

Football

continued from page 15

lard, who last participated in track five years ago while in high school. "It didn't bother me at all to do the football scrimmage and then the track meet. But I really need to work on my track stamina."

Mallard told football head coach Mike Bellotti that the sprinting made him sore in areas he's never been sore before.

One of the reasons these athletes are able to compete in both sports is the relationship that Bellotti has with men's track and field head coach Martin Smith.

"Martin and I have talked a lot and we've come to an understanding as to how it should be handled and I think it's a positive," Bellotti said. "If we have football players that can go score points for the track team, I think that's awesome."

Smith was also thrilled with the football players, especially since sprinting is his team's weakest link. The Washington Dual is Oregon track's only head-to-head meet of the season and since the Huskies have a strong sprint corps, Mallard and Keyes' presence was all the more important.

"It was nice to have the football guys and I'm really appreciative of coach Bellotti, who was very generous," Smith said. "That's a heck of a sacrifice for them after a live scrimmage on Friday. They bring a neat attitude and showed a lot of Oregon Duck pride."

Football will remain the top priority for the players, but they look forward to competing again on the track later this season. The spring football workouts end on April 28 with the annual Spring Game, which coincides with track's Oregon Invitational, but after that, Bellotti said the "guys will have free reign to do whatever they want track-wise."

er they want track-wise."

Mallard and Keyes both even mentioned possibly qualifying for the May 19-20 Pacific-10 Conference Championships in Berkeley, Calif.

"There could be an outside chance at that," Keyes said. "Anything's possible. I'd love to if we could since all my family's down there in the Bay Area."

Both Keyes and Mallard expressed how great the Duck track athletes were in welcoming them with open arms. John Steigeler, a javelin thrower, said that the added speedsters "make the team complete."

2001 NFL Draft

Saturday marks the National Football League's draft, and there are some strong possibilities that a few Ducks could get plucked.

Bellotti said that defensive end Saul Patu, linebacker Matt Smith, punter Kurtis Doerr and quarterback A.J. Feeley are Oregon's likeliest selections. He also mentioned how defensive end Jason Nikolao and wide receiver Marshaun Tucker could be "sleepers."

"You never know what can happen on draft day," Bellotti said. "I never make predictions."

Feeley, who has hired Leigh Steinberg as his agent, has impressed NFL scouts at private workouts despite not starting a game during his senior season.

The seven-round, two-day NFL Draft begins at 9 a.m. Saturday on ESPN.

Oregon's third scrimmage

The Oregon football team finishes its third week of spring workouts today with its third scrimmage of the month.

The scrimmage will last from 5:15-6:30 p.m. and will take place on the practice field near the Casanova Center. It is open to the public.

Oregon's spring season concludes April 28 with the annual Spring Game at Hillsboro Stadium near Portland.

Softball

continued from page 15

"We're going to go out and battle," Oregon head coach Rick Gamez said. "Every opponent from here on out is going to be tough. We have to go out and play fundamental softball."

The Ducks snapped a six-game losing streak Friday with two solid victories over San Jose State. But Saturday brought back the Pac-10 and the worst the Ducks had to offer. Oregon State easily swept both games, 8-0 and 11-2, on the Ducks' home pond.

"You don't ever really get over that," Wangler said of Saturday's performance. "That was embarrassing."

Gamez has led the Ducks to three straight NCAA Tournament appearances, but the chances of making another trip this season are only getting slimmer.

"If anything's going to happen, it has to happen with the snap of a finger," Wangler said. "It's too late to mess around. We have to get it done now."

Of Oregon's 16 remaining games, 13 are against ranked Pac-10 opponents.

A little breather

To the surprise of some, the Ducks have not practiced yet this week.

Gamez said the break was meant to get the team's mentality back on track and give the Ducks some much needed rest.

"It's just some time off to heal up some of the wounded," Gamez said.

The team is scheduled to practice today, Gamez said.

"I'd rather practice," Wangler said. "It's nice to have some time off, but at the same time we have a lot to work on."

Stretching the arms

Junior pitcher Connie McMurren was not 100 percent healthy when she was roughed up by the Beavers Saturday. Bothered by the flu, McMurren allowed seven runs — four earned — on six hits in 2 2/3 innings. McMurren, who is third on the school's all-time strikeout list, has an 8-13 record this season.

The Oregon pitching staff is last in the Pac-10 in ERA (2.79) and opponents batting average (.244).

Take a break.... You've earned it!



30 Days... 2 Countries... 1 Pass...

Travel by train and experience the adventure and freedom that only the North America Rail Pass* offers.

Simply the most adventurous and affordable way to see the United States and Canada. Together, Amtrak® and VIA Rail Canada offer an exciting rail pass for those who really want to experience North America's vast beauty. Travel to as many places as you want in 30 days...so why not see it all. Whether you are traveling the coast, passing through the mountains or visiting another city, you'll enjoy the flexibility of creating an itinerary to match your interests. Trip must include at least one segment in each country.

NORTH AMERICA RAIL PASS	30-Day Pass Price	10% Student Advantage Discount†
Peak fare (Peak Jun 1 - Oct 15)	\$674 ^{US}	\$607 ^{US}
Off-peak fare (Off-peak Jan 1 - Mar 31 and Oct 16 - Dec 31)	\$471 ^{US}	\$424 ^{US}

†Amtrak accepts the Student Advantage Card! Members save 10% on a 30-day North America Rail Pass and 15%** on most Amtrak coach fares year round. To join Student Advantage and start saving, call 1.877.2JOIN.SA or visit studentadvantage.com.

Call 1.800.USA.RAIL or visit www.amtrak.com/promotions/details.html for more information on the North America Rail Pass and sample itineraries.



TERMS AND CONDITIONS: *The pass is good for 30 consecutive days coach travel anywhere in the US and Canada serviced by Amtrak and VIA Rail Canada and is valid for up to one year from the date of purchase. Offer is not valid on Amtrak Acela Express™, Metroliner™, Auto Train™, on certain Thruway connecting services or for certain trains and buses listed in the VIA timetable but operated by companies other than VIA. Offer is not valid with other offers, discounts or promotions. Other restrictions apply.

** 15% Discount is valid on select trains only - Not valid on Acela Express, Peak weekday Metroliner or Canadian portions of trains operated jointly by Amtrak and VIA RAIL Canada, or on connecting services via non-Amtrak carriers. Offer is not valid with other offers, discounts or promotions. Other restrictions apply.