

Hawthorne LIKES the Pit

By GREG CLARK
Of the Emerald

Ten thousand people walked off into the never-ending Oregon drizzle outside McArthur Court Saturday night.

The dank wetness was still there. What had happened moments before stuck in ten thousand minds like daggers. Every diabolical facet of the Pit had been reduced to mildness. The teeming beast normally called an Oregon crowd had been de-clawed.

And so were the Ducks.

Pressed by scribbling reporters, California coach Dick Edwards breathed through a cigarette under the spaghetti of water pipes in the depths of Mac Court. He was the hero.

He and his crew had all but smirked at the Pit. They had absorbed all the hometown harassment other teams hadn't.

Now Edwards offered the ultimate affront: he liked it. "It may sound funny," he admitted, "but I don't mind the crowd. I like playing here. It's big big and enthusiastic and that's the way basketball was meant to be played."

"No, it didn't bother me," said Rickie Hawthorne, Cal's scoring guard. He fiddled with a towel around his waist. "I haven't been shooting well lately anyway—I concentrated on other things like passing and defense."

"I think it's great," he said. "I wish we had half that many fans in Berkeley."

None of those fans helped the floundering Ducks in the final minutes, however.

Somehow it seemed the crowd expected a miracle. They screamed diligently up until the final second. But it didn't work.

The horde filed out from the blaring scoreboard that signaled the 60-58 defeat. The usual drizzle was still there. The magic of Mac Court wasn't.

Oregon JVs manhandle Claudia's

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It was like the movie, "No Way to Treat a Lady."

Oregon's junior varsity basketball crew played the script in award-winning fashion Saturday, turning Claudia's AAU team on its ear to the tune of 81-60.

After a 68-66 loss to the Portland club on the road early in the season, the Ducklings were downright nasty, eager to avenge the second of only two losses for the year. Now after thrashing Dr. Bernard's AAU, 87-66, Friday, the club has made amends for both losses in fine fashion.

"I think we had a better idea of what to expect on defense this time," said coach Jim Haney afterwards. "We went out and challenged their shooters."

In that department—shooting—Claudia's brought an added advantage to Mac Court in Ron Jones, a regular

for Oregon State in past seasons. Jones, who fouled out early in the second half, wasn't with the AAU club in the first Duck meeting.

"He did show some good things, but showed some weaknesses too," Haney explained. "I don't think that he scared us."

The speedy guard did can 14 points before his exile, although Haney asserted the Duck defense was "ready in the second half" to shut him down.

With the defense, Haney patted his offense production on the back, pointing out the improved depth the Ducks have seen since early contests.

"We have 12 guys who are ready to play," he said. "It's great—we're getting fine performances from a lot of players."

"It takes time to learn the timing of the offense and how to work together. We're finally getting used to playing together."

Play together they did, as the Ducks launched a viscous attack

midway through the first half that pushed a 16-15 lead to a 44-29 halftime gap. The rampage, which did everything but sell reserved-seat tickets, left the AAU team looking like they had come from an East Coast pickup game.

Frank Rourke balanced his 15-point first half production with 14 in the second, and was also tied for rebounding honors with Randy McCoy, each with eight. John Willis, who has broken into the starting line-up in the last few contests, finished with 12 points for the winners, and McCoy also had 12.

Haney's crew now begins a four-game road trip, taking on Portland, Seattle, Washington and Oregon State—all first-time foes.

According to Haney, this could be the toughest test for the up and coming jayvees.

"They say good teams win on the road...well, we'll find out," he said.

Wrestlers pound Washington State

The University of Oregon wrestling team took out its agitations for its only dual meet loss of the season to Oklahoma State by trouncing Washington State at McArthur Court Saturday afternoon, 40-2.

The Ducks juggled their line-up for the less talented Cougars, who could only manage a draw in the opening match. From there on, Oregon dominated before a sparse home crowd.

Shuichi Shoji and Dean Dixon recorded pins for Oregon at 142 and 150, respectively, while Duane Stutzman and Terry Shan-

Flying Ducks fall to ISU

CHICAGO—The No. 1 and 2 gymnastics teams in the nation squared off Saturday night, and the No. 2 team, the University of Oregon, defeated itself as the No. 1 team, Indiana State, rolled merrily along, recording a 212.85-210.10 decision over the Ducks.

Although the score seemed close, in actuality it was not. Getting beat by two points in gymnastics is like getting beat by 15 in basketball.

"We had our shot, and they won," said UO Coach Bill Ballester. "But I think we beat ourselves."

Despite a school record performance by Joe Percival on the pommel horse, the Ducks were not the same team which scored the second highest team total in the country over Illinois and Wheaton College the night before. That total by the way, was 213.20.

Percival scored a 9.50 to lead the Oregon gymnasts, but there were several other firsts for the Ducks. Scott McEldowney scored a 9.35 to win the rings, Mark Stone a 9.40 to capture the high bar

ley picked up superior decisions over their respective opponents at 167 and 190.

Coach Ron Finley's unit embarks on a rigorous road trip this week, wrestling at five California stops in five days. The last of those two meets will be the toughest, with Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo and UCLA posing as formidable opponents. The Ducks will take on Cal Tuesday, Stanford Wednesday, Fresno State Thursday, Cal Poly Friday and UCLA Saturday. Finley would like a good performance from his wrestlers before returning home to meet rival Oregon State on Jan. 22.

Finley will take a crew of 10 wrestlers, and the only regular in doubt is 190-pounder Wes Hines, sidelined with an ankle sprain. Finley indicated he would sub either Randy Besaw or Terry Shanley in the event Hines is unable to make the trip.

118—Ralph Davis, UO, drew Mark Grindstaff, WSU, 4-4. 126—Susumu Hagihara, UO, dec. Tom Goodwin, WSU, 9-5. 134—Randy Robinson, UO, dec. Jeff Louman, WSU, 7-4. 142—Shuichi Shoji, UO, pin Ron Curry, WSU, 7:22. 150—Dean Dixon, UO, pin Fred Mills, 3:17. 158—Kevin Kramer, UO, dec. Allen Acheson, WSU, 10-1. 167—Duane Stutzman, UO, dec. Mike Matthews, WSU, 12-1. 117—Buck Davis, UO, dec. Fred Nix, WSU, 6-4. 190—Terry Shanley, UO, dec. Kevin Yanasak, WSU, 20-9. HEAVYWEIGHT—Greg Gibson, UO, by forfeit. Team score: Oregon 40, WSU 2.



MONDAY, Jan. 13

GYMNASTICS: Oregon vs. Northern Illinois and Illinois State at Chicago; Oregon intramural basketball and racquetball seasons start, men and women.

TUESDAY, Jan. 14

WRESTLING: Oregon at California; WOMEN'S SWIMMING: Oregon State at Oregon; Leighton Pool, 7 p.m.; JV BASKETBALL: Oregon JV at Portland JV, 7 p.m.

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