempf.

Heinonen said the judges' misunderstanding of a rule dictating the motion of a thrower after the throw caused Kempf's throw of approximately 155 feet to be disqualified.

Julie Beck turned in two surprising performances over the weekend in the shot put and discus competitions.

The Oregon freshman put the shot a PR and NCAA provisional mark 49-1 1/4 for fifth-place at the Pac-10s and fourth-best in

school history, and during the discus. Beck again got a PR, throwing 163-8 for fifth-place and seventh-best on the school's list.

UCLA freshman Dawn Dumble took first in the shot put with a Pac-10 record and meet record 56-7 1/2 put.

Another surprise came from the 4x400 relay team of Camara Jones, Klein, Kim Hutson and Rosie Williams, which got first in a 3:39.15 time, an NCAA provisional qualifying time. Heinonen said Jones ran a swift 51.3 opening leg on the relay in leading the Ducks to the win.

"We won the damn thing going away," Heinonen said.

Jones ran impressively by herself as well in the 400-meter run, cruising to the second-fastest time in school history and an NCAA provisional qualifying time. Jones' PR of 53.69 in the 400 gave her second behind defending conference champion Maicel Malone of Arizona State, who broke the stadium record with her 52.02 time.

Williams, Oregon's school record holder in the 100 and 200, placed third in both events. The Duck senior ran the 100 in 11.86 and the 200 in 24.19.

Malone also pounced on her 200 competitors by running a stadium record 23.02 in the race.

Following a second-place in the heptathlon earlier in the week, Kelly Blair took fourth in the high jump with a 5-8 3/4 jump.

Laurel Roberts tied for fifth in the high jump at 5-7, and her PR of 19-10 1/4 in the long jump got her a sixth-place conference finish and fifth on the school's all-time list.

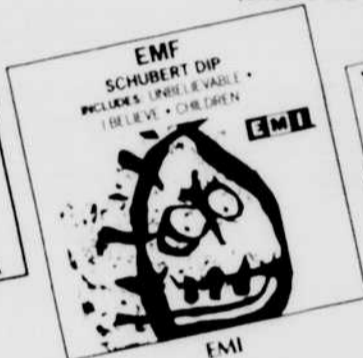
Kim Carlisle also scored for Oregon, grabbing a fifth-place in the triple jump with her 39-4 1/2 leap.

"We said in our team meeting that our athletes had to compete hard for two days, and they did just that," Heinonen said.

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