

Law student remembered fondly in first Foster Fun Run

By Scott Pesznecker
Oregon Daily Emerald

Nearly 300 runners spanned the out-and-back course of the first annual Foster Fun Run shortly after 9 a.m. on April 22.

Racing conditions were perfect. The five-kilometer course was flat and fast, following the concrete pathways that span the north side of the Willamette River near Autzen Stadium, and the occasional sun breaks warmed the otherwise cool morning air.

It was a fitting way to remember

Tom Foster, a 28-year-old Oregon law student who died when his heart stopped beating on Dec. 21, 1999.

Foster was in his third-year of law school and was executive editor of the Journal of Environmental Law and Litigation. He also kept busy by working for the dean and practicing patent moot court.

And when he managed to find free time, he loved running.

"He loved life. He never wanted to have any regrets about anything," said Matt Mattson, one of

Foster's good friends and running partners. "He wanted to live every day to its fullest. He lived by that."

Reporter's NOTEBOOK
"Running went along with his love for life; he loved the feeling he'd get after a long run."

Foster's family and friends set the high goal of making an endowed scholarship in his honor, an accomplishment that requires

them to raise \$10,000. Planners decided that for the Fun Run to generate a valuable contribution, 200 people would need to show up for race day.

It should have been difficult to get so many participants. Not many people would know about the race because it was in its first year. Unlike other local races, the Foster Fun Run had no community press coverage. Even the Emerald declined to run an article.

But like Foster endured the hardships of a marathon, his family and friends persevered and exceeded their goal.

After the race, coordinators proudly announced that \$6,200 had been raised by the race and from other donations. Another Foster Fun Run will take place next year, and the \$10,000 mark will be reached.

I talked to several people before and after the race, trying to get a better idea of what Foster was like. Many of those people said the same things: Foster was hard working, dedicated, kind and a friend to all.

Even people who'd never met Foster had things to say about him.

"The way my girlfriend described him, he was outgoing and always keeping busy," said Dana

Alling, a six-year Eugene resident. "This is probably something he would have started himself."

When runners go into a race, they're usually trying to beat either a time or a person. On the course, athletes often pick people out of the crowd and try to pass them. I'm far from being a good runner, but I'm usually competitive. I know that most races are about finishing well.

But the Foster Fun run wasn't about finishing.

It was a time to reflect. It was a chance to shed sweat and tears for someone who'd passed on. It was a golden moment to remember that life is precious and that everyone should stop and think — if only for a moment — what we could do to live every moment to its fullest.

More than anything, it was about closure. It was an emotional, final goodbye to Tom Foster.

"He'd be awestruck that people would do this for him," said Kate Felton, one of Foster's close friends. "I hope he knows how much people loved him."

"He would have finished in front of the pack; I'm sure of it."

Scott Pesznecker is a sports reporter at the Emerald. He can be reached via e-mail at jflak1@aol.com.

UO Summer Session Duck Call Starts May 1.



Check out our web site

Register for

Summer Classes.



Book Your Summer in Oregon

Summer session starts June 19. Pick up your free summer bulletin today in the Summer Session office, 333 Oregon Hall, or at the UO Bookstore. You can speed your way toward graduation by taking required courses during summer.

University of Oregon Summer Session
<http://uosummer.uoregon.edu/>

Pac-10 golf

continued from page 11

where-in-between day.

"I'm really glad we have two more days," head coach Renee Baumgartner said. "I believe [the team] has a lot of potential and can play really well."

The Ducks ended up in the middle of the pack after 18 holes, finishing sixth out of the 10 ranked teams. Heuser, despite her first drive and a double bogey on the 16th hole, finished at one-under par for the day, only a stroke behind tournament leader Amanda Molte-Leth of UCLA.

"Obviously, a low number always helps the team score," Heuser said. "But we are fortunate enough that we have five players that can all play well. Today was my day and tomorrow might be somebody else's."

The good news for the Ducks? Eliminate some of the first-round jitters and the team could have dramatically lower scores today and Wednesday. The bad news? The rest of the Pac-10 could come around, too.

In the latest MasterCard Collegiate Golf Rankings, the Ducks jumped up to No. 18 in the nation. However, the rankings show what a tough golf conference the Pac-10 is. Eight of the nation's top 25 golfers — including No. 1 Jenna Daniels of Arizona and No. 2 Miriam Nagl of Arizona State — are competing, and so are seven of the

nation's top 25 teams.

Some of those players and teams aren't yet performing up to par. No. 4 Arizona State holds down the eighth spot, 20 strokes behind tournament leader Southern California. Washington, Oregon State and Washington State, all ranked, also fared poorly yesterday.

The first tee time for the Ducks tomorrow is 10:06 a.m.

The Oregon men hold second place after a round at their Pac-10 Championships at Karsten Golf Course. Oregon trails No. 4 Arizona State by an almost-insurmountable 17 strokes, but head coach Steve Nosler is happy about his team's two under-par rounds.

"It's been a relaxing round, just because [the whole team] is still in it," Nosler said, sounding relieved by his team's performance.

Unlike the women, the men played 36 holes today in 95-degree weather and will play 36 more during the next two days.

Senior co-captain Andrew Tredway and freshman Chris Carnahan lead the Ducks in Arizona. Both shot six-under par 138s to finish tied for fourth.

But the real story for Oregon has been team play. All six golfers are in the top 40, but more importantly there have been no bad rounds by any of the Ducks.

"The kids know what they're here for," Nosler said, presumably talking about a Pac-10 title. "They played well."

Virtual Office Systems Inc.

In Partnership with

The University of Oregon Bookstore

3131 West 11th Ph. 343-8633 Open Mon-Sat 10-6

Anniversary Special

AMD K7 Athlon 600

\$1169.99

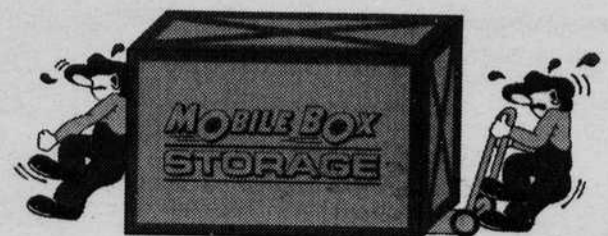
- Microstar MS 6195 Board • 8 MB Diamond AGP
- 13 GB ATA 66 Drive • 64 MB 100 MHz SDRAM (plus 32 MB Free) • 17" .28 SVGA Monitor
- With 650 MHz CPU, \$1199.99
- With 750 MHz CPU, \$1369.99



FREE 32 MB Upgrade with any VOS Computer

All systems include ATX case, Windows 98, 52X CD, 56K v.90 modem, mouse, keyboard, floppy, sound, speakers, 1 Year parts/ 2 Years labor warranty.

VOS Inc. Systems are also available at the UO Bookstore. Parts available only at VOS Inc. Prices good through 04/29/00. AMD, K6, K7, AMD logo and 3DNow! are trademarks of AMD, Inc. Prices subject to change.



We bring the storage unit to you.

You pack it, we pick it up and store it.

We'll deliver it when you're ready.

Perfect for the summer!

485-2115

8P8800