

SPORTS

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Best bet
NBA Playoffs:
San Antonio at Dallas, Game 6
6 p.m., TNT

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Sassy MAMA

Senior Jordan Sauvage will finish her career as the school record holder in the hammer after appearing at Oregon by chance

Women's track and field

Jesse Thomas
Sports Reporter

It may have been luck, or maybe destiny, but senior Jordan Sauvage knows how to be in the right place at the right time.

When Sally Harmon examined the clipping of Mandy Borschowa, a nation-leading discus thrower, in the spring of 1999, there was more to the photo than just Borschowa.

Sauvage was standing in the background stretching Borschowa. And after Borschowa signed with Washington State, Harmon began sending letters to Sauvage.

Sauvage, a North Bend native, appeared on the scene at Oregon one year later by mere chance.

"She had the door opened up by default," Harmon said. "I contacted Jordan because of her state marks in all three events. They weren't sensational marks, but she reeked of tremendous potential because she was athletic and very well-rounded."

It was what Sauvage had wanted all along.

"I signed up to go to this school and I didn't even look at the campus," she said. "I just knew this is where I wanted to go because it was Track Town USA."

The decision worked out for Sauvage and the women's track and field program as she now holds the Oregon record in the hammer (191 feet, 4 inches) and ranks in the top 20 percent nationally.

Four years after stepping on campus, Sauvage will put a close to the scrapbook after competing in this weekend's NCAA West Regional Qualifier and possibly the NCAA Championships, beginning June 14.

Sauvage's will and desire to succeed have brought her to this point. And she showed promise from the very beginning.

From her freshman year, Sauvage hung with fellow recruit Mary Etter in performance measurements based on jumps, lifts and mechanics.

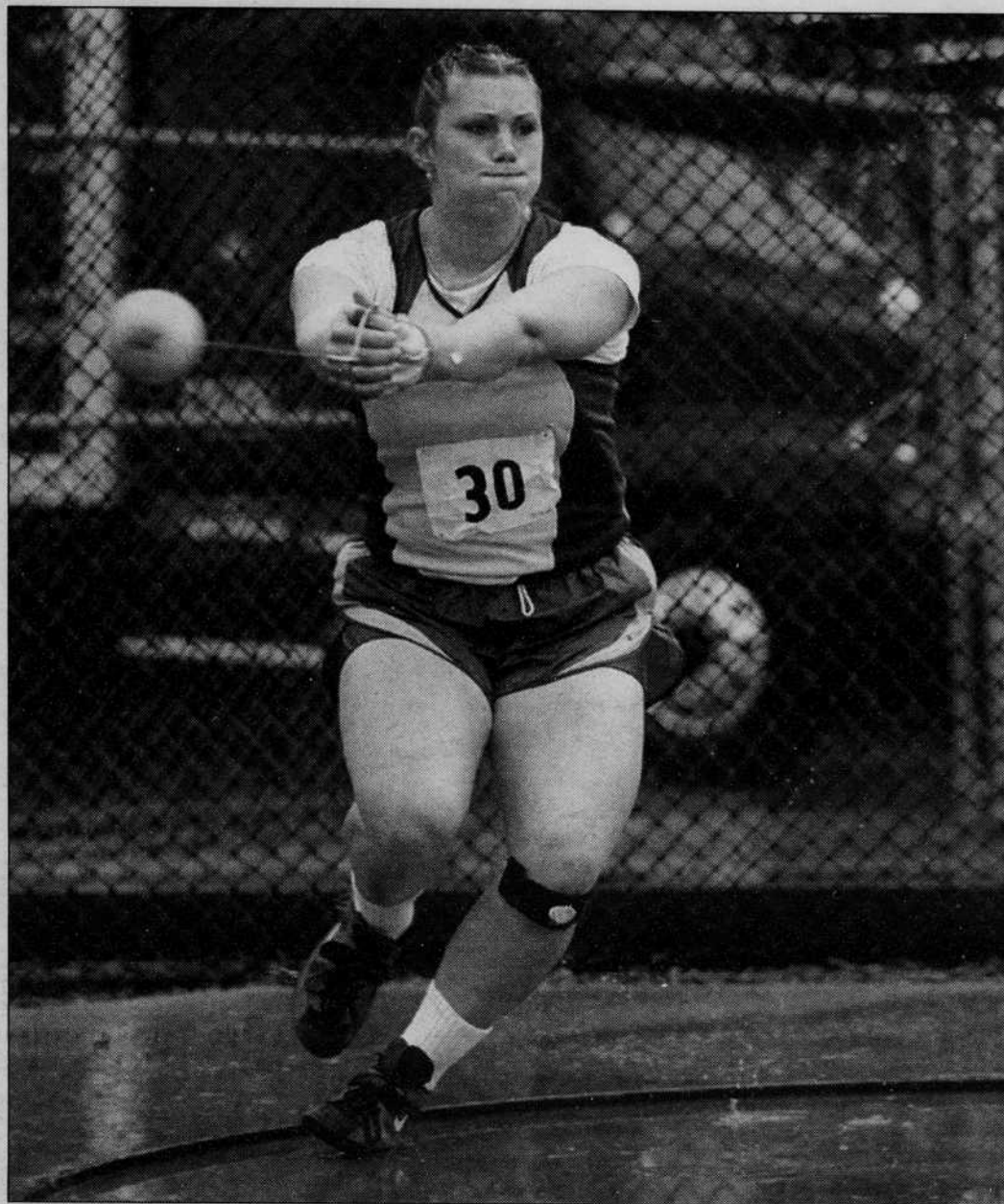
Etter came out of Everett, Wash., and ranked sixth and fourth nationally in the discus and shot put. Sauvage was a walk-on from a 3A Oregon high school.

