

# Hayward's favorite villain pays final visit

Ordinarily, track fans are a sedate bunch. They clap rhythmically if runners circle the track. They clap politely if somebody jumps high or far or if somebody throws something a long way.

If two runners spend everything they have in a dash for the finish line, track fans have been known to stand and cheer. Track fans don't taunt or jeer or heckle. They don't act, well, fanatical.

Every year or two, all this changes. Every year or two, John Chaplin comes to town. Chaplin is the coach of the Washington State men's track team, and the fans at Hayward Field don't like him very much.

When Chaplin comes to Eugene, track fans stop being sedate. They scream and boo and yell instead. "Occasionally they use profanity," Chaplin



SCOTT SIMONSON

said from his office in Pullman, Wash., on Tuesday, "but at least Bill (Dellinger) doesn't arm them with cans and bottles."

Ask Oregon track fans to describe Chaplin and you'll get a picture of someone who looks suspiciously like Snidely Whiplash. Chaplin has done his part to antagonize the Oregon fans. "Actually, I like to go to Eugene ... I don't think that the track fans are half as knowledgeable as they think they are, but

they are very supportive," he told *The Oregonian* before a dual meet with the Ducks in 1992.

Every college sport seems to have a team like Washington State. Basketball had UNLV. Football had the University of Miami. They're the bad boys.

They've broken the rules. The Cougar track team was barred from postseason competition last year for giving out too many scholarships.

They have a legacy of success. Washington State is a perennial power in the Pacific-10 Conference and makes its presence felt in the NCAA meet.

They're the team that nobody likes. The Cougars have drawn the ire of opponents by stocking (some would say stacking) its team with established foreign athletes instead of developing athletes that it recruits from high

schools and junior colleges.

Chaplin has claimed that he imports athletes because it's the only way that a program in Eastern Washington can attract athletes and remain successful.

People don't always sympathize. After Tennessee held off Washington State and won the 1991 NCAA Championships in Eugene, Tennessee head coach Doug Brown said, "I'm glad to bring the championship back to the United States."

Washington State-Oregon has been the track rivalry in Eugene. It hasn't always been pretty.

In 1992, the underdog Ducks battled Washington State for most of the meet. After the Cougars had clinched victory, Michael Joubert of Washington State pumped his baton in the air as he ran the last leg of the 4x400. The move looked a lot like taunting.

Joubert almost knocked down Ronnie Harris of Oregon as he cut in front of Harris with less than a half lap to go. Harris caught and passed Joubert on the final straightaway. The Oregon fans went wild. Washington State's 4x400 team was disqualified because of Joubert's tactics.

The Oregon fans weren't happy. They yelled at Chaplin. Chaplin yelled back at one fan. "Check the scoreboard." He must have stepped in an insect nest as he was chewing out the fan, because he also yelled something about "ant's hole."

This year, things will be a little different. Saturday's meet is not a dual meet, breaking a tradition of head-to-head competition between the two schools. Chaplin has said that reductions in scholarships for track don't

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Oregon Daily Emerald

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20 staff positions are opening for the '94-95 school year. Pick up job descriptions and applications at the ASUO office in Suite 4 of the EMU. Look in Emerald tomorrow for more info.

Deadline: Wed May 11 at 5:00pm

Questions: Call 346-3724

### Marketing/Sales Internships

Develop your marketing and sales skill in an internship. We have opportunities at the following businesses:

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Hendricks Hall by Thursday May 12

### Heritage Music Coordinator

The EMU Cultural Forum is accepting applications for student programmer of heritage music and the Willamette Valley Folks Festival for '94-'95 school year. Must be full time UO student, will receive monthly stipend. Pick up an application in Suite 2 EMU, deadline is May 6, 5pm.

## Bob's Inferno

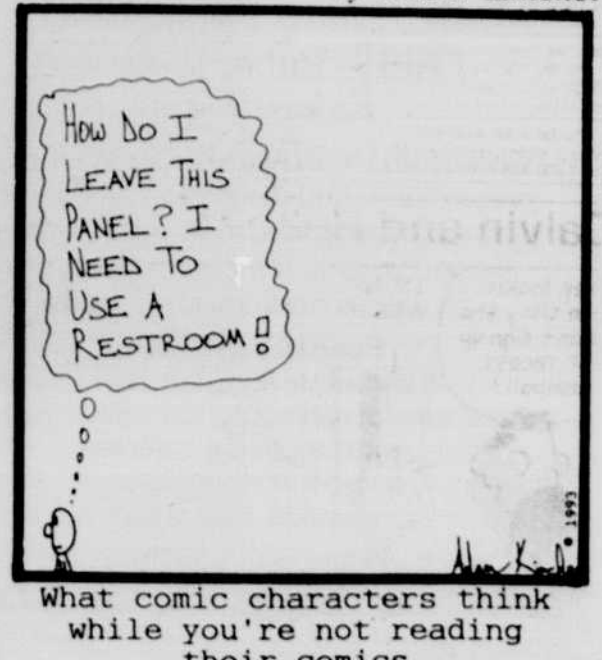


## by Gregor Bosco



## Small Scene

by Adam Kincher



What comic characters think while you're not reading their comics