

TRACK & FIELD PREVIEW

OREGON

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the Pac-10 3,000, including Jenna Carlson as the third Duck in the race.

Oregon doesn't have the great times in the 800, but the Ducks do have Erika Klein, who was second last year. Kim Hutson will also run the 800.

In the throws, Kim Hyatt, who was second last year in the javelin, has the top mark this year.

Sophomores Julie Beck and Molly Duggan should provide some points in the shot put, where Beck took fifth last season. Beck was also fifth in the discus, which she is entered in for this weekend.

"Julie is an incredibly competitive person," Duck throws coach Sally Harmon said. "She will rise to the occasion as she did last year."

Laurel Roberts will be forced to limit her duties to just the high jump because of an injury she suffered last week while doing the long jump. Kim Carlisle, who was fourth last season in the triple jump, is also entered in the meet.

Oregon's Achilles heel could be in the two hurdles events, where intermediate hurdler Karen Wiedmann is the only Duck entered in either event.

This may be where Arizona State picks up a lot of the slack left by Malone's absence. The Sun Devils have the top two entrants in the 100 hurdles and the top hurdler in the intermediate race.

"Arizona State is good across the board," said Washington State head coach Rob Cassleman. "They're certainly not a one-dimensional team by any means."

The Sun Devils' talent doesn't stop at the hurdlers. The top two spots in the 800-meter entrants belong to the Sun Devils, the second-, third- and fourth-best marks in the long jump are from Tempe, and Kelly Cordell gives Arizona State a contender in the 5,000 and the 10,000.

JONES

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past the opening round of the NCAA 400. Still, she hasn't let bad memories keep her potential in check this season.

"That was a real shock for her to start at 54-low and go to 52-high," Heinonen said. "But she never looked back."

Jones said it was her main goal to go under 53 seconds this season, but believe it or not, Jones said she doesn't even like the quarter-mile all that much.

"The 400 — I hate that race more than anything," said Jones, only half-jokingly. "But I know what it takes to win now."

That has carried over to the two relay teams, too, which Jones is part of. The 4x100 relay ran a provisional qualifying time at the Pepsi meet, and the 4x400 squad has the second-fastest time in the Pac-10 this year.

Jones openly admitted she is a bit uneasy going into the meet as an individual competitor, and she said the 4x100 squad is also apprehensive because the team members — which include sophomores Jones and



Lucy Nusrala

Though many others are still picking the Sun Devils to finish among the top three, Jones was skeptical in a prediction of his team's performance.

"I put my good kids in the events and let the chips fall," he said. "Hopefully, we'll be third."

If the Sun Devils aren't, then UCLA may be. The Bruins aren't the same team that won the first four conference championships, but they are still in the race enough to make it competitive.

"They're just a shadow of what they've been in the past," Heinonen said.

But sophomore Dawn Dumble may cast as big of a presence on the field as anyone this weekend. The Bruin thrower is seven feet ahead of her nearest competitor in the shot put and 16 feet in the discus.

"Dumble is clearly their best athlete," Heinonen said of last year's champion in both events.

Jennifer Wheelchel, third seed in the shot put and fourth in the discus, strengthens UCLA's throws attack.

Fellow sophomores Beth Bartholomew, the second seed in the 1,500, and Roshanda Glenn, the top entrant in the triple jump, should also give the Bruins points.

Arizona is a team that may surprise some people, which may be fine with coach Dave Murray, who said he expects

his team to make a bid for an upper-echelon finish.

"Our team definitely has a chance of finishing in the top three," he said.

One product that is certainly known about the Wildcats, though, is their high jumpers. Sophomores Tanya Hughes, the defending NCAA champion, and J.C. Broughton are the only entrants to clear six feet so far this year in the conference.

Stacy Ainlay, second in the shot and discus, will also help Arizona.

Like the Wildcats, Washington and Washington State are good all around but probably don't have the depth to vie for a top place.

"We have some good people," Washington's Richburg said, "we just don't have enough of them."

Cassleman said his team competed well at the dual meet level this year but wasn't sure how the Cougars would stand up in a meet like the Pac-10s.

"This year we're a strong dual meet team," he said. "In the Pac-10s and nationals you need some strong individuals. This is really a horse of a different color."

A team with nothing but strong individuals is Stanford, the second-place finisher at the NCAA Indoor Championships this year. And the Cardinal won that on the backs of two athletes — Chryste Gaines and Jackie Edwards.

Gaines is the first seed in the 100 and second in the 200, and Edwards is first in the long jump and second in the triple jump.

Inger Miller of USC will give Gaines a run for the sprint titles, though. The Trojan sophomore is second behind Gaines in the 100 but has run faster in the 200.

The top seed from California is Roslyn Mack, who has the third-best time in the 400 hurdles.

Golden Bear coach Erv Hunt said he has used this year to redshirt many of his athletes.

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