

Blair begins Pac-10s; Women at Hayward

By Erick Studenicka
Oregon Daily Emerald

Oregon heptathlete Kelly Blair will be looking to give the Ducks an early lead in the Pacific-10 Conference track meet today as she begins competition in the league's multi-event championships in Berkeley, Calif.

Blair, who took second place in the Pac-10 heptathlon in 1990 and 1991, is the clear-cut favorite to win the event. Blair's seasonal best (and school record) of 5,713 points is more than 500 points better than the second-best mark in the conference.

The heptathlon, which is a combination of seven events, begins today with the 100 hurdles, the high jump and the shot put. Blair is currently ranked second in the nation behind defending NCAA champ Anu Kaljurand of Brigham Young.

The rest of the Oregon team will remain in Eugene for the Twilight meet, which begins Saturday at 5:15 p.m. The Oregon women will try to get additional qualifiers for both the Pac-10 and NCAA meets.

The Ducks already have 14 individuals who have qualified for next week's individual event Pac-10 meet, and several other athletes are just seconds off the qualifying standards. Tyrza Hunt is only 1.6

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Men hope to capitalize on weather, competition

By Dave Charbonneau
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon men's track and field team may finally get an opportunity to compete in weather that's conducive to good times for the first time this season when it competes in the Oregon Twilight Saturday beginning at 5:15 p.m.

So far this season, the Ducks have competed in the rain, wind, cold and clouds — basically everything but the sun. And with the Pacific-10 Conference Championships beginning next Friday in Berkeley, Calif., Oregon is praying for the sun to stick around.

Although it seems the Ducks'

Pac-10 squad is set, the team still lacks an NCAA automatic qualifier.

If Oregon is going to get a national qualifier, it will probably have to happen Saturday. The weather should be nice, and the meet lends itself to individual performances. Lack of team scoring and strong competition give participants in the meet ideal conditions to set personal records.

The Ducks have already qualified athletes in nearly every event for the Pac-10s. Oregon still lacks qualifiers in the 5,000, 10,000, shot put, hammer and javelin, but head coach Bill

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