

# Sports

Oregon Daily  
**Emerald**

## Scoreboard

### AP Men's Top 25

1. Cincinnati (31) 28-1
2. Duke 24-4
3. Stanford 25-2
4. Michigan St. 23-7
5. Ohio St. 22-5
6. Arizona 24-6
7. Temple 23-5
8. Tennessee 24-5
9. Iowa St. 26-4
10. Florida
11. LSU 25-4
12. Syracuse 24-4
13. Indiana 20-7
14. Oklahoma St. 23-5
15. Texas 22-7
16. Kentucky 22-8
17. Tulsa 27-3
18. Oklahoma 24-5
19. Maryland 22-8
20. St. Johns 21-7
21. Purdue 21-8
22. Connecticut 21-8
23. Auburn 21-8
24. Kansas 22-8
25. Oregon 21-7

### AP Women's Top 25

1. Connecticut (40) 28-1
2. Tennessee (3) 28-3
3. Louisiana Tech 25-2
4. Georgia 29-3
5. Notre Dame 25-3
6. Texas Tech 24-3
7. Penn St. 26-4
8. Rutgers 21-6
9. UC Santa Barbara
10. Iowa St. 22-5
11. Duke 25-5
12. Mississippi St. 23-7
13. Purdue 22-7
14. Old Dominion 24-4
15. LSU 22-6
16. Auburn 21-7
17. Boston College 25-7
18. Oklahoma 23-6
19. Virginia 23-8
20. N.C. State 20-8
21. Tulane 25-4
22. Arizona 22-6
23. George Washington 25-4
24. Oregon 22-7
25. Michigan 22-7

Others receiving votes: Stanford 67, Xavier 43, North Carolina 39, Marquette 28, Kent 23, Kansas 21, Vanderbilt 20, St. Joseph's 14, Illinois 10, SW Missouri St. 7, UCLA 7

# Back on Track

The collegiate career of Marie Davis, one of the great female distance runners in Oregon history, will end at the NCAA Indoor Championships this Saturday

**M**arie Davis has been running all her life. She ran in high school and is a six-time Oregon prep track and cross country champion.

She came to Tracktown to run for Oregon, putting herself in a position that most runners only dream about.

And last spring, to cap a fabulous four-year outdoor track and cross-country career, Davis ran her way into the NCAA track and field championships in Boise, Idaho.

But in her last outdoor race as a Duck, something went wrong.

Perhaps it was the high elevation. Maybe it was some undetected illness. Whatever the cause, Davis used every ounce of energy to push herself the last 100 meters of the 5,000-meter race, despite the pleas from her coach, Tom Heinonen, to step off the track.

Davis knew she wasn't going out with a bang — but she also knew that never in her life had she not finished a race.

She wasn't about to quit right then, either.

### Even paced

Nine months have passed since what happened in Boise, and all is quiet at Hayward Field.

Well — almost everything. The faintest sounds escape from Davis as she runs seemingly effort-

less circles around the age-old loop. They're not sounds of heavy breaths, or shoes falling hard onto the track's rubberized surface.

Rather, what can be heard are the light, quick, rhythmic paces as she runs by, accompanied by the slightest sound of the air parting in front of her.

Those who haven't seen her before wouldn't know this is the same Marie Davis who nearly fell crossing the finish line in Boise. Those who know her may say the opposite — that the athlete who competed in Boise was not the real Marie Davis.

