

PAC-10 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men and women finish fifth at Pac-10s

After no-heighting for two meets in a row, Kyley Johnson surprised some with a first place finish in the high jump

By Alex Pond
Sports Editor

For the second straight season, two Ducks claimed individual titles at the Pacific-10 Conference Track and Field Championships.

It wasn't nearly enough, though, as the Oregon men finished fifth at the Pac-10 meet in Stanford, Calif., over the weekend. UCLA won the title for the fifth time in the past six seasons, compiling 135.5 points. The Ducks finished with 96.5 points, 3.5 ahead of sixth-place Washington and 6.5 behind fourth-place Washington State.

"I would have liked to have been higher," Oregon head coach Bill Dellinger said, "but I thought our team competed very well. We

scored more points than we did a year ago and we had a lot of best performances of the year by individuals."

One of those season

bests came from one of the Ducks' two winners, freshman Kyley Johnson, who shocked nearly everyone by winning the high jump Sunday with a mark of 7 feet, 0 3/4 inches.

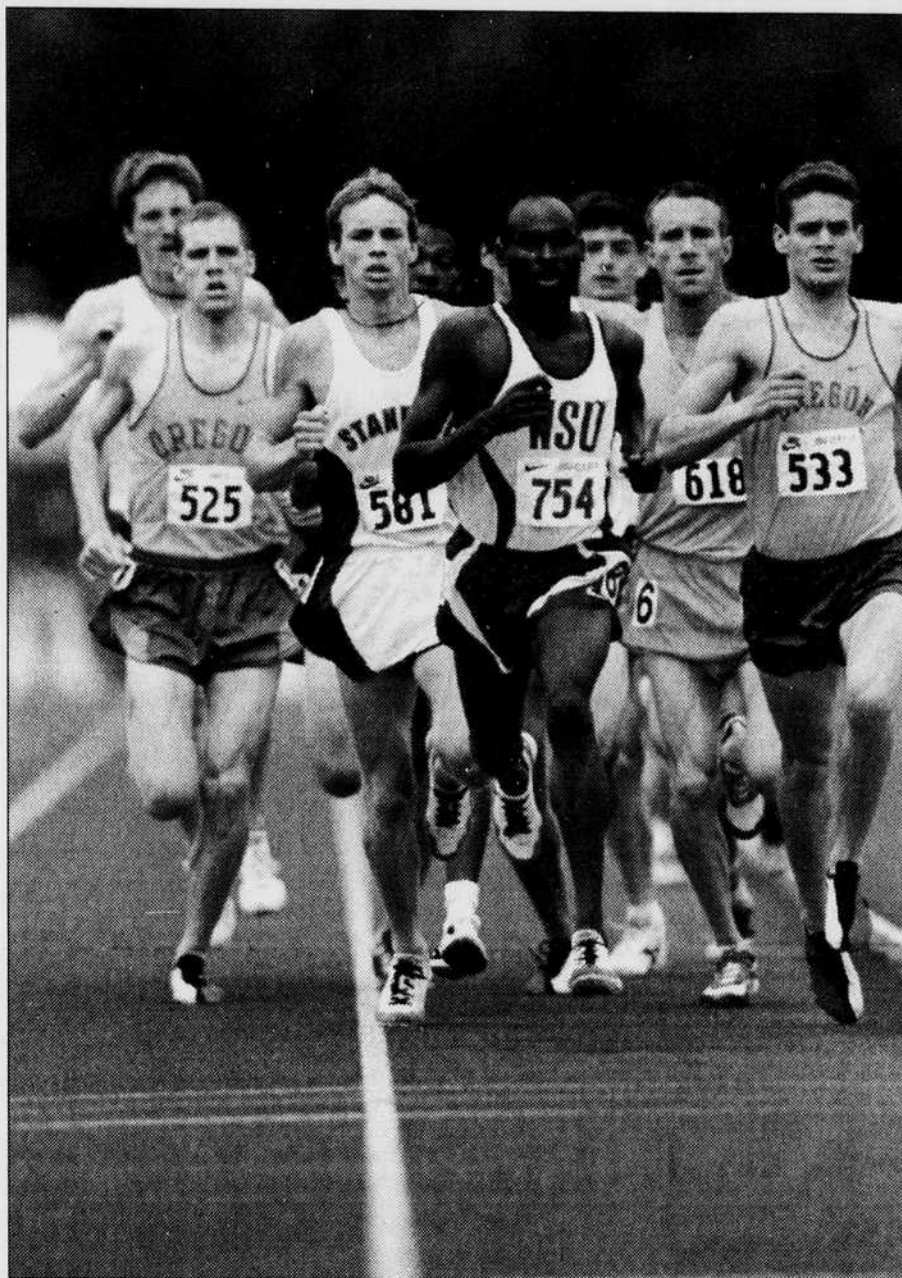
Johnson was seeded seventh heading into the competition and had no-heighted in his previous two meets.

"With the no-heights the last two weeks, I was just thinking, 'Geez, I hope I don't do this again,'" said Johnson, a Grants Pass native. "Then I got 6-4 and 6-6, and coach [John] Gillespie told me to get my knee into it. Everything clicked from 6-10 on and the confidence went up from there. That's when I actually started thinking then that I could actually win this thing."

