

Harriers run in packs at Pre-Nationals

The Oregon cross country team places 18th at the national meet

Cross country

Mindi Rice
Freelance Sports Reporter

The Ducks flocked together again this weekend.

Oregon's women's cross country team finished 18th at the Pre-National meet on Saturday. The Ducks' five scoring runners all finished within one minute of each other, while Oregon edged out three top-40 teams.

"I thought we competed hard and competed well," Oregon head coach

Tom Heinonen said.

Oregon senior Carrie Zografos was the top finisher for the Ducks, running the course in 21 minutes and 35 seconds and finishing 53rd overall. Zografos has finished first for the Ducks in both of the races she has run this season.

Junior Laura Harmon finished second for the Ducks, just behind Zografos. Harmon took 63rd overall, with a time of 21:41.

Junior Eri Macdonald finished 112th overall and third for the Ducks, with a time of 22:09, and junior Magdalena Sandoval ran the course in 22:14, finishing fourth for the Ducks and 122nd overall. Senior Erinn Gulbrandsen finished fifth for the Ducks, 153rd overall, with a time

of 22:30.

"Carrie and Laura were solid from start to finish," Heinonen said. "They moved up in the second half and finished strongly. Eri ran her best cross country race ever, and Magdalena hung on given how little running she's been able to do in the past two weeks. Erinn ran well throughout the race for the second meet in a row — that will help us for later."

The Ducks stayed close together in the early part of the race, with the top three only two seconds apart at the mid-point — Harmon (10:46), Zografos (10:47) and Sandoval (10:49). Macdonald (10:57) and Gulbrandsen (11:03) followed close behind.

In the second half of the race, the Ducks' top three runners kept their

pace up. Zografos ran only one second slower on the second half, while Harmon only added five seconds and Macdonald added 15.

Redshirt junior Alicia Snyder-Carlson finished 191st overall, and sixth for the Ducks, in 23:02. Freshman Nicole Feest finished seventh for the Ducks, and 219th overall, running the course in 23:07.

Florida State, ranked 31st in the nation, finished 19th at the meet with 505 points, while 29th-ranked Dartmouth finished 20th with 509 points. Idaho, ranked 37th nationally, finished 24th with 552 points. Oregon had 503 points.

"We helped ourselves by beating Florida State and Dartmouth. The race was as big as nationals in num-

bers and as important as nationals in quality, and we handled the pressure well," Heinonen said.

Pacific-10 Conference power Stanford, ranked second nationally, won the race with 57 points. The top four Cardinal finishers placed second, third, fourth and ninth. The first-place runner was Florida State's Vicky Gill, who ran the course in 19 minutes and 55 seconds.

Saturday, the men's and women's cross country teams send squads to Corvallis for the Beaver Classic. Oregon will rest its top runners for the Pac-10 Championships on Nov. 2.

Mindi Rice is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

Soccer

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and they weren't bad chances, but we just couldn't put them away."

Senior goalkeeper Sarah Peters earned nine saves against the Cardinal. And the Ducks' only shot came from sophomore defender Dara Wone.

Other statistics did not favor Oregon, either, as Stanford took five corner kicks to Oregon's zero and the Ducks racked up 14 fouls to the Cardinal's 12.

The Ducks went head to head with another Bay Area team over the weekend where they faced No. 11 Cal on Friday.

It was Oregon's eighth top-25 opponent this season and the Ducks had more luck than they did with Stanford, holding Cal scoreless for most of the game.

Cal finally broke loose in the 79th minute when Kassie Doubeava scored from 15 yards out. The Golden Bears scored again with three minutes left in the game en route to a 2-0 win.

"We played well in moments," Steffen said. "We played very hard, and our effort was good, but we were unlucky not to convert on the early chances, and we put pressure on ourselves when we don't convert."

"It's also frustrating for the defense in that we battle hard and put ourselves in position to win, but we don't win. They worked hard and

gave a good effort, and it's a shame — unfortunately that's how a lot of our games have been this year."