"For a gal with the tenacity that Jordan showed, for a gal to stay up with Mary, was a big statement about her desire to compete at this level and her confidence," Harmon said.

That confidence carried with her through the years to personal bests in the hammer, discus (153-8) and javelin (138-11). Most of all, Sauvage's confidence plays into the personality she is known so distinctly for.

Junior Jill Hoxmeier remembers her first impression of her teammate.

"Oh sassy, definitely sassy," Hoxmeier said of her former roommate. "I think that's everyone's first impression. We kind of have sassiness



Adam Amato Emerald

Jordan Sauvage was recruited by Oregon when another top recruit fell through, but Sauvage has proved herself.

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UO triathletes face triple threat that isn't just about three events

The Oregon club has a large crew of triathletes who compete year-round

Club Sports

Jon Roetman
Freelance Sports Reporter

Swimming. Running. Biking. Any one of these physically challenging activities could easily be too much for the common couch potato to handle. But when the three are combined into a long, rest-free, grueling test of determination, only the big dogs come out to play.

Wondering where to find some of these big dogs? Look no further than the Oregon Club triathlon team.

The Ducks have 24 consistent members who have participated in triathlons throughout the year. Each triathlete knows not only of the physical strain a triathlon puts on the body, but of the mental power needed to get to the finish line.

"It definitely tests the physical and mental limits that your body can act out in a certain amount of time," club coordinator Lauren Anas said. "It's a definite accomplishment to finish."

Triathlons consist of four different race distances. Sprint, Olympic, Half-Ironman



Courtesy

The Club triathlon team competes at massive events like the Wildflower Triathlon in California.

and Ironman distances allow triathletes to each compete on a course that best matches their ability. Most of the triathlons the Ducks compete in are of the Olympic distance, which is roughly a one-mile swim, followed by a 25-mile bike ride and finished with a six-mile run. An Ironman triathlon, the most pun-

ishing of the four, consists of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bike ride and a 26.2-mile run.

In early May the Ducks competed in the Wildflower Triathlon near King City, Calif. Oregon finished in fourth place behind Cal Poly, California and

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Sica's dynamic day elevates UO to 20th at NCAAs

For the second day in a row, another Oregon senior captain stumbles, but this time Oregon is able to recover and jumps 10 spots up from the first day

Golf

Scott Archer
Freelance Sports Reporter

What a difference a day makes, or more specifically, what a difference 18 holes of golf makes. After opening the 2003 NCAA Championships at the 7,301-yard, par-72 Karsten Creek Golf Course in Stillwater, Okla., at the bottom of the leaderboard on Tuesday, Oregon had nowhere to go but up.

The Ducks, propelled by another stellar performance from junior Mike Sica, shot a 300 on Wednesday to jump up 10 spots on the leaderboard to tie at 20th overall. It was the second-best round of golf on the day, with UCLA coming out on top.

Sica followed yesterday's one-over par 73 with a two-over par 74. His combined score of 3-over par places him in a tie for fourth place overall, individually.

"I left a few shots out there today, but I'm still hitting the ball really well," Sica said. "I made a mental mistake that cost me a stroke on 14, but overall, I'm still pretty happy."

Senior John Ellis shook off a poor opening round to shoot a two-over 74, coming after he had shot a career worst 20-over 92 on Wednesday.

"I thought we played pretty well," Ellis said. "I'm ecstatic that we were able to shoot 12-over. To come back and play that way after the first round is pretty remarkable."

Freshman Gregg LaVoie also improved on the second day

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