

Runge adds sixth prep to recruit list

Point guard Catherria Turner signs a national letter of intent to join the UO women's basketball team

By Adam Jude
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Jody Runge frenzy, at this point, has showed little signs of ruining one of the most successful eras in Oregon sports history.

In fact, with the addition of one of the most touted prep players on the West Coast, Runge's program seems only to be getting stronger.



Catherria Turner, a 5-foot-6 point guard from Tucson, Ariz., signed a letter of intent Friday to join the Oregon women's basketball team, which is still being investigated by a private law firm. Turner adds to the list of five other high school athletes who committed to the Ducks in the fall, making this year's recruiting class one of the best ever.

Turner, who averaged 29 points, 11 rebounds, 10 steals and 4.7 assists during her senior season in high school, is expected to backup star point guard Shaquala Williams, who missed the entire 2000-01 season with a torn anterior cruciate ligament in her left knee.

Turner was named the Arizona Player of the Year by the Arizona Daily Star and the Tucson Citizen.

"I just watched her play this past weekend," Runge said in a released statement Friday. "Catherria's a great athlete. She's going to be a great addition to our program as a young point guard. She can shoot it and handle it. She's quick and she can pressure shots on the defensive end."

The guard-heavy Ducks also return soon-to-be juniors Alissa Edwards and Kourtney Shreve — who split time at the point last season — as well as senior Edniesha Curry, who sat out last season after transferring from Cal State-Northridge.

"[Catherria's] going to have to get stronger," Runge said. "She's young, but she's got a lot of talent and will have some opportunities to see the court."

Five high school standouts signed with the Ducks last fall: center Andrea Bills (Moreno Valley, Calif./Moreno Valley High), guard Brandi Davis (La Habra, Calif./Sonora High), guard Kedzie Gunderson (Bellevue, Wash./Bellevue High), forward Amy Parrish (Hanford, Calif./Hanford High) and guard Amy Taylor (Shoreline, Wash./Shorewood High).

Runge's team is being evaluated by Kansas City-based law firm Bond, Schoeneck and King. Oregon Athletic Director Bill Moos ordered the external investigation after he met with eight unidentified players, who requested that Runge be fired.

The firm, which is expected to be paid \$24,500 for its services, could take another week or so to finish its report.

The Ducks were able to pull off upsets in the 1,500 meters and the 800 meters. Senior Hannah Smedstad won the 1,500 after losing her main event, the 3,000, to Washington's Anna Aoki by .6 seconds. In the 1,500, Smedstad edged Aoki by 1.1 seconds.

"Hannah surprised us by coming back to win the 1,500," Heinonen said. "This really helped her, because she had a rough week."

In the 800, Oregon's Eri Macdonald and Annette Mosey teamed up to take first and second place. Washington ended the day by winning the 4x400 relay, but Oregon celebrated the team victory.

"I liked the way people competed," Heinonen said.

When the Hayward Field dust cleared, the Ducks had three new PAC-10 qualifiers to add to a growing list. Smedstad's time in the 1,500 was a PAC-10 mark. Cameo Davis added a PAC-10 mark in the 400 hurdles and Sara Dinsmore threw a PAC-10 distance in the javelin.

The Ducks will take on a deeper field of athletes at the Mt. SAC relays in California this weekend, beginning Friday.

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fourth to lead the Ducks to a sweep in the event.


The Oregon throwing team starred Saturday, scoring 32 points in four different events. More importantly, the Ducks shut the Huskies out of those events, as Washington scored only four points.

Etter won both the discus and shot put events, but senior Maureen Morrison notched the most impressive score, a season-best throw of 181 feet in the first round of the hammer throw.

In the javelin, freshman standout Sarah Malone continued her impressive, consistent performance and won the event with a toss of 158 feet, slightly lower than her season best of 165-1.

Amanda Brown and Rachael Kriz led the Ducks in the jumping events, taking first in the long jump and high jump. The triple jump, won by Washington's Brittny Roberts, was the only field event Oregon failed to win.

