

It's OSU vs. Ducks Saturday

Oregon State, the hottest team on the West Coast since Jan and Dean, returns to McArthur Court Saturday night for its second battle of the year with Oregon.

The Beavers, who whipped sixth-ranked Washington 72-70 Saturday to take sole possession of the Pac-8 lead, are now 4-0 in league, 11-4 overall and rated 11th by United Press International.

Ralph Miller's gang is currently playing some of the best basketball it's ever played and could be ranked as high as fourth in the country in field goal percentage (.535) when NCAA statistics are released.

Oregon, meanwhile, is playing some of its worst basketball ever. The Ducks dropped a pair in Washington this weekend to make their record 1-3 in league and 8-9 overall. Oregon's only league win—77-72—was against a USC team that has lost all four of its Pac-8 encounters.

Oregon's frustration peaked Saturday in Pullman, where it dropped a 78-69 decision to Washington State. "We just didn't get the job done in any phase of the game," assistant coach Dick Stewart said. "We executed poorly, rebounded poorly and shot poorly."

Things will have to change if the Ducks hope to have a shot against the Beavers. Oregon State has four starters averaging in double figures — Lonnie Shelton (18.3), Rocky Smith (16.9), George Tucker (12.7) and Don Smith (11.8). The fifth starter, Paul Miller, averages 9.3 per game.

Last year Oregon won the Mac Court battle 82-80 on Greg Ballard's tip-in at the horn. The Beavers won the first contest, 72-71 on Rickey Lee's 25-foot bank shot at the horn while sandwiched in between, was Oregon's 79-68 win in Portland.

Oregon State has already whipped the Ducks this year — 79-67 in the Far West Classic.

Six school records . . . as a freshman

Menkens making an unseen splash

By DALE BUCKLEY
Of the Emerald

The name Michelle Menkens will probably never go down in Oregon athletic history as one of the greats. But it won't be because it didn't deserve to.

A sophomore, Menkens has already set six women's swimming records and she hopes to place in the top-three at the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIWA) Championship meet this spring.

The outward manifestations of Menkens' success are easy to explain. A short look at the Leighton Pool record board will convince anyone of that.

Menkens holds school records in the 50 and 100-yard freestyle, 50 and 100-yard butterfly, 100-yard individual medley and 100-yard breaststroke.

At last year's AIWA national championships, she composed a one-person team, scoring points in four events to give the Ducks a 28th place finish.

What is harder to comprehend is the type of diligence necessary to achieve those goals—the 6 a.m. workouts, the time involved in four-day-a-week training sessions, the lack of recognition.

"I'm really a competitive person and I enjoy the sport—the traveling and meeting



Photo by Jackie Wilson

"I'm really a competitive person"

people," said Menkens. "I know I have Thursday morning off, so I get to sleep in, and if I can make it the first four days, Friday's a snap."

She started swimming at eight years of age, an early start common to most athletes who excel, a period of her life that she now refers to as "just having a good time."

After stops in Tacoma and Arkansas, she wound up two years ago at Marshfield High in Coos Bay, where she won the 50 yard freestyle state championship.

Even then she had ambitions of attending Oregon, and the fulfillment of those ambitions have served both well.

"Swimming has helped me organize my life a little — I know where my priorities are — it's a fantastic learning experience," Menkens explains.

"I've always had a goal, in swimming, in schoolwork. I've always thought of something I wanted to achieve and it's frustrating when you don't get it, but . . ."

Menkens plans to coach swimming as a long-range goal, but right now her major ambition is to "place in the top three" at the 1976 AIWA's.

Like almost everyone, however, she has a dream — the Olympic Trials in June, an ambition she keeps in perspective by maintaining, "I just want to make the standards, I just want to go to the meet."

Tonight the last breather for 14th-ranked Oregon

By GREG STILES
Of the Emerald

In all probability Fresno State will be no match for Oregon's wrestling team tonight when the two clubs take to the mats in McArthur Court at 7:30.

