



ON THE TUBE
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SPORTS

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WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

Making her mark early

In just her first season as a Duck, Karis Howell has been Oregon's most consistent javelin thrower

By Ben Kwasney
Sports Reporter

Oregon freshman javelin thrower Karis Howell's clutch performance in the last two weeks of her high school track and field career was crucial to her competing at a Division I school.

Still, Oregon never contacted Howell.

So Howell placed a phone call to Oregon throwing coach Sally Harmon telling her she wanted to throw for the Ducks. After learning of Howell's 146-3 throw at the 3A Washington State track meet, Harmon wasn't completely sold.

"I wasn't really jumping out of my seat to hear that a javelin thrower was throwing 146," Harmon said. "I thought she's going to be another work-along kid."

Washington and Texas A&M made offers to Howell as a heptathlete, but none were as appealing as the chance to throw for Oregon.

Once Howell got a chance at Oregon, the Vancouver, Wash. native continued setting personal bests, with the most recent being a 162-7 at the All-Comers meet two weeks ago.

Howell's improvement has come as a surprise to the coach, who said the freshman's mechanics still need improvement.

"Mechanically she's just not doing what a good technician should be. The saving grace that has propelled the javelin this far is her aggressiveness down the runway," Harmon said.

"She's just an animal when it comes to throwing."

Howell admits her technique needs improvement, but there are other factors that have helped her throw 162-7.

"I was excited to be out there and throwing, and I knew maybe my technique wasn't going to be the best, but I knew that there was enough heart and desire in me to get that javelin to PR," she said.

When Howell throws for a personal record it is truly personal.

"I don't go out and throw for you; I go out and throw for me," she said. "When I get out on that runway, it's for me, and I'm throwing because I want to throw."

Being only a freshman, Howell has reason to set her sights high for the future.



"I think she's fully capable of being on of the nation's best throwers. She's got all the tools, and she's got the right attitude."

Sally Harmon
UO throwing coach

Freshman Karis Howell has the Ducks' second best javelin throw of the year with at 162-7.

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MARK McTYRE/Emerald

scoreboard

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

NBA PLAYOFFS

Miami 76 LA Lakers late
New York 89 Utah game

Blazers expected to name new coach this week

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — The Portland Trail Blazers are expected to name their new coach this week, and all signs indicate Mike Dunleavy will get the job.

Dunleavy had said he had been contacted by the Blazers and the Golden State Warriors, but has since withdrawn himself from consideration for the Warriors' job.

Blazers' president Bob Whitsitt has denied he has offered the job to anyone.

O'Malley on verge of selling Dodgers to Fox

SALE: A deal between Rupert Murdoch and the Dodgers could be announced as early as next week

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles Dodgers owner Peter O'Malley expects to reach a sale agreement for his team within two months, and Rupert Murdoch appears to be the likely buyer.

The *Los Angeles Times*, quoting unidentified NFL sources, reported Monday that a deal with Fox Sports and Murdoch was under negotiation, a contract that could be worth \$400 million for all the baseball properties O'Malley owns.

A television source, speaking on the condition he not be identified, told The Associated Press the deal could be announced next week. *New York Newsday* reported Monday a deal between O'Malley and Fox

was finalized late Saturday night after three days of "intense negotiations."

Newsday, which said the sale price would be \$350 million, said the parties expected to put the finishing touches on the deal within the next few weeks.

Any deal would be subject to the approval of baseball owners, which would take several months. O'Malley would still run the team during the approval process.

O'Malley, whose family has controlled the Dodgers since 1950, told the *Times* if he had been able to build a football stadium near Dodger Stadium, he might not have put the Dodgers up for sale.

"I can't deny that was a factor," he said. "I must tell you I was extremely disappointed when we were asked to shelve our ideas."

When O'Malley announced on Jan. 6 he was selling his team, he said he supported

the city's efforts to attract an NFL team even though he wasn't part of it. His main reason for selling, he said, was estate planning.

O'Malley said Mayor Richard Riordan first asked him to help attract an NFL franchise in August, 1995 — shortly before LA's first season without an NFL team since 1946. The Rams moved to St. Louis and the Raiders to Oakland before the 1995 season.

O'Malley figured a new stadium next to Dodger Stadium would complement his efforts to help.

But last summer — before the feasibility study on the impact of a football stadium next to Dodger Stadium was even finished — the city council voted to build a new stadium at the Los Angeles Coliseum. Riordan said Monday the NFL insisted the council endorse the Coliseum.