### SPORTS

# Women's big three to chase victory

By Dave Charbonneau

Women's cross country coach Tom Heinonen won't mind one bit if his top runners fall behind at this weekend's Jeff Drenth Memorial in Alton Baker Park.

Heinonen, whose team is currently ranked fourth nationally, said his team needs to get use to playing catch-up, and will get their chance this weekend.

"This meet will give our top runners a chance to chase people," he said, referring to ex-Oregon standout Liz Wilson and 1988 NCAA 10,000-meter champion Sylvia Mosqueda, who will be competing as individual entries at the meet.

Oregon's "big three," - Lucy Nusrala, Lisa Karnopp and Nicole Woodward - dominated

the first two meets of the season. First, they swept the top three places at the Emerald City Invitational, and then took three of the top four places despite a talented field at the Stanford Invitational two weeks

"In past races, we've floated to the front after the first mile and gone basically unchallenged for the rest of the race, Heinonen said. "This weekend, our runners will get chal-

Besides the two post-collegiate runners, the Ducks should have no problem holding off the rest of the field that includes Washington and Dart-

"This is a low-key meet to get us ready for the Pac-10 meet," said Woodward, who finished second at the Emerald

City Invitational and fourth at Stanford.

In addition, this meet was important as far as looking ahead to the Pac-10 meet to be held Nov. 2 at Stanford, Heinonen said.

"This meet will go a long way toward telling who goes to the Pac-10 meet," he said.

The top four spaces seem to be secured by Nusrala, Karnopp, Woodward and junior Carol Holmen. Freshman Jenna Carlson, who was the fifth Duck finisher in both meets this season, should fill one of the remaining three

"Jenna has run consistently well this year," said Heinonen.

Carlson said she feels a little pressure about this weekend's

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#### MEET INFO.

Both the Oregon men's and women's cross country teams will compete in the Jeff Drenth Memorial Saturday at Alton Baker Park

The meet, sponsored by the Oregon Track Club will start at 10 a.m. with a Kids' Kilometer race, which will be followed by an open 5kilometer run at 10:30.

The 5-kilometer women's invitational will begin at

Among the runners competing in this race are ex-Oregon star Liz Wilson and Sylvia Mosqueda.

They will be joined by teams from Dartmouth, Washington, Portland, Portland State, Western Oregon State and Central Oregon

Community College Noon marks the start of the men's 8-kilometer race.

Four ranked teams will also be showcased in the men's meet, including the 3rd-ranked Ducks, 15thranked Washington, 16thranked Portland, and 17thranked Dartmouth.

The meet originated back in 1980 when it was called the Oregon Track Club-Emerald Valley Invitational. In 1986, the name was changed to the Jeff Drenth Memorial to honor distance runner leff Drenth who died that year.



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## Runners trying to maintain rank

By Dave Charbonneau

The third-ranked Oregon men's cross country team will attempt to turn away another handful of ranked teams this weekend at the 8,000-meter Jeff Drenth Memorial at Eugene's Alton Baker Park.

Three weeks ago, the Ducks cruised past then No. 3 Texas, No. 15 Weber State and No. 17 Washington to take the team title at the Mountain West Classic in Missoula, Mont.

This Saturday, the men will face Washington (15), Portland (16), and Dartmouth (17) among others as they prepare for the Pacific-10 Conference meet in two weeks.

This meet should be a good challenge for us and a good indication of where we are right now," Coach Bill Dellinger said. "The first seven (finishers) in the meet will probably be the ones that go to the Pac-10 meet for us.'

It looks as if the top three spots are secured by seniors Pat Haller (who finished third in Montana) and Colin Dalton (sixth), and sophomore Andy Maris (ninth).

The others competing for the remainder of the spots include juniors Tye Van Schoiack, Shannon Lemora, Alan Foster, Rick Mestler and Tim Julian, and sophomore Coley Can-

Oregon is currently ranked third nationally behind Arkansas and Iowa State and should be the favorites at the Pac-10 meet. Tenth-ranked Arizona and Washington were the only other Pac-10 teams to garner votes in this week's top-20 poll.

In the meet last year, Oregon won the team title over Washington. Dalton led the way for the Ducks with a second-place finish, and Haller was sixth. Maris, Mestler and Lemora all finished in the top 20.

Also participating in the meet will be Oregon International's Karl Van Calcar and Mike Bilyeu and Club Northwest's Adam Leahy.

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