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Ducks take team, individual titles

■ Hanna Smedstad and Chris Clancy lead the Duck Harriers to Division 1 titles at the Willamette Open

By Robbie McCallum
 Oregon Daily Emerald

In their last appearance in the state of Oregon, the Duck men and women Harriers made a strong impression and now look ahead to future championship meets.

Oregon senior Hanna Smedstad put in yet another strong performance Saturday, as she won the 26th

annual Willamette Open and led her Oregon women's cross country team to the team title.

The transfer from Oklahoma State toured the 5,000-meter course in 17 minutes and five seconds — three seconds ahead of runner-up Abby Peters.

Twenty-five teams and over 700 runners at Bush Pasture Park in Salem comprised the largest cross country race on the west coast.

Oregon won the meet with a score of 23 points; more impressively is that the Ducks provided the first five Division 1 runners.

Senior Katie Crabb had a breakthrough race as she finished third in a time of 17:30, a personal best by 29 seconds. The next Duck to the finish line was sophomore Eri MacDonald at sixth in a time of 17:57, followed closely by freshman Laura Harmon, who came in seventh at the 17:58 mark.

The race marks the first time that Oregon had four runners under the 18-minute mark since the NCAA championships in 1997.

Oregon had two more runners in the top-20 with sophomore Erinn Gulbrandsen (14th, 18:19) and sophomore transfer Carrie Zografos (19th, 18:32). Freshman Annette Mosey (34th in 18:50) and sophomore Annie Davis (47th in 19:03) rounded out the Duck contingent.

"Our athletes ran strong and re-

laxed," head coach Tom Heinonen said. "This was a good step for us as we prepare for pre-nationals next week. Hanna battled it out with Abby Peters, a former All-American from Boise State, and pulled ahead at 1 1/2 miles, then held off a late rush for the win."

Oregon scored 23 points, well ahead of second place Greater Boise Running Club. In Division 1 scoring, the Ducks' perfect score of 15 points stunned the competition. Portland was second with 49 points.

"This race will determine which six runners — in addition to Rhianon Glenn who we held out — will compete at Pre-Nationals next Saturday," Heinonen said. "It was a good test over 5,000 meters and a good performance to get us ready for the next meet."

The Duck men also placed well in Salem. Although entering a "B" team, Oregon edged all other Division 1 opponents while placing 18th overall.

Freshman Chris Clancy was the top Duck, placing 23rd in a time of 25:05 over the 8,000-meter course. The freshman from Portland was seventh among collegians and ran 55 seconds faster than his time last week at the Roy Griak Invitational.

The rest of the Oregon team consisted of 800 meter runners from the track team. Juniors Sean Gross and Merrit McDole finished 133rd and 134th respectively in identical times of 27:03.

Junior Ross Krempley, who was an 800-meter finalist at the Pacific-10 Conference track and field championships last May, finished 162nd in 27:23. Not far behind was freshman Mike Pluth at 169th in a time of 27:33. Sophomore Jake Horner was the last Duck to finish, as he came in at 244th in a time of 29:29.

Up next for the Duck Harriers is the Pre-NCAA meet in Ames, Iowa. The meet will feature many of the nation's best teams on the course that will be used for the NCAA Championships November 20.

