

Lauren Wimer Senior Photographer

Junior Sofie Abildtrup hugs boyfriend and former Oregon pole vaulter, Piotr Buciarski, at the Oregon Invitational. Abildtrup has been a key runner for Oregon.

## SETBACK

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she's been a superb asset to the environment and attitude toward the whole team."

Abildtrup does not plan on coming back to Oregon next year, as she heads back to her native Denmark to continue her architecture studies.

### Rivals meet again

At the Pac-10 Championships in Tucson, Ariz., Kayla Mellott reunited with one of her old high school rivals to compete at the 400-meter hurdles.

The junior from Bellingham, Wash., met up with Washington's Cambrielle Jensen in the event after the two had several heated encounters against one another before college. Mellott said they both greeted each other with a handshake and nothing more.

"We're always cordial with each other," Mellott said. "But we definitely have been competitors since high school, so we're not the best of friends."

Mellott ended up having the last laugh, finishing one place ahead of Jensen in seventh place at 61.27. Jensen, a junior from Arlington, Wash., placed eighth with a time of 61.95.

"I was really happy I accomplished several goals that I set out to do," Mellott said. "I made it to the finals in (the 400 hurdles) and I was a Pac-10 scorer. I qualified for Regionals and I beat my high school rival that I have never beaten before."

Contact the sports reporter at [alexam@dailyemerald.com](mailto:alexam@dailyemerald.com).

## DUO

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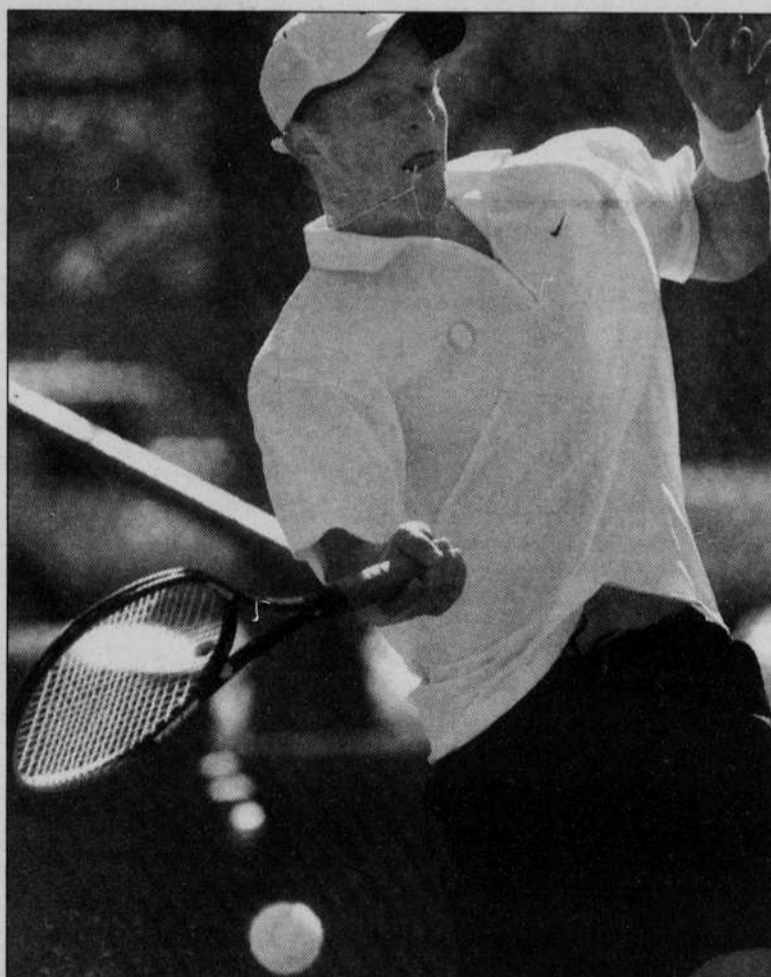
Oregon head coach Chris Russell thinks every match in this tournament is going to be tough.

"Every player in this tournament is good and there will be no easy matches," Russell said.

"It's good for us and our program to have two people in the tournament..."

Manu has been practicing like he was going to play all week anyways and practicing against Swin definitely helps him out."

Chris Russell  
Oregon head coach



Danielle Hickey Photo Editor

Manuel Kost, seen here earlier this season, will head to the NCAA Individual Championships, which begin today. Sven Swinnen also will compete today in Tulsa, Okla.

ranked Phillip King of Duke.

"Stewart is a very respected player around the country," Russell said.

Kost also comes into the match with confidence, making it to the quarterfinals in what is arguably the toughest conference tournament in the nation.

Russell knows Kost is a dangerous player and has proved it throughout the season.

"If he gets hot, everybody in this tournament better watch out," Russell said.

Kost has beaten some of the best of the Pacific-10 Conference has to offer this season, including victories

over 10th-ranked Alex Vlaski of Washington and the very tough Luben Pampoulov of UCLA.

Kost, originally an alternate, made it to the tournament as a result of at least three or four players dropping out due to injuries, Russell said.

"It's good for us and our program to have two people in the tournament," Russell said. "Manu has been practicing like he was going to play all week anyways and practicing against Swin definitely helps him out."

Clayton Jones is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.



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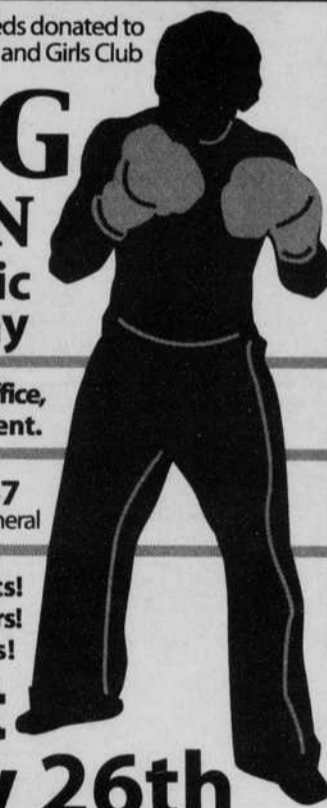
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