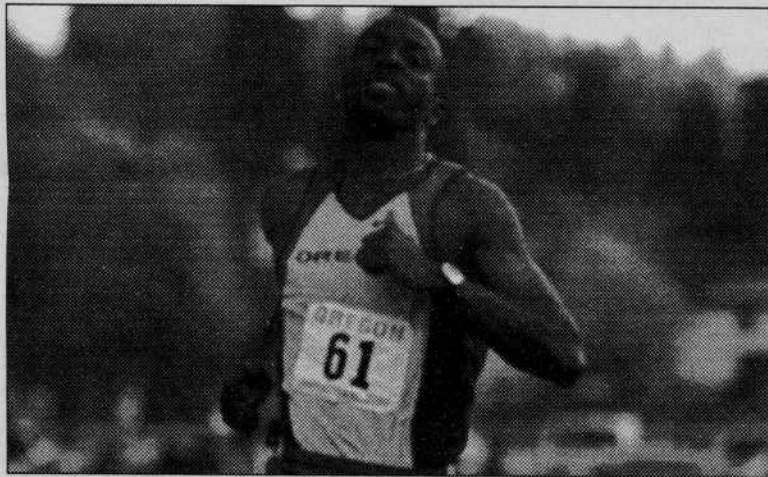


Ducks defend home turf in Oregon Invitational



Jonathan House Emerald



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Top: Oregon record-holder Becky Holliday vaults at the Oregon Invitational. Holliday, the nation's No. 1 vaulter, won the event with a jump of 13-feet-05.25 inches.

Bottom: It was anything but an easy day for senior Micah Harris. But the Tempe, Ariz., native placed first in the 110 hurdles and second in the 200.

WOMEN: Oregon's field squad takes its events in convincing fashion, highlighting the Invite

By Hank Hager
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Duck women are getting just a little too predictable these days.

At least in the field events.

The Oregon Invitational, held Saturday at Hayward Field, was a veritable stomping ground for Oregon's throwers and jumpers. Of the 10 field event competitions during the 10 1/2-hour event, the Ducks took first six times, added two second-place finishes and a third. To say it was a good day for the Ducks would be an understatement.

"The (javelin) throwers, they were certainly solid," head coach Tom Heinonen said. "And Becky (Holliday) did a really good job under trying circumstances. I liked the hammer throw with Jordan Sauvage throwing a really solid 175 (feet)."

Holliday took the twilight section of the pole vault with a jump of 13-5.25, but failed to clear 14-2 in three attempts. However, she continued her hot streak and is doing so in a convincing fashion.

"It's disappointing," the junior said. "I should definitely be able to hit 14 right now. I really wanted 14-2."

The Ducks were able to get a preview of next season with Niki Reed competing against Holliday. Reed, who is redshirting the outdoor season, competed as an unattached athlete, but failed to clear a height.

Competing in one of the final

events of the night, sophomore Sarah Malone continued her winning ways, throwing the javelin for a mark of 170-5, good enough for first place by more than 15 feet. Oregon teammates Elisa Crumley and Charyl Weingarten finished two-three in the event.

Rounding out the day in the field events, juniors Sauvage and



Mary Etter competed seemingly all day for the Ducks, participating in the shot put, discus and hammer.

Etter took the shot put (47-07.75) and discus (173-02) in the day session, but fell to sixth in hammer in the afternoon. Sauvage won the hammer by a full six feet with a throw of 175 after finishing third in the discus earlier in the day.

Oregon's field competitors may have earned the glory, but the Ducks' track athletes earned a ton of respect. Highlighted by Eri Macdonald's second place finish in the twilight session of the 800, Oregon held its own against some of the best in the country.

After a collision in which almost half the field was affected, Macdonald jumped to her feet and was able to take second, albeit two seconds behind Weber State's Allison Adams. Macdonald earned a time of 2:12.79 but wasn't happy with her finish, despite the collision.

"I think we were all too excited and trying to run too fast and moving up when we didn't need to," Macdonald said of the collision. "I did what I could. I'm not happy with my time at all."

MEN: Holliday, Logsdon, Harris and the rest of the Oregon squad compete well at Hayward in Oregon Invitational

By Chris Cabot
Oregon Daily Emerald

With Samie Parker and Allan Amundson in Portland at the football team's Spring Game, the Oregon men's track team was not at full strength. But that — or the unfavorable weather during Saturday's 10 1/2-hour event — did not stop the team from placing well.

"All in all, we've had two pretty high-powered weekends recently, so this was a little more low-key for us, and I thought the guys did a nice job," head coach Martin Smith said.

