

Etter

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feat, although it has not happened in quite some time.

"Mary threw great, and she was really on a roll," Oregon head coach Tom Heinonen said. "She wanted to win both those events and that's to her credit."

But none of this surprises Guante.

When the two were facing off in Idaho, competitions were often intense. However, both became great friends and are still in contact today.

"I'm amazed (at Etter's results), but I know she has it in her," Guante said. "Thinking back to our track camp, it was always so intense."

"I'm a little bit amazed at her persistence."

A three-sport star at Snohomish High in Everett, Wash., Etter has the competitive drive that can make her successful in her events. She said she misses the team aspect, and has casually thought about playing another sport, specifically basketball or soccer.

"It would be fun to do another sport," she said. "It was really

hard. At first, I would play a lot of pickup games. I played a little pick-up soccer. A lot of girls felt the same way.

"I miss the competition and the team aspect" of other sports.

In her two previous seasons at Oregon, Etter has made an impact. In 2000, Etter finished eighth at the NCAA Championships in the discus with a throw of 166-feet-11-inches. Last season, she deviated a bit, throwing for a mark of 139-2, dropping to 19th overall.

This season, however, Etter has already jumped to sixth in the nation at 173-6. She is still two feet below her personal best, but has been consistent this season.

"She is on a roll right now and she feels great about herself," Heinonen said. "She's enthusiastic. She competes with a lot of emotion."

Unlike most athletes on the Oregon roster, Etter had never heard of the shrine that is Hayward Field before she came to the school. Once she was here, she fully understood the mystique of the 83-year old facility, and has since begun to carve a niche for herself in Oregon track history.

"I had never even heard of Hayward when I visited on recruiting trips," Etter said. "Now, you see Olympians practicing on the track. It's almost an expectation you've got to fulfill."

Etter has been in Track Town, U.S.A. for almost three seasons now. With one more year, she hopes to further her mark into Oregon history. She will have some obstacles on her way but some help as well.

The season looks to be an successful one for the Pacific Northwest native, and she still has one thing to look forward to. If the track and field gods deem it so, she will take on Guante in Baton Rouge.

With this possibility, Guante has one question for Etter: "Can you feel the heat?"

When told of Guante's question, Etter answered with a deep laugh. When asked what she would say if she met her rival at the NCAA Championships, Etter replied, "I've got a lot of things I'd say to her."

One thing is for certain: Etter will let her throws speak for themselves.

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Women's

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However, the Washington Dual meet may not represent much of a competition for the javelin four, as Washington is not strong in the event. However, it will give them a chance to stay in shape, possibly looking ahead to next weekend's Mt. SAC Relays in Walnut, Calif.

"They love to compete at Hayward, (but) it's not a big meet for them in that event," Heinonen said. "It's highly likely we'll go one-two in that event."

Oregon has defeated Washington seven of the last nine times the two schools have met, with the Ducks prevailing last season, 88-65. The all-time series gives Oregon the big advantage, 26-5, but that may not be the case this year.

Heinonen said junior Janette Davis has been suffering from shin problems, which may keep her from running against the Huskies. Davis, a Pacific-10 Conference qualifier in the 400-meter dash, was expected to contribute heavily to Oregon's sprint group.

Another pivotal competitor, freshman Clarice Hayward-Lee, has her foot in a boot, said Heinonen, but it is unknown as to the extent of injury.

"If we don't have Janette and Clarice, we will be in trouble," Heinonen said.

Despite both athletes' absences, the Ducks are still expected to do well against the Huskies, particularly in the field events. Besides javelin, the Ducks have had competitors in the pole vault, discus and shot put do well on a consistent basis all season.

Two athletes have been the primary reason for Oregon's resurgence in these areas, and look to be the front-runners to take first against Washington.

Etter, who took both sections of the discus last week in Texas and was second in the shot put, is one of many Ducks to earn a NCAA provisional mark, but is the only one to do it in two different events.

Last week she set a personal best in the shot put at 49-feet-9.25 inches, and came within two feet of her career best of 175-9 in the discus.

"I was happy with my performance," Etter said. "I'm still going for that 180 (foot) goal."