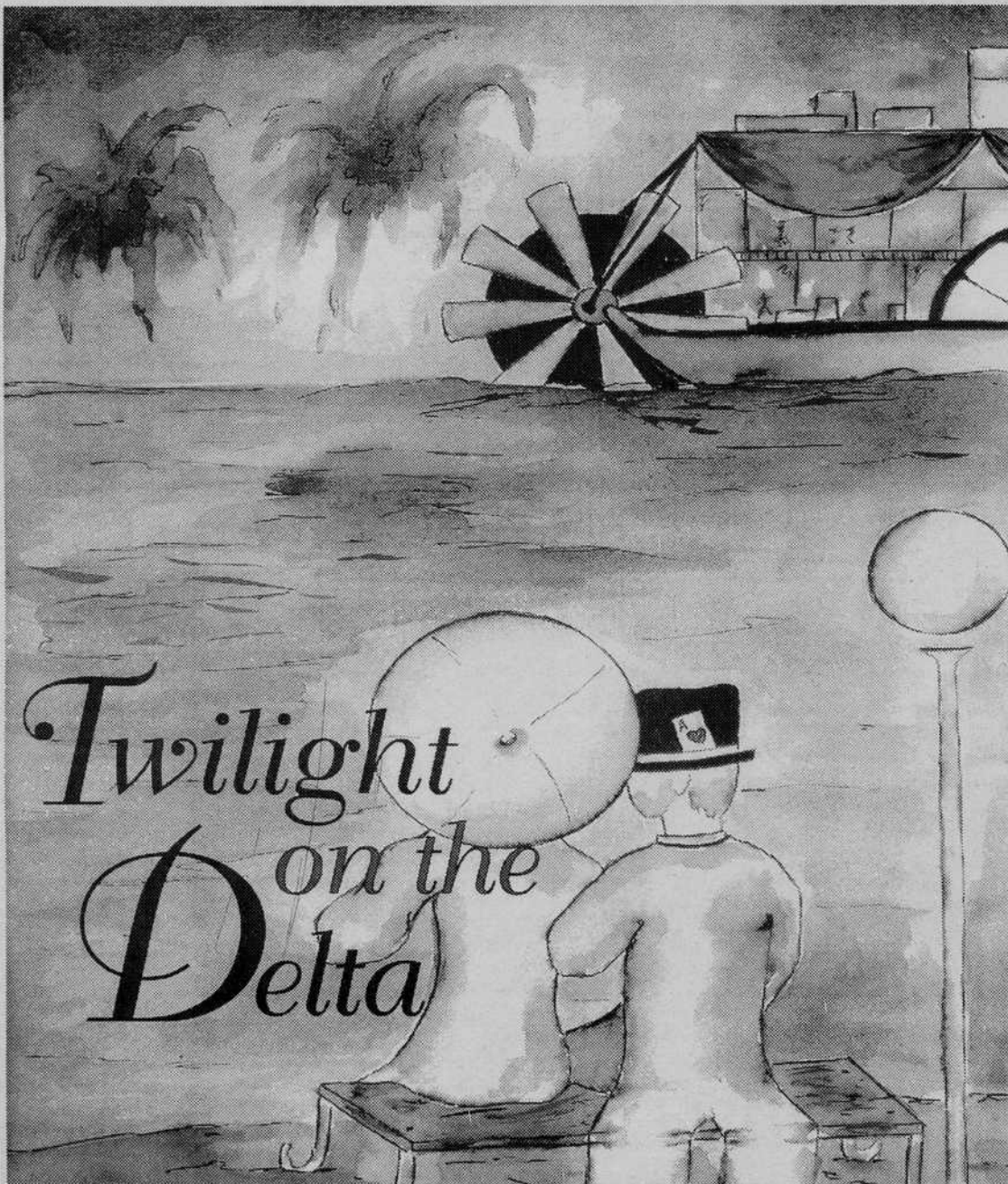


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October 20, 2000, 8:30 pm
EMU Ballroom
 Tickets are on sale at The Break in the EMU.
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Soccer

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but that happens."

Baysa's 22nd career goal on Sunday was enough to move her past Erin Anderson as Oregon's all-time leading goal-scorer. Baysa is now four points behind Anderson for the all-time lead in points scored.

"It feels good," said Baysa, about knocking down the Ducks' records. "But I'm more excited about the win. Hopefully we'll just keep getting better after that."

Baysa's goals couldn't have come at a better time for the Ducks. Three of Oregon's key offensive players sat on the sidelines Sunday, and could only watch the junior's offensive display. Forward Beth Bowler missed the weekend's games with a sprained left ankle, Crystal David was out with a knee injury and sophomore Julie McLellan missed Sunday's matchup due to the flu.

With all of those offensive threats out of Oregon's lineup, Baysa and her supporting cast had to step up the offensive heat on Arizona. With help from Westermarck, Cascio, senior Allyssa White and junior Molly Stemp, Baysa and the Ducks were able to fill the void left by David, Bowler and McLellan. Cascio and Westermarck had assists on Baysa's first goal,

while Stemp assisted on her second.

The Ducks played everyone who was suited for Sunday's game.

"We played everybody we could," Steffen said. "And that's a great testimony to the depth of this team."

"Our offense stepped up a lot," Baysa said. "But it started with our defense. It was a team effort."

The defense let Arizona get only 15 shots, and only seven of those were on goal. The defense shut down one of Arizona's leading scorers, freshman Liz Bartlett, who had only two shot attempts. Arizona's other leading scorer, speedy junior Kristi Lorna, had five shots on the afternoon.

"We played with all our heart and all our emotion," Peters said.

The defense also shut down Arizona State's All-American junior, Stacey Tullock, on Friday. Tullock didn't start the game because of the flu, but when she came in, the nation's 13th-ranked scorer took booming shot after booming shot — all of which missed the Oregon net. Oregon's defense gave her few shots inside the 18-yard box.

The Ducks will take on USC and UCLA in Los Angeles next weekend and then return home Oct. 20 to battle Oregon State.