The Huskies made up ground in the sprinting events, winning six of the eight track events and both re-



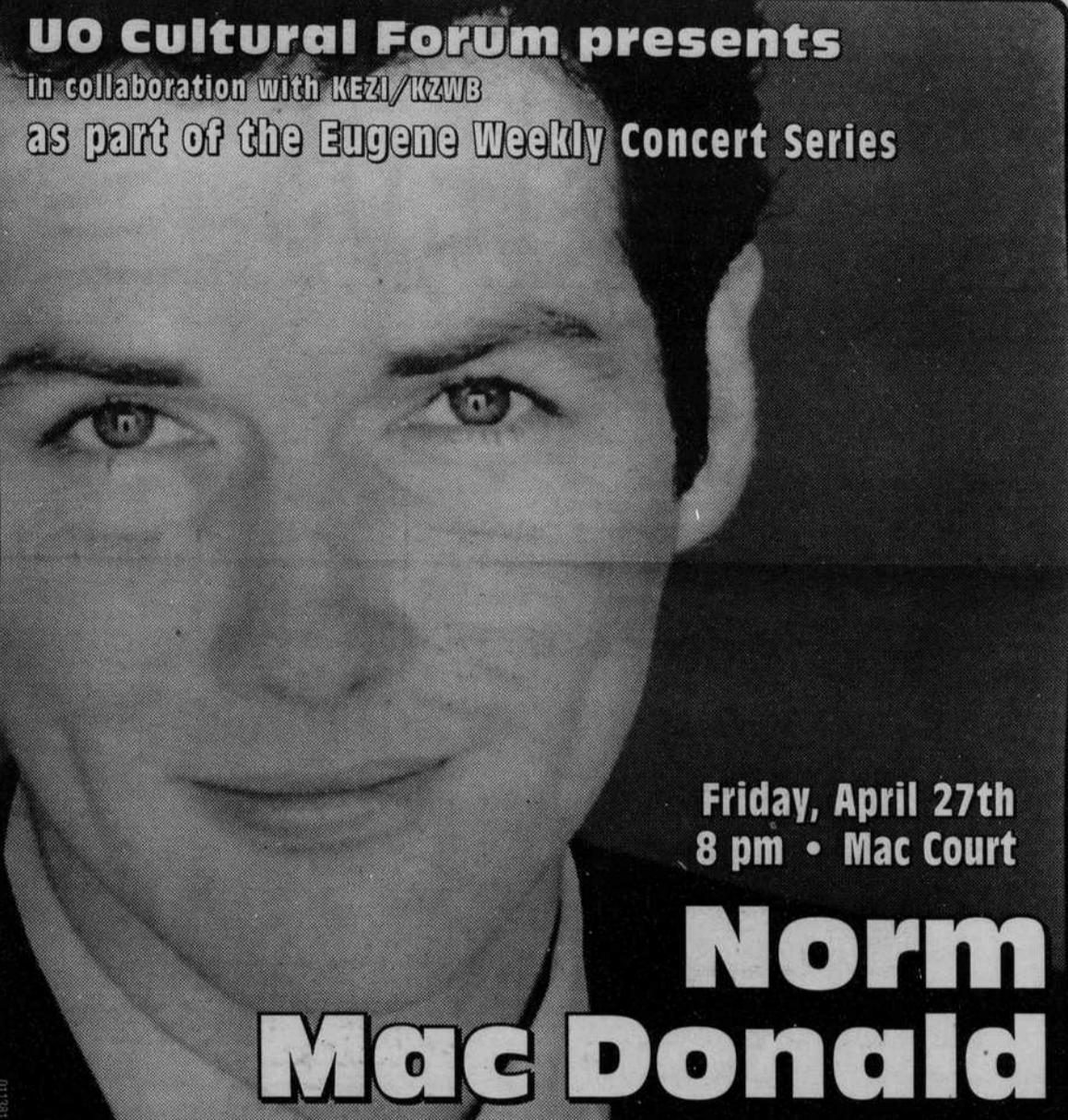
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