

SPORTS

Thursday

Best Bet

NBA Playoffs: Portland at Los Angeles
7:30 p.m., TNT

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Law firm issues report to Moos

■ Bond, Schoeneck & King turns in its report, but it could be at least another week before any decisions are made about Jody Runge and her team

By Adam Jude
Oregon Daily Emerald

The end is near, but no one knows for sure what the future holds for Jody Runge and the women's basketball program.

After 30 days of investigation, the law firm Bond, Schoeneck & King presented its 30-plus-page report—an objective “evaluation” of Runge and the women's basketball team—to the University Tuesday.

“We did get the report today,” said Maureen Shine, University director of communications. “But that is all I can say right now.”

Oregon Athletic Director Bill Moos hired Bond, Schoeneck & King, a Kansas City-based firm recognized for its handling of troubled athletic departments, after eight unidentified players met with him March 4 and criticized Runge's coaching methods. The players also reportedly asked that Runge be fired.

Since Moos hired the firm March 27, more than 80 coaches, players, former players, administrators and community members have been interviewed.

The firm's written evaluation was handed in to University general counsel Melinda Grier, who then gave it to Moos Tuesday.

Moos will now interpret the report and decide Runge's future at Oregon.

“Everybody wants closure on this issue,” Shine said. “We just need time to digest what is included in the report. I would expect another week to 10 days [before Moos will make a decision], but I have been wrong before.”

Runge and Moos could not be reached for comment.

Runge is the winningest basketball coach in school history with a 160-73 (.686) overall record and a 100-44 (.694) record in the Pacific-10 Conference. The Ducks won two conference titles (1999 and 2000) under Runge and have been to eight straight NCAA tournaments, although never advancing past the second round.



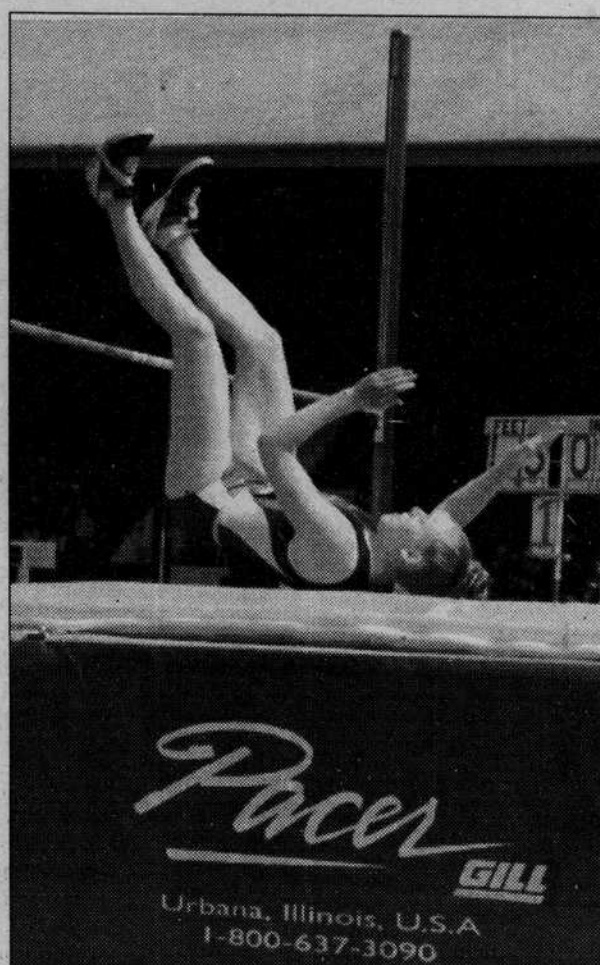
RUNGE



MOOS

“Everybody wants closure on this issue.”

Maureen Shine
director of communications,
University of Oregon



Tom Patterson Emerald

Oregon high jumpers Jenny Brogdon (left) and Rachael Kriz (right) have both qualified for the Pac-10 Championships this season.

Ducks of a Feather

Oregon high jumpers Jenny Brogdon and Rachael Kriz have slowly progressed together this season, even though they are different in personality

By Peter Hockaday
Oregon Daily Emerald

“Who are those guys?”

Like the heroes of “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid,” the movie with that famous line, Oregon high jumpers Jenny Brogdon and Rachael Kriz are markedly different in personality and approach to their craft.

And they're women.

One is quiet, the other outspoken. One is technically sound, the other confident enough to almost will herself over the bar. One is a freshman, whose form was broken down when she came to Oregon, then built back up. The other is a sophomore, who is just breaking through a barrier that has been over her head since high school.

Who are these women?

That is the question that baffles those associated with Oregon track and field. They wonder how two athletes can be so different, yet so similar when it comes time to jump.

