

Huskies, WSU Invade Duck Court

By PAUL POLSKY
Associate Sports Editor

The Oregon Ducks return to their home roost Friday night against the Washington Huskies and will try to use the home-court advantage to get back on the winning trail. Washington State invades McArthur Court Saturday.

Both games are slated for 8 p.m.

Oregon coach Steve Belko reports that the Ducks are ready for this weekend's action. In fact, Belko reports that the team is in its best condition and has the brightest mental attitude he has seen since just before the Far West Classic.

The Ducks are near their prime. One of these days everything is going to fall into place and then a big surprise will come. The

Ducks are going to handle a couple of teams like they are capable of doing.

Some of the reasons include Jim Barnett's quick recovery. Although he is by no means 100 per cent ready yet, he'll be playing and helping to mold the team and bring it together as a unit.

Secondly, Nick Jones is ready to come up with some fine performances. Belko reported that Nick looked extremely good in practice this week and that he was encouraged.

Team Ready

Jones has been somewhat slower coming around this year but if one remembers correctly, it was just about this time last winter when Nick sprang his bag of tricks on the opposition. The Ducks hope he will be able to put his fine shooting ability and

jitterbug moves on display and help balance the attack.

The entire team is also about ready to jell and make life miserable for some unsuspecting opponent. This may be the weekend.

Looking at the Huskies, Belko has a lot of praise for Mac Duckworth and his crew.

"That Bruce Brickner is always tough against us. He is an Oregon boy and just seems to play well every time Washington is in Eugene," related Belko.

Another big thorn in the side of the Ducks will be 6-10 Gordy Harris. Harris is the leading Husky scorer with a 19.1 average and 93 rebounds in 11 games. Harris is very mobile for his size and has gained a lot of experience since last year.

Husky Guards Praised

Belko also praised the two Husky guards, Steve Olsen and Doug Westlake. "They are both very quick and have ability to shoot," Olsen is the second leading scorer with 138 points for a

12.5 average. Westlake is right behind with just under 10 points a game average.

The Huskies are a very scrappy team and will be very hungry, just like the Ducks. So far this year the Huskies are 5-6 overall and 1-1 in league play.

In pre-conference action the Huskies took a whirlwind tour and played teams like Florida, Marquette, Tulsa, Wisconsin, Iowa and Hawaii. The Huskies also played the Ducks once before and were defeated at Edmunston Pavilion, 63-61, on a last-minute basket by Nick Jones.

"Team Not Down"

They have been involved in many close games this year and Belko said that they "won't fold under pressure." The two league games the Huskies have played this year bear this out as they defeated Cal, 80-79, and lost to Stanford, 83-79, both in overtime.

Going back to the Ducks Belko

insisted that his team was not down. "They definitely have a good attitude and are trying their best."

This is shown in the desire and determination of players like Barnett, Jones, John Pinkstaff and the team as a whole. Each of the three mentioned has played sometime during the past weeks with either an injury or some sort of problem which has kept him below par.

The personable Duck mentor named Barnett and Bob Cravens to start at forwards. Pinkstaff at center, and Jones and Dave Kafoury in Friday night's game with the Huskies.

Belko said, "On last week's performance, these boys deserve to start, and that is what I'll go by."

So the Ducks will try to come back, not only for their fans but also for their coach. Their desire to win is so great it is almost frightening.

EMERALD SPORTS

Webfoot Swimmers Test USC, UCLA

By GORDON ROSENBERG
Sports Writer

Oregon swimming coach Don Van Rossen has every right to feel like David taking on Goliath, except for one thing—he has to do battle with two Goliaths.

Van Rossen takes his youthful charges south to Los Angeles this weekend to challenge the Pacific Athletic Conference's top two teams—USC and UCLA.

The Ducks meet PAC and NCAA champion Southern California Friday afternoon, then travel across town to take on the Bruins Saturday at 2 p.m.

In case you were thinking that USC may have been weakened through graduation of its top swimmers—forget it! The Trojans may be even stronger this season. "USC is always strong," stated Van Rossen, "they've got to be the league favorite again."

Saari Leads USC

There are plenty of facts to back up Van Rossen's prediction. First, Roy Saari, one of the top swimmers in USC history, is still around.

Saari, who holds the conference record in the 500-yard freestyle (4:53.3), led the Trojans to the league title with two firsts, a second, and a third in the finals.

In addition, the Trojan star held the conference's fastest times for 1965 in four events.

