

## Veterans carry men to win

□ Oregon seniors turn away Washington in dual meet

By Dave Charbonneau  
*Oregon Daily Emerald*

Just when it seemed Washington might upset Oregon at Saturday's track and field dual meet, the veterans stepped it up, leading the Ducks to a 96-67 victory at Hayward Field.

Midway through the meet, the Huskies were well within striking distance of the Ducks, but Oregon seniors Erik Ylitalo, Devon Hosey, Jason Walton and Ronnie Harris all came through with big points, as the Ducks pulled away down the stretch.

Washington watched a seven-point deficit grow to 16 when Ylitalo led an Oregon sweep in the 400-meter hurdles. The Ducks' lead grew larger moments later when Hosey, Erik Balstrom and Todd Bleakney took the top three spots in the triple jump.

Walton then set a meet record by clearing seven feet in the high jump, and Harris wrapped up an impressive individual meet performance by finishing first in the 200 to give Oregon an insurmountable lead.

"It was a good team effort," Oregon coach Bill Dellinger said. "The experience of some of our older guys showed today."

Although it was the Ducks' veterans that notched the victory, it was the new guys that kept Oregon in the meet early on.

Junior transfer J.P. Thurman opened the meet with a surprising victory in the hammer throw. Freshman decathlete Ray Livingston gave Oregon fans a taste of his talents by setting a PR and taking first in the pole vault at 16-4 3/4.

Freshman Jamar Williams took first in the 110 hurdles, and freshman Patrick Khoo won the 400 and ran an impressive third leg in the Ducks' victorious 4x100 relay team.

But it was Harris who stole the show for Oregon.

Besides his victory in the 200, Harris also took first in the 100 with a wind-aided 10.56 and blew past Washington's Ashandi Dixon in the final leg of the 4x100 relay.

"I wanted to get points for the team," Harris said. "I decided to drop down and concentrate on the 400 next week (at Washington State)."

The most disappointing aspect of the meet was Oregon's distance runners. The Ducks failed to take a first place in the 800, 1,500, 5,000 or the steeplechase.

"I was disappointed with our (distance) runners," Dellinger said. "Our 1,500 was especially disappointing."

In that race, the Ducks expected a one-two finish, but favorite Tracy Hollister failed to place in the top three and freshman Goss Lindsey was only able to salvage third place in the race.

Besides his victory in the hammer, Thurman also finished third in the discus, ahead of teammate Heath Howington. Howington rebounded from a disappointing fourth place in the hammer to win the shot put.



Photo by Jeff Paslay

Freshman Ray Livingston set a PR at this height, earning him first place in the pole vault Saturday against Washington.



Photo by Jeff Paslay

Oregon's LaReina Woods won the 100, 200 and ran a leg in the Ducks' victorious 400-meter relay team Saturday against Washington.

## Women sprint past Huskies

□ Oregon dominates sprints in dual meet

By Erick Studenicka  
*Oregon Daily Emerald*

Even head coach Tom Heinonen had to be impressed with the quality of performance of the women's track team in its decisive 88-48 dual meet victory over Washington Saturday afternoon at Hayward Field.

"As Rich Brooks (Oregon football coach) would say, 'A lot of good things happened today,'" Heinonen said.

Doing the "good things" on the track for the Ducks was sophomore sprinter LaReina Woods. Woods dashed to wins in the 100 and 200 meters and was part of the winning 400-meter relay team that won in 45.76, a time only .06 off NCAA provisional qualifying.

Woods said she was more excited than disappointed with narrowly missing the relay qualifying mark.

"We're three weeks ahead of where we were last season," Woods said. "As long as we keep healthy, I think women's sprinting at Oregon will explode."

Kelly Blair looked fully recovered from last week's school-record effort in the heptathlon last week, as she won both the long jump and the high jump. Her jump of 20-1 was the longest of her career and gave her fourth place on the all-time Oregon list.

Blair had a momentary setback as she was disqualified in the 100-meter hurdles because of a false start, but she rebounded to break open the 1600-meter relay with a 54.1 clocking for her 400-meter leg, the fastest of any Oregon team member.

Julie Beck was Oregon's other double-winner in the field as she won the shotput (45-1) and discus (149-2).

The best solo effort of the afternoon belonged to 3,000-meter runner Nicole Woodward. After dropping all of her competitors with a blistering 2:21 first 800 meters, the senior distance star finished in 9:22, just missing the NCAA automatic qualifying mark of 9:16.

Heinonen said Woodward's best races are in the future.

"I was shocked that Nicole could run that fast," Heinonen said. "She can run way faster in the right circumstances with other people."

Junior Camara Jones set the meet record in the 400 meters with the time of 54.06 and also ran a leg on the 1600-meter relay team which finished with a season best time of 3:46.2.

Jones said she wasn't disappointed with her time, which was 1.99 seconds off of her school record of 52.07 set last year at the NCAA championships.

"I didn't have to struggle to get a 54; it was real relaxed and easy," Jones said. "Mark [Stream, the Oregon assistant coach] told me to concentrate on relaxing, and it paid off."

Like Woods, Jones is excited about the Oregon relay teams.

"We've bettered our time in every meet," said Jones. "I think both the 4x100- and the 4x400-meter relays could qualify for the NCAA meet."

Ashley Selman looked to be at home on the Hayward Field javelin runway as she recorded a toss of 170-6 to defeat Washington's Monika Parker by a comfortable 18 feet. After transferring from USC, the win was Selman's first as a Duck.

In the battle for Carlson family bragging rights, Washington's Tara seems to have beaten out Oregon's Jenna. Tara challenged Oregon's Erika Klein in the 1500, but had to settle for second. Jenna was only able to muster a fourth place in the 800-meter run, which was won by Husky Emily Johnson in 2:10.9.

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