You see, despite their differences, Brogdon and Kriz seem to feed off each other at track meets. They have matched each other's jumps at their past three meets and have progressed at the same rate since the beginning of the year. If they experience major success this season, they will most likely experience it together.



Turn to Women's, page 12

Oregon men's track gears up for home stretch of season

■ After a two-week rest, the Ducks return to action to begin the rest of their season

By Robbie McCallum
Oregon Daily Emerald

If there were a conference and non-conference schedule for the Oregon men's track and field team, the switch would occur now.

After five meets, the Ducks have three automatic NCAA qualifiers, three provisional qualifiers and 23 Pacific-10 Conference Championship qualifiers. Now, Oregon will look to qualify the remaining athletes for the Pac-10 meet and improve NCAA Provisional marks.

Not counting this weekend's Oregon Invitational, the Ducks have only two competitions before the Pac-10 meet in Berkeley, Calif. The team will split up next weekend in Stanford, Calif., Austin, Texas, and Irvine, Calif., before the Oregon Twilight meet May 12, in which only a few Oregon athletes will compete.

“I pretty much consider the Invitational the start of the regular season,” junior high jumper Jason Boness said. “Any meet be-

fore this is just sort of pre-season.”

Boness, who has competed in only three of Oregon's five meets this season, will be looking to clear seven feet, one and 3/4 inches in the high jump this weekend and possibly jump an NCAA Provisional mark.

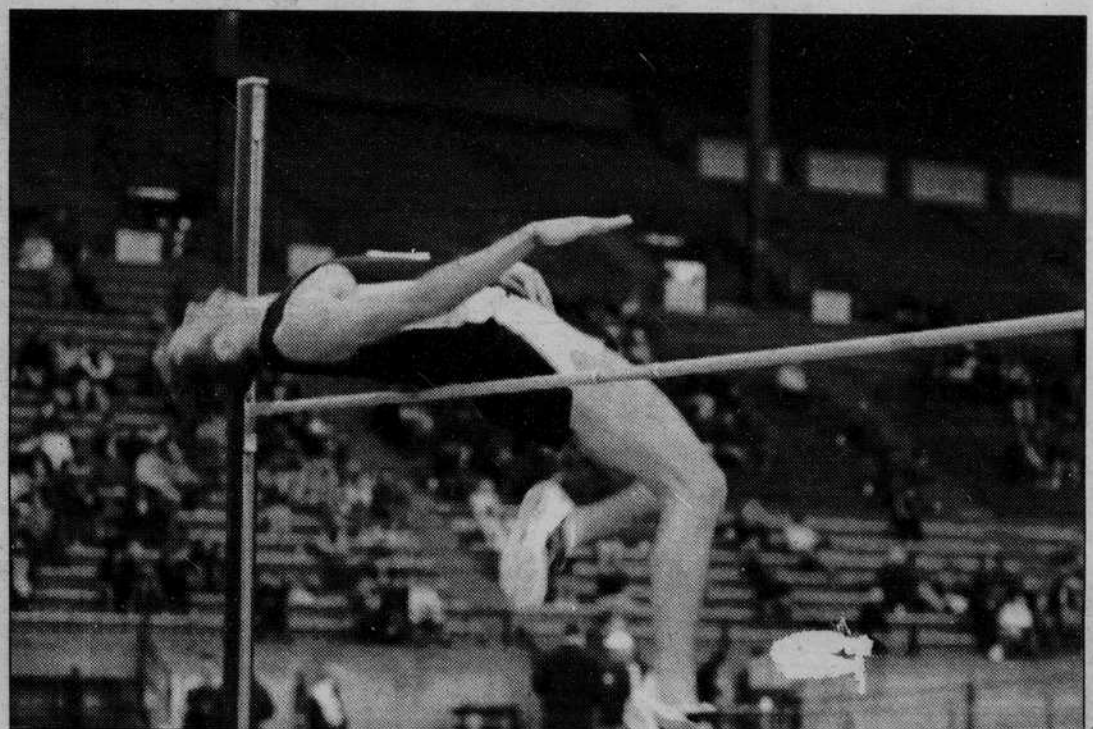
Junior decathlete Santiago Lorenzo is also gearing up for the home stretch of meets. The Buenos Aires, Argentina, native has already qualified for nationals in the decathlon with a personal best 7,726 point effort at the Texas Relays. Lorenzo will compete in the 400 meters, 110 hurdles and the pole vault this weekend.

“This will be my last meet before the Pac-10s,” Lorenzo said. “I already have my mark, and I'll want to rest up before nationals. [Decathlons] are so demanding on your body ... you only want to do three or four a year.”

For the next four meets, technique and form will be the focus for all Oregon athletes.



Turn to Men's, page 12



Adam Amato Emerald

Oregon high jumper Jason Boness plans to turn it up a notch this weekend as he prepares for the Pac-10s and NAAs.