Oregon was outplayed in all statistical categories, with Cal dominating in shots, 19-6, and corner kicks, 6-0. Both teams had seven fouls.

Peters recorded nine saves for Oregon, her second-most this season. On offense, senior Sarah Denner and freshman Charlie Ashcraft paced Oregon with two shots, and single shots came from senior Amanda Orand and fresh-

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Bill Steffen
Oregon head coach

man Mele French.

The Ducks have yet to get a win in Pac-10 play but will get their chance as they face off against Arizona and Arizona State at Papé Field next weekend.

Contact the sports reporter at jessethomas@dailyemerald.com.

Ducks fail top-competition test at Pepsi Intercollegiate

The Oregon women's golf team finishes 17th in the Stanford Pepsi Intercollegiate

is a great tournament."

The Ducks finished 78 strokes behind tournament winner California, which posted a 21-over par 885. Vanderbilt finished in second place at 887, followed by Washington at 890. The three-day tournament had a different leader at the end of each day. UCLA had a two-stroke lead after Friday's first round, while the Huskies led by two strokes after the second round Saturday. The Ducks were in a tie for 12th place after the first round, but fell into last place Saturday, where they would finish the tournament.

Arizona true freshman Erica Blasberg won individual honors with a 5-under 211. After a 1-over-par first round, Blasberg fired consecutive 69's, making her the only golfer to finish under par. New Mexico State senior Alena Sharp finished second with an even-par 216.

Sophomore Johnna Nealy and true freshman Michelle Timpani were the only Ducks to shoot under 80 in Sunday's final round. Nealy finished in a tie for 39th, as her final-round 78 put her at 231. Timpani also fired a 78 on Sunday, putting her at 246.

"Johnna and Michelle came through with solid (final) rounds," Rouillard said. "It's too bad we didn't have two more to go with them."

True freshman Therese Wenslow, who has set two Oregon records this year, finished in a tie for 69th after a final round 83 put her at 240. Rouillard said Wenslow had been struggling with her putting throughout the week.

The Ducks' next tournament is the Hawaii Fall Golf Classic Oct. 29-30 in Kapolei, Hawaii.

Jon Roetman is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

Golf

Jon Roetman
Sports Freelancer

Overwhelmed by talented squads, the Oregon women's golf team had a rough weekend at the home of the Cardinal.

The Ducks finished 17th at the Stanford Pepsi Intercollegiate at the Stanford Golf Course in Palo Alto, Calif. The Ducks carded a three-day total of 963, in an outing that Oregon head coach Shannon Rouillard said was one of the toughest tournaments the Ducks will play in all year.

"(Stanford) always has a great field," Rouillard said. "And it always

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percentile of their ability, there's nothing I can be disappointed about," Oregon head coach Carl Ferreira said. "The teams in the Pac-10 are not going to come to us, we are going to have to come to them. And tonight we came to the 21st-ranked team in the nation."

"I feel like in this match we came out stronger than we've ever been and more consistent than we've ever been," sophomore Lauren Westendorf said. "We played pretty con-

sistently in our game through the first four games. We just have to do it in the end."

Oregon extended its hot streak from the service line, hitting eight aces, including a team-high three from Closs.

Acevedo led the team with a career-high 23 kills, while freshman Jaclyn Jones started in her first Pac-10 match and contributed with 14 kills and eight digs. Freshman Jodi Bell also contributed with 36 assists and a career-high 20 digs.

Each of the first three games required extra time as a win must come

with a lead of at least two points.

Tied at 29 in game 1, Closs' service ace put the Ducks ahead and freshman Kelly Russell sealed the win with a powerful kill.

Arizona State, on the strength of Julia Leddy's kill, nipped the Ducks 31-29 in game 2 to tie the match.

In game 3, Oregon was able to tie the game at 31 on a net error by the Sun Devils, and again at 32 on a Closs kill.

Contact the sports reporter at hankhager@dailyemerald.com.

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