

Krause: "We got exactly what we deserved"

Oregon baseball coach Mel Krause stared at the ground, trying to scrape words together to explain his team's shoddy performance like he has so many times before.

"Maybe we just don't have the ability," he said. "Maybe we aren't as good as I thought we were."

Krause isn't exactly throwing in the towel, but his words represent the mountain of frustration that grew higher this weekend after his Ducks dropped two of three games to first place Oregon State. The twin losses pin Oregon in third place with a 4-5 record, three games behind the 7-2 Beavers, with nine games left on the Northern Division slate.

By JOHN HENDERSON
Of the Emerald

Everything that could go wrong to a baseball team, happened to the Ducks this weekend. Oregon's first game, a 3-0 loss in Corvallis, was highlighted by two ejections, a protest, two baserunners cut down at the plate, 13 runners left on base and reliever Craig Fetzer pulling a leg muscle during warm-ups.

Beaver starter Gail Meier (4-1) got all the runs he needed in the third inning when shortstop Ray Smith booted Bill Martinez's ground ball and freshman Jeff Doyle moved him to second with an infield single. Ramon Gonzalez dumped a double down the left field line to score Martinez and, after Rick Dodge walked, Rob Drahn knocked in Doyle with a sacrifice fly to center.

The game was marred by an ugly incident in the fifth inning after Don Reynolds hit into a close double play. On his way back to the dugout, Reynolds mumbled a few words at the base umpire, who proceeded to send the Duck designated hitter to the showers.

After a brief discussion with Reynolds, Krause engaged in a fierce argument with the umpire, who immediately gave him the thumb.

"I was ejected because I called the ump a liar," said Krause, "and the reason I called him a liar was because he ejected Don for using a swear word. I gave Don hell for getting on the umpires but he said that all he said was that the ump was 'bad, bad bad.' He didn't kick dirt on him, embarrass him, or detriment him in any way."

"I don't talk that way," said Reynolds. "But I wasn't sure if I said it or not so I asked Cody (Steve) who was nearby if I said it, and he said no and the trainer walked by and he said I didn't say it either."

Krause protested the game because of Reynolds' ejection.

The Ducks evened the series with an 8-6 win in the first game of Saturday's double-header in Eugene. Senior Dean Roberts, who has been struggling this year with the curve ball, picked on a high fast ball and got Oregon off to a flying start with a grand slam home run in the second inning.

"I always try to look for the fast ball," said Roberts, "and he threw it right where I was looking."

