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Devers to 'Pre'view Eugene

■ Gail Devers will compete at the Prefontaine Classic and the USA Championships

By Peter Hockaday
Oregon Daily Emerald

If you blink, you might just miss Gail Devers at this month's Prefontaine Classic on Hayward Field.

But don't worry: If you miss her, you'll get another chance to see her at the USA Track and Field Championships in Eugene this June.

Devers, America's record-holder in the 100-meter hurdles, will compete in Eugene twice this summer, joining Marion Jones as the two premier athletes to compete on the women's side of the Pre Classic and USA Championships.

The 34-year-old Devers is starting

her run at a fifth individual World Championship gold medal in Eugene. Devers has won two Olympic golds — both in the 100 — in 1992 and 1996.

"Gail plans to open her season at the Pre Classic," said Gregory Foster, Devers' agent. "At this point, she plans to run both the 100 hurdles and 100 meters at various times this season."

Devers will compete in the 100 hurdles at the Pre Classic, an event which features some of the world's best hurdlers.

America's Melissa Morrison may be Devers' toughest competition at the Pre Classic. Morrison is ranked fourth in the world and took the bronze medal at the Sydney Olympics last year. Jamaica's Del-

loreen Ennis-London finished fourth in Sydney, while fellow Jamaican Michelle Freeman, ranked sixth in the world, will also compete.

Devers had planned to compete in Sydney. However, after breaking her own American record with a 12.33 at the Olympic Trials, Devers pulled out of the Olympic semifinals with a hamstring injury. The Pre Classic will be her first meet since the Olympics.

The Pre Classic will be only the tip of Devers' 2001 season.

"She'll do a meet or two before nationals, then several Golden League meets before the World Championships," Foster said.

The Prefontaine Classic takes place May 27 on Hayward Field.

China and the World Economy: The Challenges of Sustainable Development

Negotiating WTO: Prospects for Sino-US Relations

Joseph Fewsmith
Professor of International Relations
Boston University

Thursday, May 10
University of Oregon - 128 Chiles Center
7:30 pm

This series is sponsored by the Freeman Foundation and Center for Asian and Pacific Studies. For more information, call 346-1521.

Men's ultimate reaches nationals

■ The men's ultimate team displays dominance in five straight wins, while the women don't do as well

By Jesse Thomas
for the Emerald

These Ducks were faced with one of their toughest challenges yet, and not only did they meet it, but they exceeded it.

The Oregon Club Sports men's ultimate frisbee team joined 14 other teams at the Northwest Regional Tournament last weekend to vie for a single berth to nationals, and the tension was high.

With their keen level of play and ever-growing confidence, the Ducks went undefeated to capture first place at the tournament.

"It was the best tournament we have played all year," Oregon men's captain Joshua Greenough said.

The Ducks came out on fire by winning their first two games with hardly any trouble. Then the men faced Oregon State, which defeated the Ducks last year, eliminating them from the 2000 tournament.

Glory came on Oregon's side this time, though, as the Ducks stepped up to win, 15-6, with senior Dylan Darling, a first-year player, scoring the winning goal.

Oregon, the No. 2 seed in the tournament, then faced No. 3 Santa Cruz in a semifinal matchup, with the Ducks coming out on top, 15-11.

After four straight wins, the Ducks moved on to the finals. Oregon's opponent was Stanford, which is ranked third in the country.

The confident Ducks jumped out to an early 6-1 lead. The Cardinal battled back in a hurry, however, and tied the game at 6. After an Oregon time-out, the Ducks regained their composure to take a 8-6 lead into the half.

As the game wore, both teams found themselves tied at 13, but Oregon dug deep to secure the 15-3 win, earning the prestigious national berth.


"It was a team effort with everyone playing well," Oregon sophomore William Cooper said.

On the women's side, the Ducks didn't fare so well, due in large part to having only 10 active players with seven injured. The Oregon women played tough in their games but did not advance to nationals.

The Oregon men will head to Boston, Mass., on Memorial Day weekend for the national tournament, where the Ducks expect to be entered among the top four seeds. The confidence level is high and these Ducks definitely feel that a national championship is well within their grasp.

"We are really excited for the opportunity to fulfill our destiny, which is to win nationals," Oregon senior Michael Freels said.


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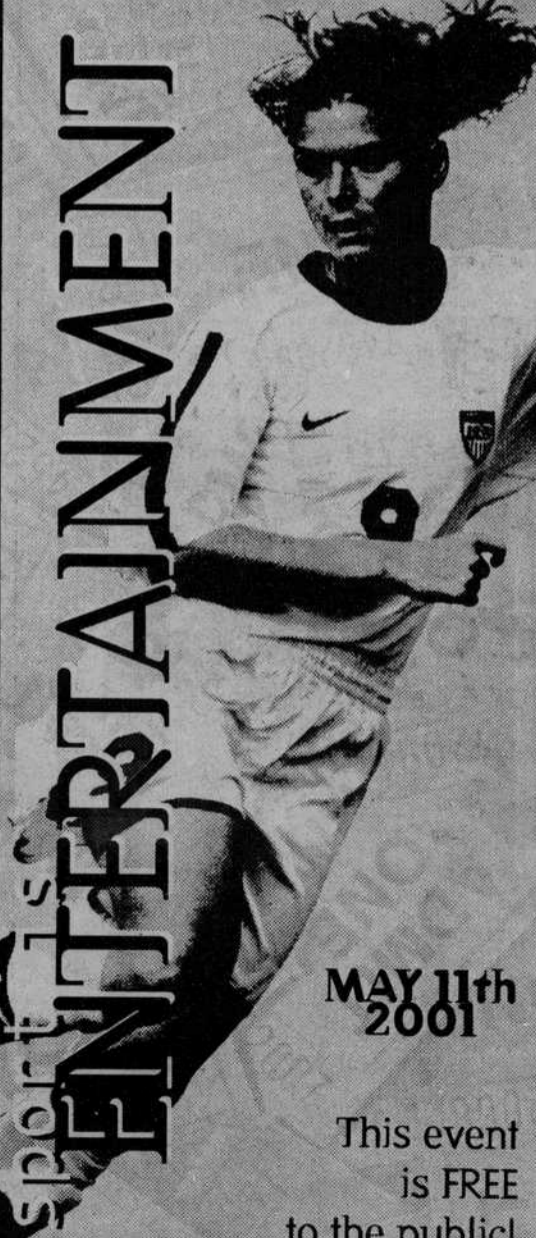
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