Besides Saari, USC has a good deal of the rest of their veterans returning. All-around swimmers Rich McGeagh and Sandy Gilchrist placed high in the freestyle events at the league finals.

Trojans Deep

Charles Milam and Mike Carretto were the league's second and third fastest men, respectively, in the 200-yard butterfly.

In the 200-yard breaststroke, Bill Craig turned in the league's second fastest time of the year, and teammate Paul Jeffers was one notch behind him.

Also, USC has three-fourths of the league's top 400-yard medley team returning—Saari, McGeagh, and Craig.

As if this weren't enough, there

is also a promising group of sophomores up from last season's strong freshman team. All in all, 1966's team should be as good as, if not better than, the last Trojan edition.

UCLA has all their top swimmers returning from a team that finished a close fourth in the league last season.

UCLA Stronger

"UCLA has improved quite a bit," stated Van Rossen, "they will be USC's toughest competition."

The Bruins are led by PAC breaststroke champion Russ Webb, who captured two firsts and a second in the league finals.

Freestylers Dave Ashleigh and Terry Flanagan, and butterfly specialists Jim Monahan and Stan Cole placed high in their events last season. Cole nabbed first in the 100-yard butterfly finals.

Also, UCLA has its entire 400-yard medley relay team returning.

"Both meets should be very tough," stated Van Rossen. "I know we're improving, but everybody else in the league is, too."

IM Schedule

Basketball

3:50—Court 40, Delta Chi A vs. Chi Phi A

Court 43, Delta Tau Delta A vs. Accelerators A

4:35—Court 40, Alpha A vs. Adams A

Court 43, Clark A vs. McAllister A

5:15—Court 40, Legal Eagles A vs. Hauna A

Court 43, Hilyard Mets A vs. 69 A

Handball

4:00—Busads vs. Campus Crusade

4:45—Dyment vs. Watson

Oregon Sets Road Trip

Art Keith's Oregon wrestling team opens a three-meet series Thursday against Central Washington at Ellensburg with the hopes of improving its 1-1 record.

The Thursday meet will be followed by matches with Washington State Friday and Eastern Oregon Saturday.

"We're not real healthy for this long of a trip," said Keith, the mentor who took over the head coaching chores just last week. "But we're down a weight from last weekend's competition and this is going to help."

The Ducks opened the 1966 grappling season with a 15-12 loss to Western Washington, but rebounded the following night against Washington for a 41-0 victory. "We were a lot better Saturday," added Keith. "That first match under our belts sure helped a lot."

Same Personnel

Keith plans to start the same personnel—with a few exceptions—for the tri-meet swing. Injuries might make the difference in the lineup as Bruce Glenn, a 177-pounder who nabbed a couple of victories over the weekend, including one by a fall, suffered a twisted knee.

"We think it's going to come around," Keith said, "but we're taking Doug Wilkinson along also just in case." Glenn's a senior and a former AAU national champion, while Wilkinson, a sophomore, comes off the 1965 Frosh squad.

Rick Marx, a 123-pounder, "had a few teeth jarred," according to Keith, in his weekend matches and it was uncertain whether he would compete. If he isn't ready, Keith said that Grant Henjyoji would fill Marx' spot.

Both Marx and Henjyoji lost a pair of decisions in the Ducks' first two home meets.

"But we're stronger than we've been before," continued Keith. "They've been really spirited in

practice this week."

Other starters for the Oregon team will be Curt Scott at 130 pounds, with a 2-0 record; Doug Robertson at 137, 0-1-1; Steffen Criner at 145, 1-1; John Malpass at 152, 0-0; Craig Caster at 160, 2-0; Bob Mitchell at 167, 2-0; and Bob Lawrence at heavyweight, 1-1.

"Real Tough"

"Central Washington and Eastern Oregon will be real tough," Keith said. Three of the better Central grapplers were named by Keith and one is Dennis Warren, a 145-pounder. Warren was named the outstanding wrestler at the Washington Invitational in December as he picked up an individual championship.

Two brothers, Vernon and La-Main Merkley, 160 and 167 pounders, also bolstered the Central squad.

In matches last year, the Ducks dumped Eastern Oregon, 24-6, but finished on the losing side of both the WSU match, 15-9, and the Central Washington contest, 17-9.

The Central bout Thursday and the Cougar match Friday are slated for 7 p.m., while the Eastern Oregon meet will begin at 3 p.m. in La Grande.

The Oregon Frosh wrestling squad will host Clark Junior College Saturday at 1 p.m. in the wrestling room of the men's PE building.

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