

# The heat is on at historic Hayward Field

By NEIL BRANSON  
For the Daily Astorian

EUGENE — Plenty of heat in Eugene for the USA Track and Field Championships, which began Thursday at historic Hayward Field.

At 5 p.m., it was a toasty 94 degrees with the next two-day forecast calling for 99 degrees, then cooling off on Sunday to a mild 87.

The competition is hot, as athletes are vying for spots to represent the United States at the 2015 World Championships, scheduled for Aug. 22-30 at the Bird's Nest (National Stadium) in Beijing.

There is also big heat on Alberto Salazar and his star athlete Galen Rupp, as coach Salazar has been accused of, if not blatantly breaking rules of doping, then at least stretching the boundaries to the point of not living by the spirit of the rules.

Salazar coaches the Nike-sponsored Oregon Project with a small stable of very accomplished athletes including Mo Farah, the Gold medalist in the 5,000- and 10,000-meters at the London Olympics and 2013 World Championships in Moscow.

The charges, first made public by the website ProPublica and BBC, allege that in some form or fashion Rupp, under the tutelage of Salazar, used testosterone, asthma and or thyroid medications beyond the normal practice or without getting the appropriate therapeutic utilization exemption.



AP Photo/Don Ryan  
First-place Galen Rupp, center, stands on the platform flanked by second-place Benjamin True, left, and third-place Hassan Mead, right, after the 10,000 meters event at the U.S. Track and Field Championships in Eugene Thursday.



AP Photo/Don Ryan  
Coach Alberto Salazar waits for the start of the men's 10,000 meters at the U.S. track and field championships in Eugene.

Those pointing the finger include two former Oregon Project athletes, Adam and Kara Goucher, a former assistant coach with the Project Steve Magness and two massage therapists who treated the runners.

Coming to the defense of coach and athlete are former and current Oregon Project athletes and coaches who have worked with both Salazar and Rupp. They emphatically deny anything that could be construed as breaking the rules and not even the smallest venture in the gray area of skulduggery.

Ken Goe, longtime sports writer for the Oregonian, detailed the allegations in a front page story of Thursday's edition of the Oregonian.

He also had a lengthy and emotional interview with Greg and Jamie Rupp, who called the accusations baseless, outrageous

and simply untrue.

The fallout will be felt for a long time. Goe, in an interview on Oregon Public Broadcasting, said the doubters will point to Lance Armstrong, who for years denied doping, citing that he was the most tested athlete in the world and there was never the hint of impropriety on his part.

Salazar has said as much that Galen Rupp has been tested countless times with never a negative result.

The USA Doping Agency, according to the Associated Press, is investigating the situation.

Rupp is an accomplished 10,000-meter runner, having earned the Silver medal at the London Games and is now a seven-time 10K National Champion, having won Thursday in 28 minutes, 11.61 seconds. He is the American Record holder at 26:44.36.

Next, Rupp will head to Beijing under a cloud of doubt as it is unlikely the issue will be resolved in an expedient manner. Rupp, when the story first broke, said he was angry because his reputation had been sullied and to clear it would take a very long time.

### Hot in the 100

The University of Oregon, the school of distance runners, can take great pride in the fact that three Ducks — current athletes Jenna Prandini and Jasmine Todd; and former Duck English Gardner (2011-13), all advanced to the 100 semifinals. Prandini and Gardner won their heats in 10.90 and 10.92, respectively. Todd was second in her heat at 10.87.

### Back to basics in the 1,500

Eight of the 28 entrants were present or former University

## Spencer named Knappa High athletic director

The Daily Astorian

Chris Spencer is the new athletic director at Knappa High School, following the resignation of Bob Brockey earlier this week.

Spencer also serves as the boys varsity basketball coach at Knappa, as well as a teacher in physical education and health.

Brockey will remain the athletic director at the junior high.

## SCOREBOARD

### SPORTS SCHEDULE

#### SUNDAY

Baseball — Singapore at Astoria Ford, 5 p.m.

of Oregon athletes. Six qualified for the finals with Matt Centrowitz, a two-time NCAA Champion for the Ducks, post-

ing the fastest time of 3:44.39. They will race for spots on the World Championship Team Saturday afternoon.

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