

Andrus settles for bronze, PR at Pac-10s

Redshirt junior Abby Andrus makes a comeback to finish third and earns a 151-point personal best

Women's track and field

Jesse Thomas
Sports Reporter

Nearly one year after redshirt junior Abby Andrus transferred to Oregon, her heptathlon personal best has skyrocketed by 400 points.

A larger university, a different state and a matchup with the nation's leading heptathlete all propelled Andrus from her 4,903-point 2002 personal best.

This weekend's Pacific-10 Conference Championships at Cromwell Field in Los Angeles provided the scenery for a third place finish and new personal best, 5,303 points.

The Peoria, Ariz., native earned the bronze, behind NCAA leader Ellannee Richardson of Washington State (5,766) and Stanford's Lillian Bush (5,519).

Andrus jumped the gun from the start earning a personal best in the first event, 13.99 seconds in the 100 hurdles, and finished off day one with 3,108 points, an 89-point improvement on her opening-day best.

The windy day had a positive influence on Andrus' performance leading to more than one great success. She also earned personal bests in the shot put and 200 meters with marks of 33 feet, 6 3/4 inches and 25.70, respectively.

"Abby had a really good first day," Oregon assistant coach and heptathlon mentor Mark Stream said Saturday night. "She's 121 points ahead of her first day at the Oregon Invite, so that's encouraging. One of our goals is to improve on her final score from that meet and to climb the NCAA list."

"The other goal is to finish as high as possible, and a couple of good athletes are in striking range."

Day two offered much of the same as Andrus improved by three inches in the long jump with a personal best of 18-2 1/2. She also dropped nearly three seconds off her

best mark in the 800 meters (2:14.93) to move her up from the fourth position.

Andrus passed up Washington State's Diana Pickler for third, earning Oregon six points, after the Cougar freshman dropped two spots and had the third-lowest score of the final day.

Yet Pickler and Richardson combined for 15 points to propel Washington State into the lead at the conference championships.

After hoping to finish second, Andrus must settle with a 151-point jump from her previous season best and an almost guaranteed entrance into the NCAA Championships despite falling short of the automatic qualifying mark of 5,500 points.

The 22-year-old will now have one month to recover and reset before the NCAA Championships begin June 11 in Sacramento, Calif.

Oregon continued its successes at Cobb Track and Angell Field on Friday, when two Ducks earned Pac-10 and regional qualifying marks at Stanford's Cardinal Qualifier.

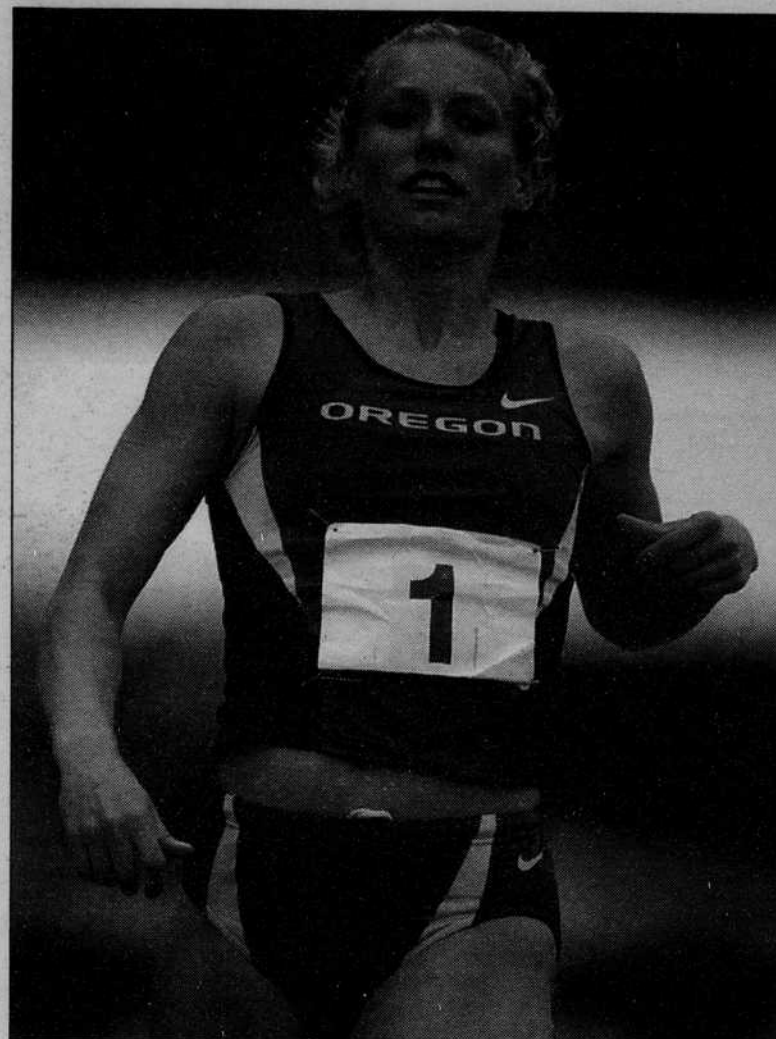
Redshirt senior Carrie Zografos surpassed the 17-minute regional qualifying standard in the 5,000 meters, running a 10-second personal best (16:51.10).

Junior Jill Hoxmeier said hello to her first Pac-10 and regional invite after a 3 1/2-foot lifetime best in the discus. Hoxmeier finished sixth (151-9) and overcame the Pac-10 and regional marks of 150 and 150-11.