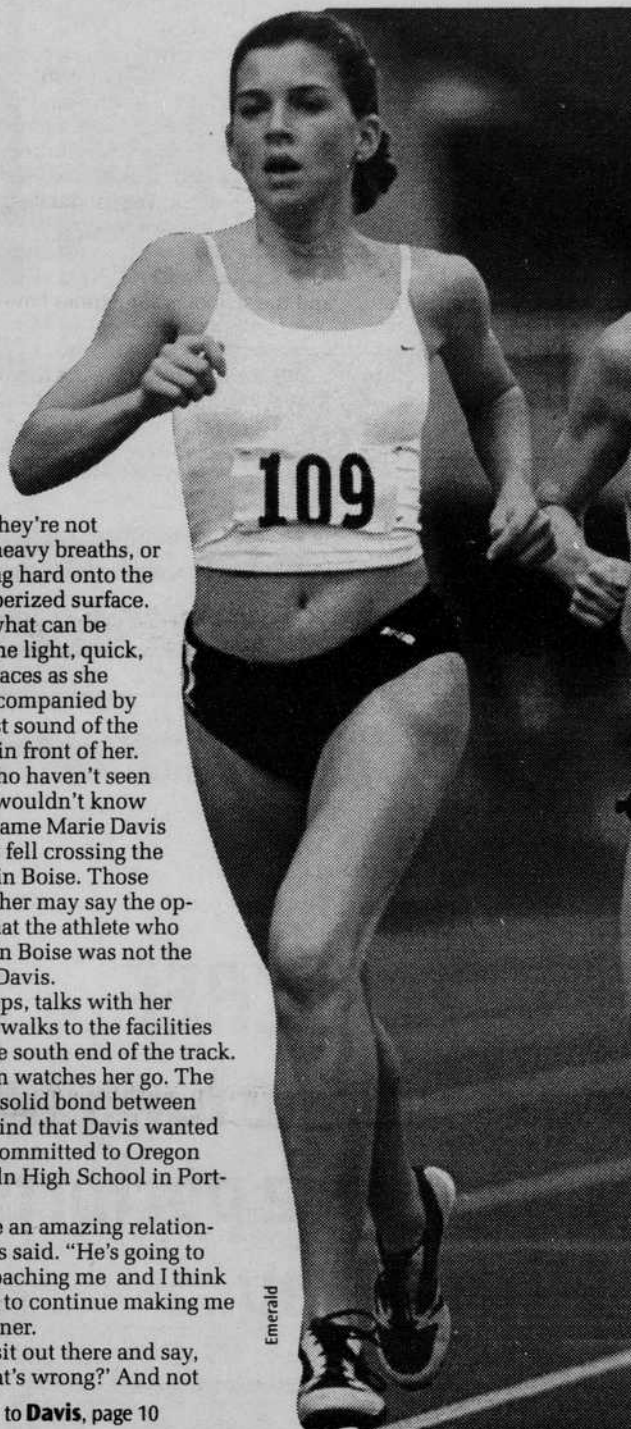
Davis stops, talks with her coach, and walks to the facilities room on the south end of the track.

Heinonen watches her go. The two have a solid bond between them, the kind that Davis wanted when she committed to Oregon from Lincoln High School in Portland.

"We have an amazing relationship," Davis said. "He's going to continue coaching me and I think that's going to continue making me a better runner."

"He can sit out there and say, 'Marie, what's wrong?' And not

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Emerald

## Coaches should show Shaq love

### Shaq Williams

29 games  
34.6 mpg  
17.9 ppg  
4.3 apg  
3.3 rpg  
1.5 spg

■ Shaquala Williams' team is in first, and her stats are among the conference's best — proof that she is the Pac-10's best player

### WOMEN'S NOTES

By Mirjam Swanson  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Shaquala Williams is the Pacific-10 Conference's player of the year.

No, not officially.

No announcement will be made until the end of the season.

But Pac-10 coaches have already voted on the honor; the deadline to do so was March 2, immediately after the Oregon's home loss to Southern California and before Williams' spectacular performances in Arizona.

So it's difficult to say if Williams will get her proper respect.

Oregon's sensational sophomore — currently the player of the week for her work last weekend — has never made a secret of want-

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## 'Pit Crew' gets props for energizing Ducks

■ Intense crowds at the Pit have provided Oregon with one of the best home court advantages in the Pacific-10 Conference and even the nation

### MEN'S NOTES

By Brett Williams  
Oregon Daily Emerald

January 5, 1995.

A streaking UCLA team, featuring future-NBA players Tyus Edney, George Zidek and Ed O'Bannon, comes to McArthur Court. Jim Harrick's squad will win the national championship later that year, but they can't handle the crowd at the Pit.

The Bruins are visibly rattled and can't escape the turnover bug in the Ducks' 82-72 victory.

February 20, 1997.

Mike Bibby and Miles Simon lead the Wildcats to the national championship this season, but tonight the Pit is loud and the 'Cats are nervous, eventually suffering a 78-72 loss.

These are just two examples of Oregon's extraordinary home court advantage. In the past, Mac Court has made good Oregon teams great.

### Pac-10 capacity crowds

1. Stanford 100 percent
2. Arizona 99.5 percent
3. California 91.3 percent
4. Oregon 90 percent
5. UCLA 73.1 percent

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### Best Bet

NBA: Phoenix vs. Houston  
5 p.m., TNT