

Sideline

TODAY IN SPORTS

Warsaw lecture deals with women in sports

The James H. Warsaw Sports Marketing Center could not have billed a bigger lineup for its final May lecture as four of the biggest names in sports marketing will be on hand to discuss the future of women in sports business at 4 p.m. in Room 380 PLC.

Donna Lopiano, the executive director of the Women's Sports Foundation, will moderate the symposium, which includes ABC and ESPN sports broadcaster Lesley Visser, Portland Trail Blazers Vice President of Marketing Sharon Higdon and Nike's Manager of women's sports marketing Sue Levin.

Titled "Preparing for the Growth of Women's Sports: Women as Participants, Marketers and Consumers," the discussion will focus on trends and opportunities for women in the field of sports business. There will be discussions of media coverage of women's sports, women as consumers of sports and women in sports marketing.

Admission is free to the public, but for those who are unable to attend, the symposium will begin on-line at 9 a.m. on Friday at: <http://goducks.com>.

Salazar to speak at tribute to Nike history

Former Oregon standout Alberto Salazar will be on hand at the Nike Store on Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon as Nike presents its "Where It All Began" tribute to the company's heritage.

An informal presentation and question and answer session will take place at the Nike Eugene Store at the 5th Street Public Market.

Abdur-Rahim changes mind about going pro

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — California freshman forward Shareef Abdur-Rahim has changed his mind and will announce Thursday that he is withdrawing his name from the NBA draft, the San Francisco Chronicle reported.

Abdur-Rahim, the Pac-10's leading scorer and freshman of the year, announced May 7 that he would give up his final three years of college eligibility to turn pro.

Three weeks ago, Abdur-Rahim, 19, was projected as an early first-round pick. However, there has been recent indications that his stock has dropped because of questions about his ballhandling skills and perimeter game, the Chronicle reported Thursday.

Glusac moves on, others falter

■ **WOMEN'S TRACK:** Melody Fairchild ended her Oregon career with a disappointing race

By **Andrea De Young**
Assistant Sports Editor

It was a day of triumph and tragedy for the Oregon women on the first day of the NCAA Track and Field Championships.

For one, Wednesday's event was just a step toward the finals. For the others, the season ended with disappointment.

The greatest heartbreak of the day was senior Melody Fairchild, who was expected to contend for the national title in the 10,000-meter run. But expectations may have been too high as Fairchild fell to ninth place with a time of 34-minutes, 25.10 seconds, more than a second off her automatic qualifying time of 33:18.99.

After the race, Fairchild fought back tears and explained why she fell so far back.

"I just couldn't keep up with the pace," Fairchild said. "Katie Swords ran a great race. Her pace didn't falter the whole time. I congratulate her; she ran the race that I wanted to run."

For Fairchild, ninth place was more than disappointing. It was the last race of her Oregon career, and it was not how she wanted to go out.

"I was confident before the race," she said. "I felt my head was in the right place. I was in the best shape of my life. I've given everything I have this whole year. I loved running. But now my season is over; my college career is over."

The race was won by Swords from Southern Methodist in 32:56.63. She credited a top-notch field of runners, including Fairchild.