The Ducks will be shooting for dual meet win number eight in a row. Even coach Finley admits that Fresno State (0-6) isn't in the category of the teams to follow on the Duck slate.

"They usually have a few outstanding individuals on their team," said Finley. "But they're not that strong."

Among the Bulldogs' tougher grapplers are Roy Moz (150) and Kevin Clark (158). Unfortunately for Fresno State the combined record of the duo is 6-8-2.

The picture doesn't get any brighter for the Bulldogs.

The problem at Fresno State reportedly stems from Francis' taking a sabbatical last year and the interim coach failing to do any recruiting.

The Bulldogs have had one common opponent with the Ducks, California. The Golden Bears decimated Fresno State 32-9, while Oregon won 23-14.

Oregon most likely will go with the same line-up that white-washed Central Washington State last Saturday, 40-0.

Randy Robinson may re-enter the line-up. After injuring his shoulder against California Friday, Dennis Dixon was shoved into the line-up and drew Finley's approval.

The Fresno State meet will be Oregon's last breather in awhile. Beginning Friday, the Ducks will meet four top twenty teams within a week: Portland State (13th), Minnesota (ninth), Oregon State (8th) and Washington (20th).

Overall Individual Records

WRESTLER, WEIGHT	W-L-T	WP-LP
Steve Hart, 118	17-6-0	0-0
Joe Sade, 126	5-3-0	0-1
Dewey Travis, 126	5-6-0	1-1
Shuich Shoji, 134	14-4-2	2-0
Randy Robinson, 142	15-7-0	5-0
Dennis Dixon, 142	1-0-0	0-0
Rick Rexius, 150	4-5-0	0-2
Bob DeWitt, 150	0-5-0	0-0
Danny Hollembaek, 150	1-2-1	0-1
Kevin Kramer, 158	18-6-0	2-0
Randy Besaw, 167	11-10-0	4-1
Tim Strobel, 177	2-1-1	0-0
Buck Davis, 177	10-7-1	0-0
Brian Dunagan, 177	2-2-0	0-0
Bob Bragg, 190	14-1-0	2-0
Greg Gibson, Hwt	10-2-1	4-1
TEAM:	129-67-6	21-7

Says Frerichs

Beavers by two

If you're one of the 10,500 yellow and green zealots who scream incessantly for Beaver Blood at The Pit, this weekend won't be one of your favorites.

Or so says Glen Frerichs, the Emerald prognosticator who weekly picks the Pac-8 winners.

Oregon State, 4-0 and leading the Pac-8, is expected to increase its Pac-8 lead Saturday night with a two-point win over the Ducks.

In the only other Pac-8 game this weekend, Stanford is a surprise six-point favorite over visiting Cal.

According to Frerichs, the Pac-8 is getting increasingly more balanced. In 1974, he points out, the average game was decided by 12.6 points and last year the average margin was 9.1.

Thus far, Pac-8 games have been decided by an average of 7.2 points per game.

The home court advantage, he says, is becoming more and more important all the time. Last year, for example, the difference in his rating of the top and bottom teams was about 16 points. The difference now is currently less than 12 points.

Pacific-8

Team	Ratings		
	Pac-8	Season	Rating
1. Washington	3-1	14-1	81.06
2. Oregon State	4-0	11-4	77.61
3. UCLA	3-1	13-2	77.05
4. Oregon	1-3	8-9	71.95
5. Stanford	1-3	5-9	71.56
6. Washington State	3-1	10-3	69.58
7. Southern California	0-4	11-5	69.56
8. California	1-3	7-6	69.33

emerald sports

Ducks face OCE, PSU

The Oregon women's basketball team, coming off a 31-30 loss to Oregon State and a 52-36 win over Southern Oregon, meets Oregon College of Education Thursday night in Monmouth.

The Ducks will then face Portland State in Portland on Saturday. The Vikings, the top team in the western part of the conference last year, have two standouts back to face the 2-4 Ducks.



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