"It was a pretty good day for us," Oregon women's head coach Tom Heinonen said. "We got two of the four performances we were hoping for. Carrie looked good in the last kilometer and easily made the regional standard. Jill got it done on her last throw to get her regional and Pac-10 invites."

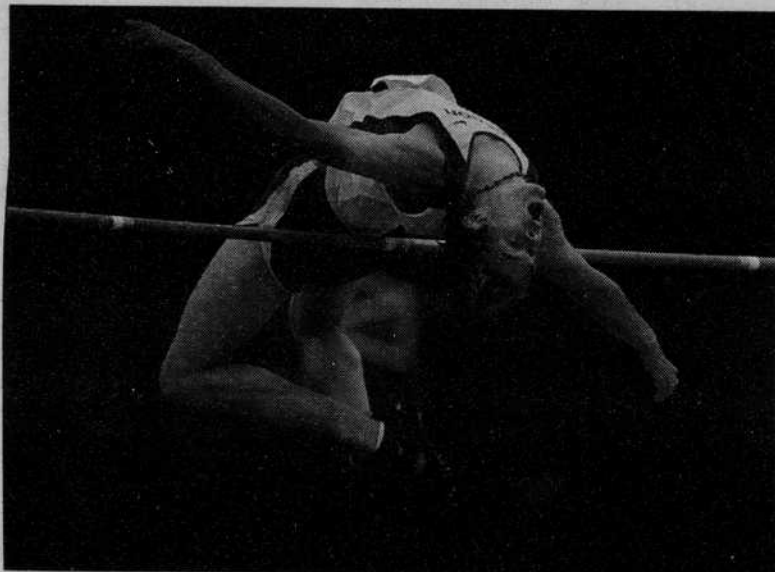
In the 800 meters, senior Eri Macdonald placed seventh in 2:08.71, and redshirt freshman Sara Schaff missed both qualifying standards after finishing 10th at 2:15.64.

Contact the sports reporter at jessethomas@dailyemerald.com.



Adam Amato Emerald

Abby Andrus couldn't overcome the nation's best heptathlete, but finished third.



Adam Amato Emerald

Jeff Lindsey and the other two high jumpers swept the top spots at Stanford.

Men's

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to keep his nerves."

Slye improved on his fifth-place finish from last year by finishing strong along with Lorenzo. Slye was fifth overall heading into the 1,500, but finished 16 seconds ahead of Stanford's Timi Wusu, who was fourth heading into the last event.

Young, knowing he needed to beat Wusu by 38 seconds to slide into fourth, finished 38.4 seconds ahead of Wusu to knock the Cardinal decathlete all the way down to sixth. Young also won the event.

"That was huge, what Jason and Andy did in the 1,500," Lorenzo said. "Andy just took off and never looked back."

Lorenzo's point total of 7,564 points was 347 points short of his personal best, but Lawson is being careful with Lorenzo, who should run some events at the regular portion of the Pac-10 meet next weekend. Lorenzo is peaking toward the NCAA Championships and will be among the favorites to win his second national title.

The Ducks also sent a handful of competitors to Stanford's Cardinal Qualifier on Friday. Oregon's trio of freshman high jumpers swept the top three spots in the Qualifier high jump, freshman David Moore won the pole vault, and James March finished third in the discus with his second-best mark ever.

In other Duck action, redshirt freshman distance runner Erik Heinonen finished the 5,000-meter

race 22nd of 26 runners in 14 minutes, 58 seconds. Redshirt fresh-

"Andy just took off and never looked back."

Santiago Lorenzo
Oregon decathlete

man pole vaulter Jon Derby also finished third in the pole vault.

The Ducks will send a contingent of athletes to next weekend's Pac-10 competition, which runs Saturday and Sunday in Los Angeles. The Ducks will attempt to finish first after finishing second to Stanford last season.

Contact the sports editor at peterhockaday@dailyemerald.com.

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Horoscope by Linda C. Black

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 12). As you take on a tough assignment, it's comforting to know that you have the support of people you love. You'll gather respect from others as well, and maybe a few extra bucks.
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 a 6 _ This is not a good day to spend big money. There are too many changes going on. Wait until after you've talked it over with an expert tomorrow.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) _ Today is a 7 _ A source of stress should ease up soon, much to your delight. There's work involved, but it ought to pay pretty well.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21) _ Today is a 6 _ This morning looks rather confronting, but the day ought to improve. Tonight looks good for romance, so set something up in advance.
CANCER (June 22-July 22) _ Today is a 6 _ You're getting anxious to take action, but you don't want to be impetuous. Consult a practical friend one more time.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) _ Today is a 7 _ Don't argue with reality. Adapt. Acquire the skills you need for you and your partner to achieve mutual goals.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) _ Today is a 7 _ Your financial situation could improve dramatically. If you've been doing the

work perfectly, it's a sure thing.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) _ Today is a 7 _ Nobody else needs to know how you're doing financially. It might be a good idea if you knew, though. Now is a good time to find out.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) _ Today is a 7 _ After working all weekend, you're probably ready to relax. Lunch with friends might be possible, but don't schedule much more than that. There are too many changes going on.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) _ Today is a 7 _ Pressure from above may cause a change in your condition. Somebody needs services that you can provide, and they're willing to pay well for them. Check it out.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) _ Today is a 7 _ Some things you won't be able to change, but that's not entirely bad. Building with what you've have is much cheaper than starting from scratch.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) _ Today is a 6 _ Financing a household project won't be as difficult as you thought. Let somebody know how much you need. Your situation looks good.

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