

Women's cross country goes after another Pac-10 title

By Steve Mims
Emerald Sports Reporter

Coming off its first defeat of the season, the Oregon women's cross country team will be looking for its sixth Pacific-10 Conference Championship in seven years on Saturday at Stanford Golf Course in Palo Alto, Calif.

The Ducks won their first two meets of the year but finished second two weeks ago to No. 3 Wisconsin in the Jeff Drenth Memorial at Alton Baker Park. The two weeks off have given the Ducks a chance to get healthy, especially sophomore Jenna Carlson and freshman Heidi Van Borkulo-Goldstein.

"Jenna and Heidi have been ill but are on the rebound," Oregon head coach Tom Heinonen said. "Jenna had the flu at the Drenth Memorial, but she is getting healthier and had a great workout on Tuesday.

Heidi had a viral infection that is still bothering her, but she should be near full strength this weekend."

Van Borkulo-Goldstein, a freshman from Seattle, Wash., ran a season-best 17:32 in the Ducks' second meet in Seattle but fell to 18:11 at the Drenth Memorial. Carlson, who finished 22nd at the 1991 conference championship, ran the 5,000-meter Seattle course in 17:28 but finished 29th in the Drenth Memorial with a time of 18:59.

The Ducks have been led all season by senior Nicole Woodward, who won her first two meets of the year before finishing second in a close race at the Drenth Memorial. Woodward has finished 16th, eighth and third, respectively, in her three conference championship meets.

"I'm very happy with Nicole. She has raced well and stayed healthy," Heinonen said. "The

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— Tom Heinonen,
Oregon women's cross
country coach

favorite at the race this weekend will probably be Louise Watson of Stanford, but Nicole is also running well."

Heinonen decided to take the top seven Oregon finishers at the Drenth Memorial with him to Palo Alto. Erika Klein is the only other senior on the Duck squad, and she is coming off of an 18th-place finish at the Drenth Memorial, where she finished four-tenths of a second ahead of Van Borkulo-Goldstein.

Sophomore Jill Callero has been consistent all season, finishing between 18:03 and 18:12

in all three meets. Callero, who was the 10th collegian to finish the Drenth Memorial, finished 24th at last season's conference championships.

Junior Joni Wareham and freshman Niamh Zwagerman, both competing in their first conference championship, round out the Oregon squad. Zwagerman finished 15th among college runners two weeks ago with a time of 18:31, five seconds ahead of Wareham.

The team competition looks to be tougher than in the past, as it includes four teams ranked in the top 25, including the eighth-ranked Ducks. Arizona is right behind Oregon at No. 10, Stanford remains at No. 17 and Washington has moved up to No. 20.

"Arizona and Washington appear to be our major challengers," Heinonen said. "Stanford and UCLA are outside threats.

Oregon won conference titles in 1986-88 and 1990-91. Each year the Ducks won the meet as a team, they also had the individual champion. Penny Graves won the meet in 1986 and 1988, and Annette Hand captured the title in 1987. Oregon's Liz Wilson won the individual title in 1990.

The Ducks dominated last year's conference meet, defeating Arizona by 20 points and third-place Washington by 37. Oregon had one of its best Pac-10 performances last year when Lisa Karnopp, Lucy Nusrula and Woodward finished 1-2-3 in the meet.

Following the conference championship the Ducks will race in the District VIII Championships in Tucson on Nov. 14. The top two teams from District VIII advance to the NCAA Championships in late November.

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Leyland gets NL honor

NEW YORK (AP) — Jim Leyland, who guided the Pittsburgh Pirates to their third straight National League East title this season, was named NL Manager of the Year on Wednesday.

Leyland was voted first on 20 of 24 ballots and received 109 points overall to beat rookie manager Felipe Alou of the Montreal Expos. Alou, who took over in May for Tom Runnels, was named on three first-place ballots and received 65 points. The other first-place vote went to Atlanta's Bobby Cox, who finished third with 29 points.

It was the second time in the three years that Leyland has been named Manager of the Year in voting by the Baseball Writers Association of America.

The Pirates finished 96-66 this season and beat the Expos by nine games. It was a surprising success for Pittsburgh after losing outfielder Bobby Bonilla to free agency and trading pitcher John Smiley just before the start of the season for financial reasons.

Leyland's regular season success, however, was once again spoiled in the playoffs as the Pirates lost to the NL West champion for the third straight year. This time was particularly painful as Atlanta rallied for three runs in the bottom of the ninth inning of Game 7 to keep Leyland and the Pirates out of the World Series again.

Leyland did a masterful job of platooning this season, using his bench and usually coming up with the right pitcher.

The Pirates got the expected production from outfielders Barry Bonds and Andy Van Slyke, but Leyland got more than expected from players like Alex Cole, Cecil Espy and Don Slaught.

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