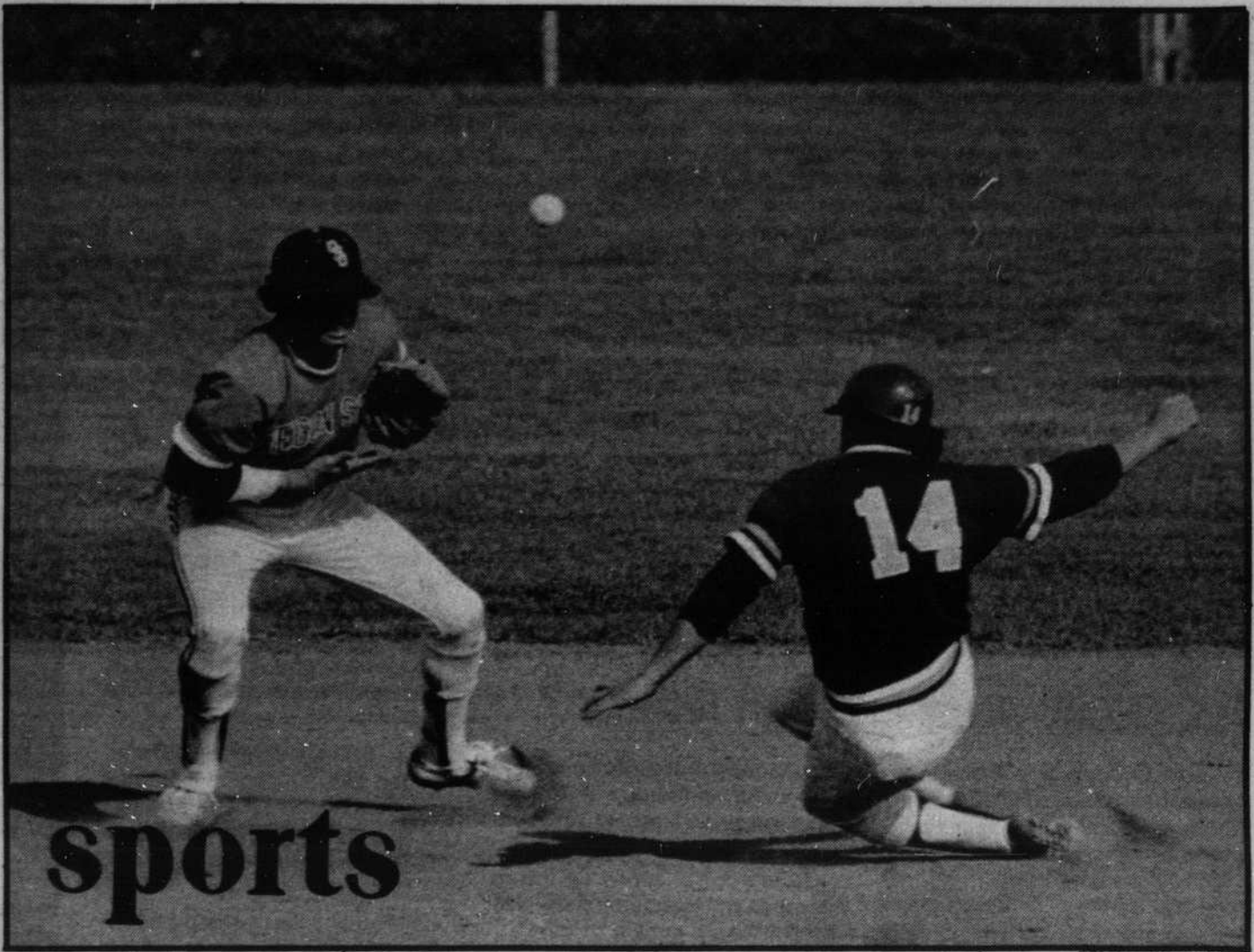


Photo by Phil Waldstein

Beavers had their bad moments, but Ducks had more

If it wasn't for Hank Love's three-run double in the third, however, the Beavers would have swept the Ducks as they slowly pecked away at Oregon's crumbling pitching staff. After RBI singles by Pete Rowe and Kim Hurley closed the score to 8-6 in the sixth, the Beavers loaded the bases in the seventh but reliever Greg Richards got Rowe to fly to Roberts in center for the final out.

The Beaver rally was a foreshadowing of what was to come as the Ducks threw away another lead in the second game, and a chance to creep toward Oregon State by a game, losing 7-3.

After Bob Anderson wiped out a 1-0 Beaver lead with a three-run homer in the fourth, the roof collapsed on the Ducks. The Beavers scored six runs in the sixth and seventh innings on three singles, a double, four errors, two walks, a wild pitch, and three sacrifice flies.

So instead of being behind Oregon State by a game and in the thick of the Northern Division pennant race, Oregon is three back and battling for survival.

"We got exactly what we deserved," said an unhappy Krause. "When you play as many games as we have and play like we did today, you get exactly what you deserve. You can't play baseball like that. We don't have the kind of team that can make up for a bad play. When one player makes a bad play it seems that everybody else seems to make bad plays. We just don't play the game as a team."

The pitching staff, which has been hindered by the absence of injured eight-game winner Eric Gilmore, is Krause's biggest complaint.

"It's obvious we don't have a pitcher who can come right out and win us a ball game," he said. "I didn't realize I'd miss Gilmore this much."

The Ducks travel to Washington State next weekend to take on the 4-3 Cougars. Krause will get some time to pick up the pieces this week, as his Ducks host non-conference games against Portland State today at 3 p.m., and Oregon Tech tomorrow in a 1 p.m. double-header.

Pacific-8

Northern Division

	W	L	GB
Oregon State	7	2	—
Washington St.	4	3	2
Oregon	4	5	3
Washington	1	6	5

Southern Division

	W	L	GB
Southern Cal	4	2	—
Stanford	4	4	1
UCLA	3	5	2
California	2	4	2

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