

Track prepares for Twilight Meet

By Dave Charbonneau and Scott Simonson
Oregon Daily Emerald

It's the middle of May, and the thoughts of the Oregon track teams are turning toward Pullman, Wash. The Ducks will compete at the Oregon Twilight Meet at Hayward Field on Saturday, but next weekend's Pacific-10 Conference Championships in Pullman loom large on the horizon.

Three Ducks will make the trip to Eastern Washington a week early. Heptathlete Kelly Blair and decathletes Ray Livingston and Paul Pappas will compete at the Pac-10 multi-event meet this weekend.

Blair is the defending NCAA champion and the overwhelming favorite in the heptathlon. Livingston's score of 7,184 points at the Oregon Invitational in April is the top mark in the conference this season. However, only six Pac-10 athletes have marks in the decathlon this year.

Pappas did not reach the Pac-10 qualifying standard, but the men's team will use one of its three wild cards for the conference meet to send him.

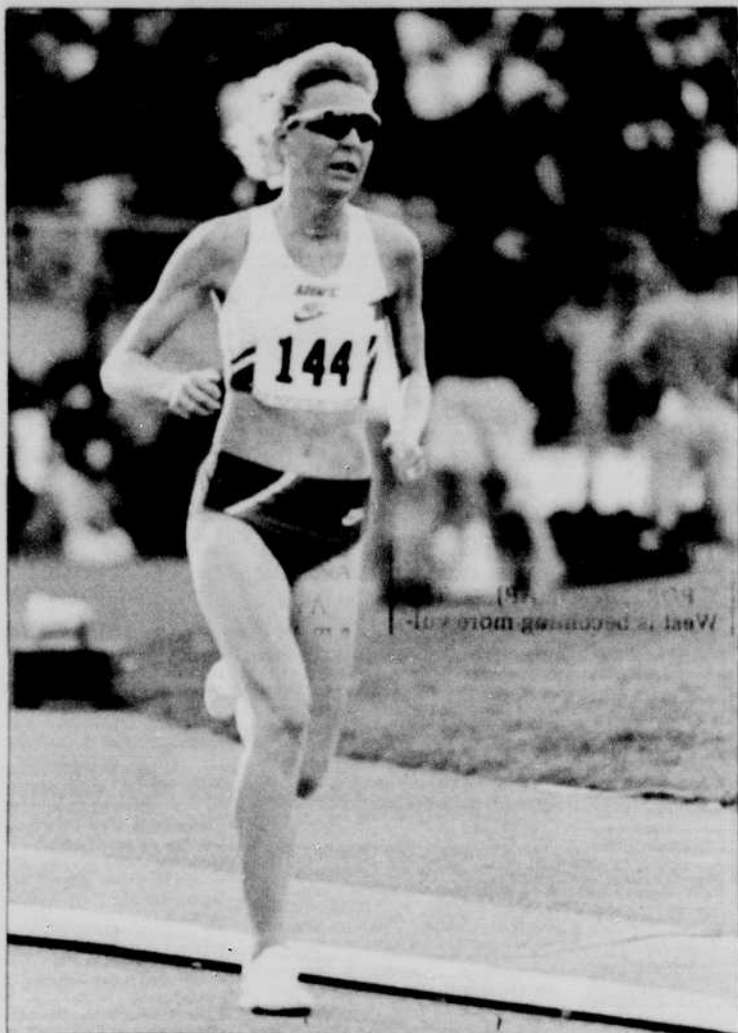
Livingston finished fifth in the decathlon as a freshman last year. "Ray has got a year of experience in the decathlon behind him, and I think he is a much better decathlete than he was a year ago," Oregon head coach Bill Dellinger said.

Dellinger said Livingston should be one of the favorites and said he also expects Pappas to be among the top six finishers, who score points counting toward the team title.

"Anything can happen in the decathlon," Dellinger said. "You can always no-height in the pole vault or trip over a hurdle. Things can happen in the decathlon that will take you out of it."

The Oregon men's team has qualified 19 athletes covering 28 events for the conference championships.

Among the Oregon athletes joining the Pac-10 field in the past week are Eric Trice, who long jumped a season-best 23 feet, 11 inches in last Saturday's



FILE PHOTO
Annette Peters, the American record holder in the women's 5,000 meters, is scheduled to compete in the 5,000 at Saturday's Oregon Twilight Meet at Hayward Field.

triangular meet, and Jared Vigna, who qualified in the javelin.

While the men's team is continuing last season's project of developing a young team with high hopes for the future, the Oregon women's track and field team is not in quite the same position it was in a year ago.

Last year, the Ducks were gearing up to make a run at the Pacific-10 Conference title. This year, Oregon is going into Saturday just hoping to qualify a few more athletes to make a respectable outing next weekend in Pullman.

"I hope some highlights from this week's meet include some Oregon athletes getting qualified

for the Pac-10 and taking a shot at some NCAA marks," head coach Tom Heinonen said. "But it's going to be tough for us to get any more people qualified."

The Ducks so far have 12 automatic qualifiers for the Pac-10s with 24 entries. Blair is Oregon's lone automatic qualifier for the NCAA meet. Blair has also reached a provisional time in the 100-meter hurdles.

Distance runner Milena Glusac has earned provisional qualifying times in the 3,000 and 5,000. Kelsey Stellick in the javelin also is a provisional qualifier for the NCAAs.

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CONGRATULATIONS
To **Rachelle Sherris**,
who had the correct answer to
Mystery Duck 1994:
George Shippman,
Head Librarian, University of Oregon.
Thank you to everyone who participated in
this year's contest!
Mystery Duck is put on by the Student University Relations Council.

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