

Coaches' polls kind to UO men, snub women

The Oregon cross country teams are headed in opposite directions in the ever-important national polls

By Robbie McCallum
Oregon Daily Emerald

An impressive performance at the Pre-NCAA meet at Iowa State Saturday has helped gain recognition for the Oregon men's cross country team.

After placing eighth out of 53 teams in Ames, Iowa, the Ducks rose five places in the national polls to the No. 13 spot.

Martin Smith's squad beat out seven of the 14 ranked teams en-

tered in the Pre-NCAA meet. Colorado earned the top nod in the poll after winning in Iowa. Pacific-10 Conference rival Stanford fell to No. 3 after placing second.



The Oregon women fell completely out of the polls after a disappointing performance in Iowa. The Ducks were ranked No. 22, but after finishing 21st out of 56 teams, they received only one vote in the national coaches' poll.

Defending national champion

Brigham Young remained the top women's team.

PR watch

The only Oregon runner to come close to his or her personal best last Saturday at the Pre-NCAA meet was senior Michael Kasahun. The transfer from Fresno City College equaled his 10,000-meter personal best with a time of 31 minutes, 41 seconds.

Considering that the Iowa State course is hilly and not known for personal records, Kasahun's run is much more impressive.

Kasahun is having a breakthrough year in his second season with the Ducks. The Kenyan was Oregon's top finisher at the Roy Griak Invitational Sept. 23 and was second on

the team to sophomore Jason Hartmann at the Pre-NCAA meet.

Looking ahead

The Oregon cross country teams will have another two-week break between meets. Coming up for Oregon are the Pacific-10 Conference Championships in Seattle Oct. 28.

Although the meet will decide the conference champions, it has little effect on which teams qualify for the NCAA meet Nov. 20. What the meet will affect are the national coaches' polls, which have a major impact on which teams receive at-large bids for the tournament.

The meet that will decide the Ducks' NCAA fate is the NCAA

Western Regional meet Nov. 11 in Fresno, Calif.

Western region update

Although the Oregon men's cross country team rose in the national polls to No. 13, it remained third among teams in the West region. The Ducks must place in the top-two at the regional meet to automatically qualify for the NCAA meet. Their No. 13 ranking does put the Ducks in good position for an at-large bid.

Oregon trails Stanford and Arizona in the rankings.

The women are in a tougher spot. Head coach Tom Heinonen's team trails West region rivals Stanford, Arizona State, Washington and Arizona in the coaches' polls.

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Horoscope by Linda C. Black

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 19). Use your brains to increase your income. You can do it with a combination of talent and sensitivity. The person who's most annoying in October could be your guide to success. Learn a new role in November and be well-rewarded for it. Study something you love in December, and romance could be a byproduct. A game could lead to a commitment in February. Dip into your savings to make yourself look better in May. Abundance comes from far away in June, and somebody who nags you is your best coach in July. That bar under your saddle keeps you going in September.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 5 — Your mind's probably on a domestic matter, no matter where your body is. Go over your scheme during your coffee break. If you've already figured out your plan by the time you get home, the job will be a lot easier.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8 — If you're single, a close friend or your favorite sibling might find you the perfect mate. If you're committed, double dating with that same sibling or close friend would be fun. Right now can be better than the good old days!

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 5 — Deep down, you're lucky. You express yourself well, and that doesn't hurt. Don't get too talkative. Don't pass along the news you just got from a co-worker. Keep doing your job. You'll make a better impression on those who already know.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) — Today is a 6 — You've got a bar under your saddle today. You're anxious to get going. The information you're seeking is there, but you'll have to dig for it. Be angry about that isn't bad, by the way. It gives you more energy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 6 — Revisiting an old issue is worth the effort. It may take longer than expected, though. Once the cat's out of the bag, you could learn all sorts of interesting things. Keep asking and listening.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Have you felt thwarted lately? Held back? Unable to unleash your full potential? Conditions are improving for your personal growth. Finish that degree. If you already know it all, teach. Now, that's a learning experience!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 6 — Did somebody promise you money and never pay up? Remind them. That goes for the boss who owes you a raise, too. Unfortunately, what goes around comes around. You may need the money 'cause somebody's bugging you!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 7 — A distant friend or relative could come up with a fabulous scheme. If it involves a reunion with the old gang, the timing's perfect. Volunteer to be in charge of the mailing list. You'll be great at tracking everybody down.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 7 — Your luck's getting better. Venus, symbol of good luck and love, is coming into your sign. Don't race off and do something foolish, however. Other indicators advise discretion. As you know, that's sometimes the better part of valor.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is an 8 — The grapevine works well for you. Need an attorney? A friend of a friend could be the perfect person. A recliner for the living room? Somebody may be about to toss one out. Call around and let people know what you're after.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 7 — Move quickly on an idea you want to push through. Getting your way is going to be more difficult for a while. Line up your team so you won't be working alone. You always do better with a few friends on your side.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8 — Your dream vacation may be a while off, but you can practice. In the privacy of your home, share an exotic recipe with a cuddly friend. If you're no cook, have it delivered. Add a romantic video, and voila! The perfect midweek mini-holiday!

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