

Oregon outlasts Stanford, Washington State



Stanford's Jason Lunn (left) shoves Oregon's Ben Andrews across the finish line in the 1,500-meter run at Saturday's track and field meet.

Ducks overcome absences

By Trevor Kearney
Sports Editor

Minus three of its top sprinters, the Oregon men's track and field team wasn't about to dwell on its less-than-good fortune. And for good reason.

The Ducks got strong outings across the board en route to a comfortable victory over Stanford and Washington State on Saturday at a home triangular meet in which Oregon was without sprinters Pat Johnson, DeWayne Ingram and LaMont Woods and decathlete Ray Livingston.

Johnson was supposed to head up the Oregon sprint crew on Saturday, but pulled up with a leg injury while anchoring the Ducks' 4x100-meter relay. The injury, which has not yet been identified but looked like a hamstring-area injury, ended the day for Johnson and any possibility of points from the Ducks' top sprinter.

"I thought we had a number of people step up and make up for the bad luck we had," Oregon head coach Bill Dellinger said. "To lose Patrick in the relay — so we didn't get any points out of him or out of the relay — I thought was probably going to be the fatal blow."

But it wasn't, as the Ducks got big enough performances from other events to pick up the slack. And no performance was bigger than those that came in the distance races, where juniors Daniel Das Neves and Ben Andrews and senior Karl Keska provided the Ducks with very strong outings.

Das Neves started the Oregon run for victory by breezing past competitors in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, leading from start to finish and finishing with a time of 8-minutes, 44.26-seconds, just 26 hundredths of a second away from an NCAA automatic mark.

Keska and sophomore Matt Davis controlled the 5,000-meter race almost the whole way, trading the lead back and forth for the first five laps before Keska pulled away for good. His 13:56.06 mark was just under four seconds away from the NCAA auto mark.

"I'm pretty confident that will get me in [to the NCAA meet]," Keska said. "The first half of the race [Davis and I] were below the time that we wanted to hit, and fortunately I was able to dig deep over the last few laps and make up the time."

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Sophomore Milena Glusac cruised by competitors to pick up the win in the 3,000-meter run in a NCAA provisional time.

WOMEN'S TRACK:

Several Ducks surpassed NCAA provisional marks in Saturday's win

By Andrea De Young
Assistant Sports Editor

Ducks may be water-dwelling birds, but the Oregon women's track and field team took full advantage of the sunny skies on Saturday to beat Stanford and Washington State.

The Ducks mounted a well-rounded attack, finishing first in nine out of 17 events and scoring 138½ points. The Cardinal, which beat Oregon in the only other meeting between the schools, picked up 116½ points, and the Cougars remained winless against Oregon with 106 points.

Several Ducks helped themselves while helping the team, notching NCAA provisional marks for their respective events. Sophomore Katie Pearmine notched a lifetime best 162-foot, 10-inch mark in the javelin, while fellow sophomore Kaarin Knudson scored a lifetime best in the 800-meter run with a time of 2-minutes, 8.71-seconds, despite having to hurdle over a Stanford opponent in the second lap.

Sophomore Milena Glusac blew away the competition in the 3,000-meter run, lapping a runner on her way to a NCAA provisional time of 9:24.35. The 4x100-meter relay team of freshman Aisha Wallace, seniors Jamila Godfrey and LaReina Woods and junior Nicole Commissiong came in just under the provisional mark with a time of 45.38.

The sprinting team had an excellent day as individuals in addition to their success in the short relay. Commissiong took the 400-meter dash and came in 3 hundredths of a second behind Woods in the 200-meter as they went one-two in the race and Godfrey took second place in the 100-meter. Wallace, Woods and Godfrey were also instrumental in the 4x400-meter

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Oregon splits Civil War doubleheader with Oregon State

■ **SOFTBALL:** The Ducks win their first game against the Beavers in the newly renovated Howe Field

By Chris Hansen
Sports Reporter

The obvious thing about Oregon's doubleheader split Saturday afternoon against Oregon State was this: As the top four hitters in Oregon's batting line-up go, so go the Ducks.

Oregon romped the Beavers 10-2 in the first game, which was televised nationally on the Prime Sports Network. Sophomore Missy Koke, seniors Lisa Preston and Kathy Stahl and junior Angie LeRoy, one through four in the Ducks' batting order, led an offensive explosion combining to score all 10

runs on 12 of 15 hitting, including five for extra bases.

But in game two the Oregon bats went cold. Koke, Preston, Stahl and LeRoy garnered only four hits, none for extra bases, no RBI and no runs scored, as the Ducks lost 3-1.

The home debut of the Ducks (12-16 overall, 3-6 in the Pacific-10 Conference) started with a ribbon cutting ceremony to inaugurate the renovated Howe Field that now boasts a newly sodded field and a new backstop and dugouts. The original opener was delayed three weeks due to the unfinished construction.

Patrina Martinez started the first game for Oregon but lasted only three batters. After beaming Nikki Hart to lead off the game, a single, a wild pitch and a hard

liner to center to score a run, head coach Tami Brown had seen enough of Martinez and pulled her for Jennie Cook, who came and shut the door on what could have been a big inning for the Beavers.

The Ducks came right back, scoring two in the bottom half of the first inning. After a Koke single and a Preston double off the center field wall, Stahl hit a shot to right field scoring both runners and giving Stahl the first two of her four RBI of the game.

With that, Cook set it in cruise control, allowing only two hits and one unearned run the rest of the way, and the offense gave her a big cushion from which to work with, recording two four-run innings in the third and the sixth.

"(Cook) did a great job," said Brown.

“

When we shut the door defensively, we can play in the game. We can hit with anyone, but we just have to come out and play the entire game.

— Tami Brown
Oregon softball coach

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"She came in and executed what we needed her to do, and she kept her poise and composure."

So good, in fact, that she was handed the ball for the second game. As in the first game, the Beavers jumped out to a

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