

SPORTS BRIEF

Two Oregon golfers qualify for U.S. Amateurs

Oregon golfers Erin Andrews and Eric Hastings qualified for their respective women's and men's U.S. Amateur Championships that begin this month.

Andrews, who will be a junior next season, will compete in the women's championship at the Kahkwa Club in

Erie, Pa. starting Aug. 9. She is scheduled to tee off on Aug. 10 at 11:05 a.m. and 6:20 a.m. Andrews will be paired with 2003 women's Mid-Amateur runner-up Shannon Ogg and former UCLA golfer Gina Umbeck.

The tournament is slated to end Aug. 19.

The Las Vegas native was Oregon's top women's golfer last season with a 76.8 scoring average.

On the men's side, Hastings will

compete at the Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck, N.Y. on Aug. 16.

Hastings, who will be a sophomore next season, advanced to the U.S. Amateur Championships after finishing first at a qualifying tournament at Emerald Valley Golf Club in Creswell.

The Spokane native competed in three events for Oregon this past season and had a 76.2 scoring average.

— Alex Tam

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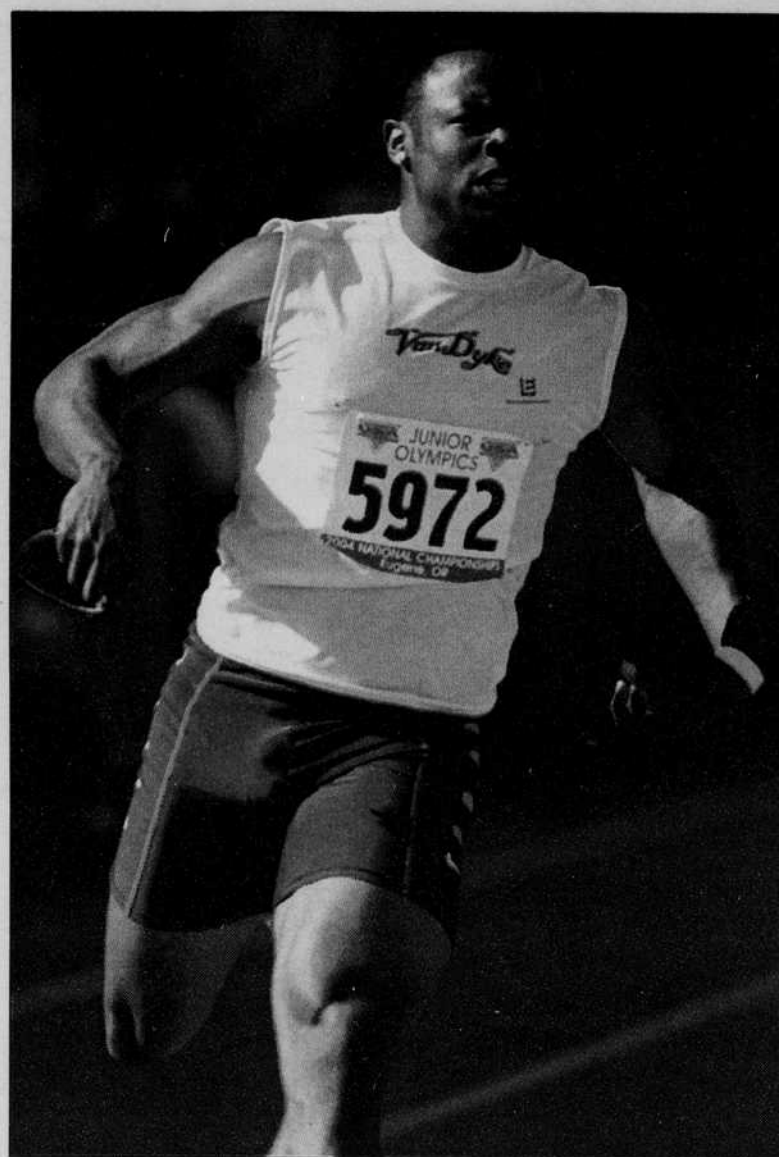
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Erik R. Bishoff Online & Photo Editor

At the Junior Olympics, California's Alex Van Dyke team runner Kenny O'Neal crosses the finish line with the fastest time in the Young Men's 100-meter preliminaries at 10.40 seconds. O'Neal went on to finish second in the Young Men's 100-meter finals with a time of 10.49.

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dock said. "I had a great year and hopefully I can keep it up."

"I can't get far ahead of myself because there's always someone out there trying to beat you."

He said several Pacific-10 Conference schools have courted him, along with a couple East coast schools, but has yet to make a decision regarding what college he will attend.

In addition to Craddock, several other athletes broke records throughout the week.

On the first day of competition, Eugene native Erin Gray was one of three athletes to break the national record in the 2,000 meter steeplechase for the Young Women's division (7 minutes, 34.02 seconds by Suezette Luevano in 2003).

The 17-year-old Gray, who goes to South Eugene High School, won with the best time of 7:15.97, breaking the record by over 18 seconds. Luevano finished second in the event at 7:17.80.

"I am so excited because I wanted this since I was nine years old," Gray, who represents Track City Track Club, said to representatives of the USA Track and Field Website: www.usatf.org. "I feel like I can run 10 miles now. I waited until the very last barrier to run hard. I knew I could catch (Luevano) with one lap to go. I did not want to go too hard too early."

The second day was highlighted by Long Beach's Shana Woods' victory in the intermediate girls heptathlon after scoring a total of 5,052 points. The score broke the 12-year-old record (4,986 points) by 66 points.

The 16-year-old Woods finished first in four of the seven heptathlon events, including the high jump, long jump, 100-meter dash and 200-meters. Her high jump mark (5 feet, 5 inches) was the only clearance at the height, her long jump mark (18-9.75) was the only mark over 18 feet, her 100-meter time (14.97) was the only

one under 15 seconds and her 200-meter time (24.31) was the only one under 25 seconds.

The third day saw the field events take over the spotlight.

In the Midget Girls' division javelin throw, 11-year-old DeeDee Robinson tossed 116-03 to break the previous record (115-10) set in 2001 by five inches.

In the Young Men's division triple jump, Kenneth Hall of Future Track Club based in Baton Rouge, La., broke the 13-year-old national record (52-6 by Ron Jones, 1991) with four of his six attempts. His best mark was his wind-aided fourth attempt (56-2, wind: 4.6 mph), which trounced the competition and second-place finisher Nicholas Brown of Chicago Zephyrs (50-2) by more than six feet.

On the fourth day, Jordon Hasay of San Luis Distance Track Club set a new Youth Girls' record of 4:34.02 in the 1,500-meter qualifying round, which bested the eight-year record set in 1996 by Rebecca Mitchell (4:36.90) by a little over one second.

In the Midget Boys' 3,000-meters, Portland native Musa Ahmed, 12, of Pride Sports Track Club won the event by a little more than one second (9:39.77) over Roblet Muhudin of Blazers Track Club (second, 9:40.84).

On the fifth day on Saturday, Hasay set another Youth Girls record — this time in the 3,000-meter finals after running 9:48.77 to break Deresa Walters' record by a little less than 10 seconds.

In the 200-meter dash, Bianca Knight of Jackson Jaguars in Mississippi, set a new female record with her time of 23.06.

"I just run like I know I can and I did," the 15-year-old Knight said according to www.usatf.org. "I am motivated to do better every time I step on the track. My start is what I wanted it to be. I just went out there to run my race and not worry about anyone else."