Johnson's previous season best was 6-10 1/4, and Sunday's mark was a personal best by a half inch.

Oregon's other win — a win much more expected than Johnson's — came from Micah Davis. The junior claimed his first Pac-10

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Oregon's Laird Prosser (right) and Greg James (left) finished just out of the points in the 1,500 meters, placing ninth and 10th, respectively.

SASHA MITELMAN/Stanford Daily

Howell only Duck to take first place

Sophomore Karis Howell finished first in the javelin with a throw of 173-11

By Rob Moseley
Sports Reporter

After a surprising first day in which the Ducks found themselves in third place on the strength of their only individual title of the Pacific-10 Conference Championships, the Oregon women's track and field team finished fifth with 84 points in Stanford, Calif., this weekend.

The heavily favored Bruins won the team competition with 174 points, short of the 189 1/2 they tallied in winning the title last season.

Sophomore Karis Howell got things rolling for Oregon early on Saturday by following up her second-place finish last season with a win in the javelin. Howell's winning mark of 173 feet, 11 inches was nearly six feet farther than her previous career best.

For Howell, who missed the Oregon Twilight meet on May 15 to rest an injured shoulder, the conference-title winning throw was a long time coming.

"It's about time," the Vancouver, Wash., native said. "I've been doing it in practice and was just waiting for it to happen at a meet. I even rested last week and didn't compete, but I knew I just had to do it. My shoulder finally felt better and was relaxed, and I finally put the things together at the right time at the right place."

Howell's elation was compounded by the third-place finish of teammate Katie



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UO's Patterson finishes 12th at NAAs

Paula Patterson led the Oregon women to a 14th place finish at the NAAs in Madison, Wis.

By Tim Pyle
Sports Reporter

What a way to go out.

Senior Paula Patterson capped her stellar collegiate career for the Oregon women's golf team Saturday by shooting a final-round 68 at the NCAA Championships in Madison, Wis., to tie for 12th individually, the best-ever national finish by an Oregon woman. That final-round score also tied the school record for low round, which Patterson set at the 1997 NCAA West Regionals.

"My goal was to have a solid round and solid finish because I wasn't happy with the way I played most of the year," said Patterson, who was a first-team All-American in 1997 but fell to second-team All-Pacific-10 Conference this season. "This is a round that I won't ever forget. I'm really happy."

Oregon head coach Renee Baumgartner said the entire team shared Patterson's joy in her sparkling final-round play. Her score was the lowest among the 99 golfers competing in that round.

"You couldn't have written a better, last-round script for your senior," Baumgartner said. "The team was so excited for her. When she finished birdie, birdie on those



last two holes, I couldn't have been prouder."

The rest of the Ducks, however, did not enjoy as much success as their team captain, Patterson, at the 6,033-yard, par-72 University Ridge Golf Course.

The team's 297 in the final round gave it a 72-hole combined total of 1,213, which was good for 14th place in the 19-team field. Last season, Oregon finished a school-record seventh with the identical five-player lineup it used in this season's championships.

The Ducks, ranked No. 10 in the MasterCard Collegiate Golf Rankings, were not able to overcome inconsistency. Quality second- and fourth-round scores (294 and 297, respectively) by Oregon did not offset poor first- and third-round scores (310 and 312, respectively) enough for the Ducks to better last season's finish.

But Baumgartner said the team realizes how difficult success at nationals is to come across.

"We had very high hopes and obviously when you don't accomplish a goal that you set, you're disappointed," Baumgartner said. "But you know what — we're the 14th best team in the country out of over 250 programs. We've raised our expectations because we've qualified for nationals five out of the last six years. That's a good thing

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Miller sinks last-second three-pointer for the win

Indiana's win over the Bulls ties the Eastern Conference Finals at two apiece

By Chris Sheridan
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Once again, Reggie Miller did what Reggie Miller does best.

Miller had yet another moment of playoff greatness Monday, making a three-pointer with 0.7 seconds remaining to give the Indiana Pacers a 96-94 victory over the Chicago Bulls, tying the Eastern Conference finals at two games apiece.

Michael Jordan had a chance to one-up Miller, but his 26-footer at the buzzer hit the backboard, rolled around the rim and spun out, sending Market Square Arena into pandemonium.

It was a wild finish to what was probably the best game of the series, and the Bulls stormed out of the arena feeling they had been ripped off by

several controversial calls and non-calls late in the game.

"There were so many debatable calls late in the game, but Reggie still had to make that shot," said Chicago coach Phil Jackson, who compared the officiating to the 1972 Olympic gold medal game when the United States lost to the Soviet Union.

"They had many, many opportunities they didn't deserve in that ballgame. I don't know

if I'll be able to watch the last 10 minutes of that game without calling Rod Thorn," he said, referring to the NBA vice-president who was in attendance.

But more than anything the officials did, the Pacers won the game because they had three chances to do so.

With Chicago leading 94-93, Jordan blocked a jumper by Derrick McKey with 6.4 sec-

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