Oregon is coming off competitions in Walnut, Calif., for the Mt. San Antonio College Relays and at Hayward Field for a dual meet with Washington.

Running in the 4x400, Oregon's Jason Slye, Brandon Holliday, Ross Krempley and Jake Horner placed second, less than a second behind Weber State's team.

"I thought the mile relay did a good job running with two of the decathletes running," Smith said. "That's not going to necessarily be our fastest team by the end of the sea-

son, so I thought they did a nice job."

Before running the second leg of the 4x400, Holliday took first in the 400-meter hurdles in 51.74 seconds.

"I thought Brandon did a nice job in intermediate hurdles and came back and ran a wonderful leg in the mile relay," Smith said.

The most dominating performance by Oregon came in the 110-meter hurdles as the Ducks swept the first four spots. Micah Harris —



who placed second in the 200-meter dash behind Arizona State's Pete Lopez — ran for the win in 13.78 seconds. He was

followed by teammates Terry Ellis, Billy Pappas and Sean Sanderson.

Redshirt freshman Eric Logsdon ran for his season-best time in the 1,500-meter run, as he placed second with a time of 3:49.99 — good enough to qualify him for the Pacific-10 Conference Championships on May 18 in Pullman, Wash.

Logsdon paced himself well, staying with a major portion of the pack until the end of the race, but couldn't catch Utah's Nephi Tyler who finished almost three seconds ahead.

"I felt pretty good," Logsdon said. "We were just concentrating on making sure the last 200 meters I

Oregon's inspiration award of the night could easily go to senior Jenny Kenyon. Participating for the last time at Hayward Field in an Oregon uniform, the Newbury Park, Calif., native finished second in the twilight version of the 100 hurdles, and helped the Ducks to a first place finish in the 4x400 relay.

The next time she will compete, Kenyon will be in Pullman, Wash., at the Pacific-10 Conference Championships.

"I was coming around the last turn (in the 4x400), and I was like, 'I've gotta give it everything I have,'" she said. "It's definitely closing this part of my life which is really sad."

Continuing Oregon's hot streak as the host squad, junior Janette Davis took first in the 400 with a time of 55.29, third in the 200 (24.93), and was also on the 4x400 squad that placed first. Although her mark in the 400 was not near her personal best, Heinonen singled her out as having an impressive day.

"I was really happy for Janette Davis because she's had a rough time for the last several weeks," he said. "She ran a really good, tough, strong race and ran a good 200, and then a great relay split. And she handled it all really well. She can have a great conclusion to her season."

The Ducks now look forward to next week when the team will participate in a quadruple meet in Lincoln, Neb. Wyoming, Nebraska and Kansas State will join Oregon in the one-day event, set for Saturday.

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could kick down the rest of the guys. I would have liked to have run a little faster, but it's more about competition than anything else."

Logsdon said that the weather, which changed from rain to sun to hail throughout the course of the day, did not affect his running.

"It's not ideal to run fast, but it shouldn't affect how you compete," he said.

Smith echoed his runner's sentiment.

"It was a crazy day, but track and field is an outdoor sport," the head coach said. "You can't control the weather, and good athletes don't let it get the best of them."

Oregon's throwers did not have as much success as their running teammates, as Adam Jenkins finished seventh in the javelin and Adam Kriz placed fifth in the hammer throw.

In the pole vault, Oregon's stand-out Trevor Woods cleared 17-06.5 feet, which was good for second place. Woods' coach, Mark Vanderville, also competed as an unattached competitor, placing fourth with a mark of 16-04.75.

Oregon next competes in the Cardinal Invitational in Stanford on Friday.

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Golf

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received even-par 72s from Harnden and Carnahan. After solid rounds, Byers sat in a tie for seventh, where Harnden was lifted into 18th and Carnahan was in a tie for 38th.

Third-round leader Jim Seki of Stanford carded a two-over 74 Sat-

urday, but it was still barely enough to win Pac-10 medalist honors by one stroke. Teammate Phillip Rowe and USC's Kevin Stadler finished tied for second at 285.

Byers and Harnden tied for 11th at 2-over 290 when it was all over, while Carnahan tied for 35th at plus-10. It was the highest conference finish of their careers for Ellis, Byers and Harnden.

With their upper division finish in the Pac-10 Tournament, the Ducks have locked up a spot for the NCAA West Regional, beginning May 16 in Albuquerque, N.M.

"I would expect we will have to play a little better to advance at regionals," Nosler said.

Jesse Thomas is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

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