In the pole vault, the Ducks have not one, but two NCAA provisional qualifiers. Junior Becky Holliday, who also has an NCAA automatic mark at 13-7.25, and sophomore Kirsten Riley team together as a solid group.

Riley placed seventh last week at the Relays with a mark of 11-11.75.

But it is Holliday who has national title aspirations. Her top outdoor mark is currently fourth in the country, but is still far behind her personal best of 14-4, good enough for second in the collegiate ranks last season.

"She got an NCAA automatic mark and she won the event on her first jump," Heinonen said of Holliday's results last week. "She wants to go higher and she has in the past. It's still an adaptation process for her."

While the Ducks are expected to excel in the team's field events, the sprinters are still a mixed bag.

Oregon has its fair share of Pac-10 qualifying marks, earned by Davis, junior Eri MacDonald, sophomore Annette Mosey and freshman Laura Harmon. However, more has been expected of the talented group.

"We'd love to see our sprint group demonstrate our potential because there's been a sense of frustration in the 100 and 200," Heinonen said. "Our athletes are much better than they've shown."

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Softball

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outscored opponents 273-49 in their 40 games this season, during which they have tallied 70 home runs — including 11 grand slams. The team has committed 19 errors to opponents' 48, and has 260 RBI to opponents' 48.

Sophomore Leneah Manuma leads the team with 17 homers and 59 RBI. Last season she smacked 19 round-trippers.

Leadoff hitter Lovie Jung leads the team in batting average (.431), runs scored (47), doubles (8), hits (50) and walks (30). Heading into Arizona's game today against Oregon State, Jung has a 10-game hitting streak that ties Manuma for longest streak of the season.

The defending national champion, Arizona is coming off two tight games last weekend at home against UCLA — the national runner-up last year. The Wildcats won the first game 6-5, and the Bruins came back for a 3-2 win

the following day.

Arizona State hosted UCLA and Washington last weekend. The Sun Devils came away with three wins — 3-2 over UCLA on Friday, 3-2 over Washington on Saturday and 6-1 over the Huskies again on Sunday.

The Ducks had their last two games — a double header at Portland State on Wednesday — rained out.

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Horoscope by Linda C. Black

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 12). Accept advice this year from a practical person who loves you. A gentle woman will let you know when it's time to slow down. As a strong leader, you'll learn how important it is to listen. Acknowledge your teammates and win a very special prize: their trust.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) - Today is an 8 - Make up your schedule for the coming year. What do you want to create? Putting it down on paper is a start. However you do it, that's what today's all about.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 6 - You're rock-solid and steady. That can't be said for everybody you know. A more volatile person depends on you now. Be calm, cool and collected, or at least pretend that you are.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) - Today is an 8 - Somebody you know is doing something about it, taking action to make the world a better place. They could use your help. Get involved!

CANCER (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 5 - You and your friends know that all will be well, and you're right, so go along with the plan that's presented. Later on, you can offer your own suggestions to make it better.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 9 - You are HOT! Be bold! Take new ground! Send in the Marines! You've done the calculations already, so you're not taking much of a risk. This is a done deal.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 6 - Tempers are short, especially concerning money. Not yours so much as other people's. If your job

involves their savings, proceed with caution. Same advice if you're in charge of the household account.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is an 8 - Let somebody else's enthusiasm light a fire under you. They've got a passion, you've got a way with words. Together, you can accomplish great things.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 5 - All work and no play makes anybody dull, but don't worry. You're almost past the worst part. Tomorrow will be much better. Make this effort count!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is an 8 - You could fall madly in love today without much effort. It could be with the perfect person, a person who stands on his or her own two feet and doesn't lean on you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 5 - There's no point in arguing with somebody who's not listening. Besides, you should never get in the way of people who are busy making fools of themselves. Let them finish the job.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is an 8 - Again, you're so immersed in your research that you forget all about practical matters. It looks like the money is still coming in.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 6 - Untold riches can be yours, but how? It's not a prize. More like a gift from a kind benefactor. Could be for work already done, or promised in the future. If you don't have a high-paying job, apply now.

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