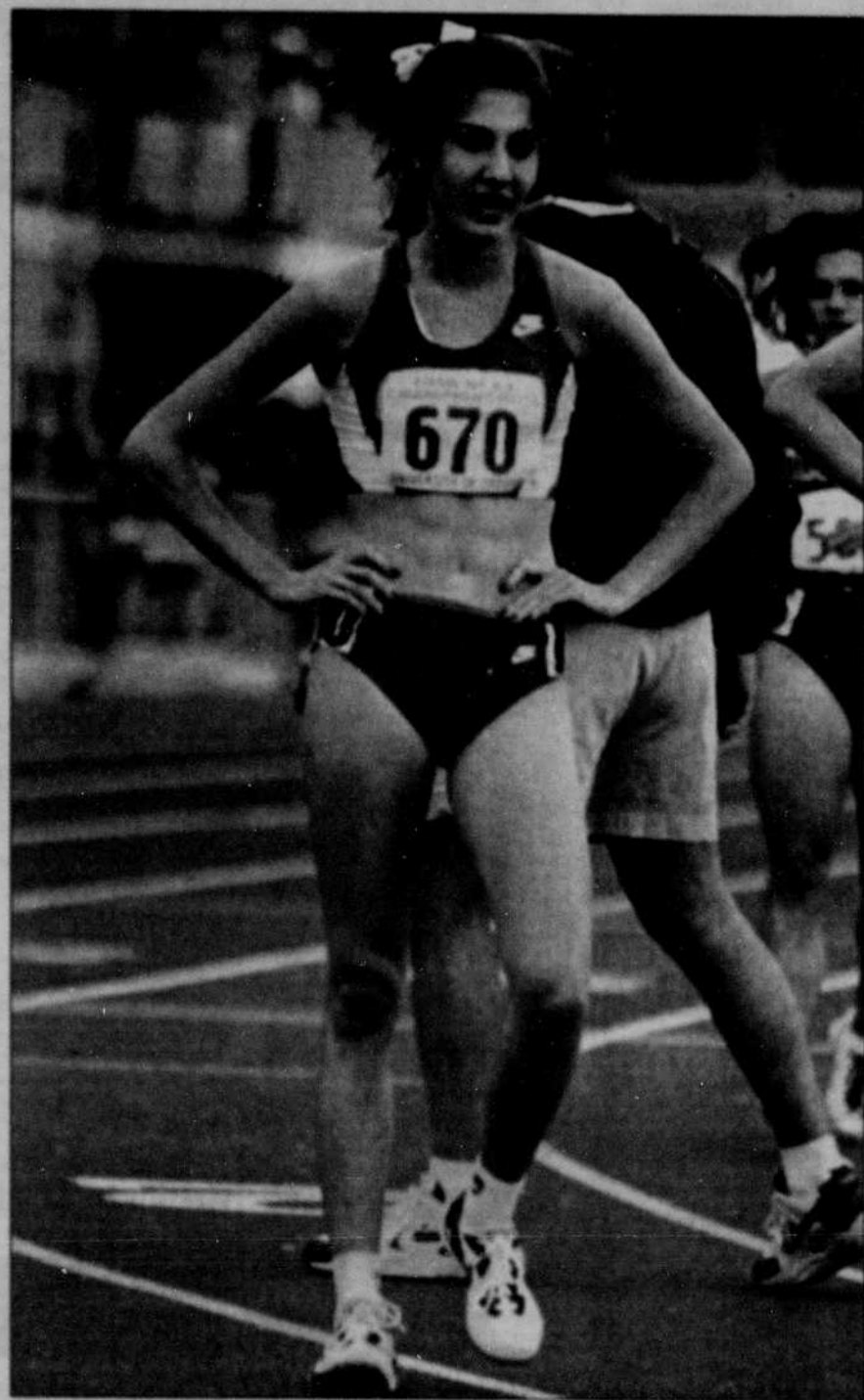
"I knew that Fairchild had a good time and I knew that there were a lot of good runners in the race," Swords said. "I was so impressed with what Melody did this year. If I hadn't been in this race, I would have wanted her to win."

Senior Niamh Zwagerman finished seventh in the 10,000 with a time of 34:23.15, four seconds off her best time.

Oregon's biggest success story of the day came from sophomore Milena Glusac, who beat out a field of the top athletes in the country to take first place in her heat of the 3,000-meter run. Her time of 9:17.10 was the best of the day and she now moves on to the finals on Friday.

"I knew I was going to go out with the pack and see what the pace was," Glusac said. "But the pace was too slow. I didn't want to take any chances; I wanted to get into the

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Sophomore Milena Glusac fought hard to finish first in the 3,000-meter run and now moves on to the finals, which takes place on Friday at Hayward Field.

ANDREW BRACKENSICK/ Emerald

Das Neves loses lead but secures spot in finals

■ **MEN'S TRACK:** Daniel Das Neves qualified for the steeplechase finals with a second-place finish

By **Pete Schneider**
Sports Reporter

In the first day of competition at the 1996 NCAA Track and Field Championships, two Hayward Field records fell and the lone athlete for the Oregon men's team turned in a solid performance in his semifinal race.

Oregon's Daniel Das Neves finished second in his qualifying heat of the 3,000-meter steeplechase and secured himself a spot in the finals on Friday. The junior from San Paulo, Brazil, led the pack for the entire race before being passed by Wisconsin's Pascal Dobert in the final turn.

"I wasn't really worried about winning the race," Das Neves said. "I think it was a smart choice to keep my pace and not try to kick hard down the stretch. When the Wisconsin guy passed me, I could have strided in at any time I wanted, but I figured it was better to not push it. I'm just happy to be in the finals."

Dobert, who ran the fastest steeplechase time of the year earlier this season, came from more than 20 feet back at the bell lap to pass Das Neves and

sprint to victory by more than three seconds.

"I don't think I'll let anyone get out that far in the finals," Dobert said. "It will be a really tough race. We'll just have to wait and see what happens on Saturday. I'm not going to make any sit-down strategy going into it."

In one of the only event finals on Wednesday, Tennessee's Lawrence Johnson added another bit of hardware to his loaded trophy case by winning the pole vault for the second straight year. The American record holder in the event and one of the early favorites for the Atlanta Olympics set a Hayward and NCAA meet record with a leap of 19'01.00.

Johnson, who has dominated the pole vault event over the past three seasons, beat out Fresno State's David Cox by almost a foot. After securing a victory in the event, Johnson took aim at the world record (21 feet), but fell short on three attempts.

The other Hayward Field record to take a beating Wednesday was the 4x100-meter relay mark, which was broken by a team from LSU. The Tigers' "D" squad, comprised of Kirk Cummins, Byron Logan, Mike Alridge and Robsaan Griffin, beat out the old Hayward mark of 38.88 by two tenths of a second.



Junior Daniel Das Neves finished second in the steeplechase in Wednesday's competition. He will go for the title on Friday.

ANDREW BRACKENSICK/ Emerald