

Ducks enter Pac-10s ahead

■ A strong Oregon showing at the championships puts the Ducks in front for this weekend's competition

By Robbie McCallum
Oregon Daily Emerald

For the second year in a row, the Oregon men's track and field team will enter the Pacific-10 Conference Championships with an early lead.

Following junior Santiago Lorenzo's victory and junior Billy Pappas' third-place finish in the decathlon portion of the championships on Berkeley, Calif., last Sunday, the Ducks already

have 16 points chalked up on the board.

"The Pac-10 gives decathletes the opportunity to compete the week before and still do events in the regular portion," Oregon multi-events coach Bill Lawson said. "In most conferences you compete on Wednesday and Thursday with the regular meet on the weekend."

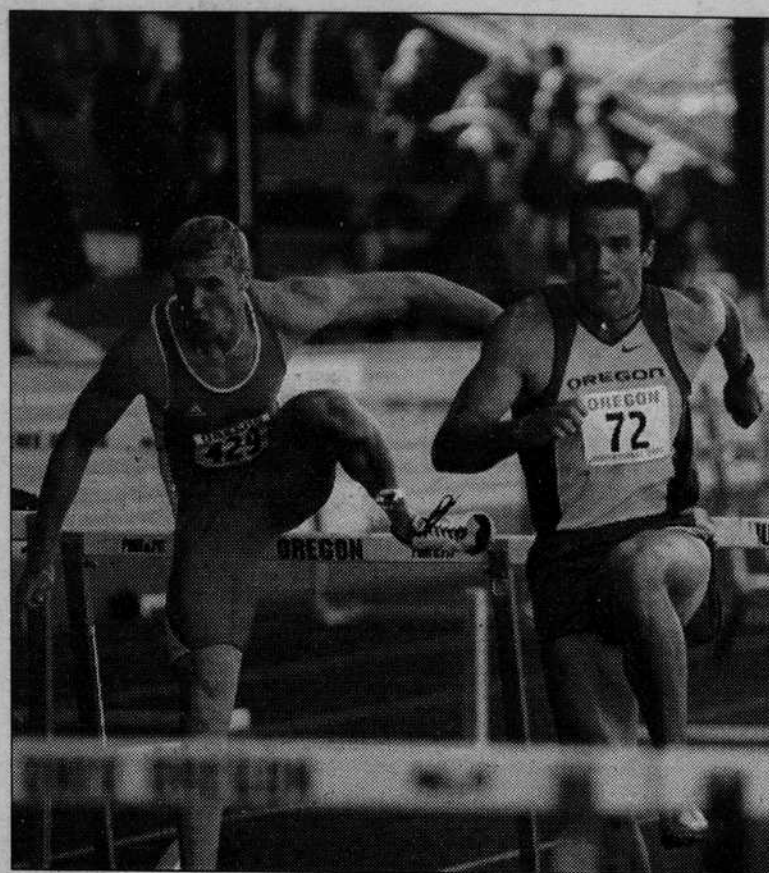
Stanford trails the Ducks with eight points, followed by Southern California with seven, Washington State with five and California with three.

Last season, Lorenzo placed second and Pappas fourth for 13 early points.

Lorenzo was the favorite to win the decathlon this season, but Pappas' third-place finish was unexpected. The Azalea native recorded a 158 point personal best and provisionally qualified for the NCAA Championships with his performance.

Pappas leaped onto the school record books with his 7,342-point performance, knocking his older brother Paul down to the 10th spot on the all-time list. Lorenzo remained sixth on the all-time list.

This season's performances upheld the strong decathlon tradition at Oregon. Lorenzo is the seventh Duck to win the Pac-10 decathlon title since its induction in 1973.



Adam Amato Emerald

Junior Santiago Lorenzo's win in the decathlon in Berkeley, Calif., on Sunday made him the seventh Duck to take the title and put the Ducks up early in the Pac-10 scoring race.

Both Lorenzo, Pappas and fellow decathlete Jason Slye will compete this weekend in the regular events portion. Lorenzo and Pappas are Oregon's long jumpers while Slye will focus on the pole vault. Lorenzo will also compete in the 400 hurdles and Pappas in the 110 hurdles.

A preview of things to come

Oregon entered the 2001 season with the nation's top recruiting classes, according to Track and Field News. As of yet, though, that class has been untested.

Oregon head coach Martin Smith has chosen to redshirt most of Oregon's freshmen this season.

Duck fans got a showcase of several Oregon true freshmen on Saturday at the Oregon Twilight's 1,500-meter race. Freshman Eric

Logsdon led all Oregon redshirts with a fifth-place finish in 3 minutes, 57 seconds.

Last season, as a high school senior, Logsdon nearly broke former Duck Steve Prefontaine's high school record in the 3,000-meters. The Canby native redshirted both cross country this fall and track this spring.

Close behind Logsdon was sophomore transfer Ryan Andrus, seventh in 3:58. Andrus was recruited by Smith at Wisconsin before leaving for a two-year religious mission. Andrus owns a personal best of 3:46.

Four-time Oregon 3A state champion Noel Paulson finished 11th in 4:03. Paulson was one of the cross country team's top-seven runners in the fall but chose to redshirt this spring.

Legendary OSU coach Miller dies at age 82

The Associated Press

CORVALLIS — Ralph Miller, who coached Oregon State to four Pac-10 basketball championships and eight NCAA tournament appearances, died at age 82.



MILLER

Miller died Tuesday at his home at Black Butte Ranch, university officials said. Miller retired in 1989 with the sixth-most victories for a Division I coach, 674 victories. His teams had only three losing seasons in 38 years as a major college coach.

"Oregon State University has lost a true giant," athletic director Mitch Barnhart said.

The Hall of Fame coach compiled a record of 359-186 in 19 seasons at Oregon State, beginning in 1971.

Miller led the 1981 team to the nation's No. 1 ranking for nine weeks, and five of his teams were ranked in the top 10. In addition to conference titles and NCAA appearances, his teams made three trips to the NIT and won seven Far West Classic titles.

He also was a two-time Pac-10 Coach of the Year and coached Gary Payton, who went on to become a star for the Seattle SuperSonics.

"I looked to Ralph as my mentor, but most of all as a good friend," said longtime assistant and former Oregon State coach Jim Anderson. "Every coach in the program since Ralph has attempted to emulate the high level of achievement his teams experienced."

Miller was born in Chanute,

Kan., where he earned four letters in football and track, three in basketball and one in golf and tennis at Chanute High School.

He also earned all-state honors in basketball three times before entering Kansas in 1937 and became a two-sport star. He earned three letters as a football quarterback and three in basketball play-

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Jim Anderson
former Oregon State coach

ing for Phog Allen.

Following his graduation from Kansas in 1942 with a degree in physical education, Miller served three years in the U.S. Air Force during World War II and was discharged at the rank of first lieutenant.

Miller started his coaching career at Wichita State in 1952, where he also earned a master's degree in physical education. In 13 seasons, he guided the Shockers to a record of 220-133, a Missouri Valley Conference title, three appearances in the NIT and one berth in the NCAA tournament.

He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1988.

"This is a sad day for college basketball," Beavers coach Ritchie McKay said. "Ralph had a huge impact on the game and in young peoples lives."

Miller is survived by his wife, Jean; son, Paul Miller of Black Butte Ranch; daughters, Susan Langer of Vancouver, Wash., and Shannon Jakosky of Balboa, Calif.; two sisters, 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

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