



Photo by Greg Clark

Caine: After one weekend, the reviews are rosey

By JOHN HENDERSON
Of the Emerald

Newly appointed University Athletic Director John Caine was only in town for four days, but the San Jose State AD didn't waste time making a good impression.

"I think he's fantastic," said swimming Coach Don Van Rossen. "In the 17 years I've run the state high school swim meet, he's the first AD to make a salutation to me. He did that last weekend, and with his busy schedule, that shows he's behind the program and he's behind the coaches."

He's also behind the women, according to Becky Sisley, Head of Women's Intercollegiate Athletics.

"I was really impressed with his broad background and his knowledge of Title IX," said Sisley. "He seemed very strong on the women's program so he should bring in a much broader perspective."

When the 51-year-old Caine takes over the position on April 1, he will carry a mile-long history of success with him. Since 1972, he has propelled San Jose State from a paddling boy of the Pacific-8 to a West Coast power.

"I believe it's a tremendous thrill to be part of the Pacific-8," said Caine with a slight touch of Kentucky twang. "I think the Pac-8 is the best conference in the country. It's an older, more mature conference and the competition is tremendous. You look down the list of sports and the Pac-8 dominates in most of them, especially in gymnastics. They have a great commissioner in Wiles Hallock and wonderful universities."

"You can imagine what a thrill it is for a poor little boy from Kentucky to walk into the Pac-8."

If a list was to be made of Caine's greatest abilities, fund raising would probably be right near

the top. San Jose State's financial situation was "hurting" according to Caine when he arrived. Presently, it is one of the few schools that is operating in the black.

"He really has some imaginative ideas," said University Vice-President Ray Hawk. "I'm sure some of the things he did at San Jose will be a pattern here."

One key to the fund raising lies in the pockets of the alumni.

"We'll have to make some changes because we (SJS) did so much in the Bay Area," said Caine. "We have 40,000 alumni there but we'll have to spread to the entire state and the metropolitan areas across the country."

"We'll go to any ponds where ducks sit."

Non-revenue sports have always been thorns in the seats of AD's across the country. Caine couldn't go into details of his fund-raising battle plans, but seems optimistic of the possibilities.

"We're hoping to put all fund-raising under one umbrella," he said. "We're all going to work our tails off. I think there's so much of the field that hasn't been plowed. When there's a constituency that wants it to happen, and it's beginning to happen, it can be possible."

Caine points to Oregon's football program for evidence.

"We have to get football going," he said. "Once we do, our biggest hurdle is over. I have great confidence in Don Read. In their last few games, they laid an awful good foundation for next year."

Describing Oregon's coaching staff, Caine simply said, "Strong right down the line, and I'm leaving a good one. I've checked all of their records and I'm really pleased to be associated with such a fine staff."

Chances are, the staff will be returning the compliment.

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sports

Pac-8 gymnastics

Individual duels look interesting

Oregon's quest to knock California off its Pacific-8 gymnastics pedestal isn't the only thing that should make the upcoming Pac-8 Championships interesting.

The meet also boasts a number of hot individual battles.

One, of course, will be in the pommel horse, where the Oregon duo of Tom Truedson (9.6) and Curt Rodgers (9.55) try to upset NCAA defending champion Ted Marcy of Stanford.

Marcy has won the pommel horse title every year at the Pac-8 meet and is considered one of the top two in that event in the world. Marcy's high this year has been 9.6.

Oregon's Scott McElowney (9.65) will get a stiff challenge in the still rings event from two California competitors — Al Garcia (9.45) and Tom Beach (9.4).

The horizontal bar shapes up to be another interesting event, with four competitors having scored 9.4 or better. The Ducks' Bob Rikli and Mark Stone have each posted 9.65 scores this year while Washington's Mel Cooley (9.5) and UCLA's John Hart (9.4) follow.



Curt Rodgers

Oregon boasts the top mark in all six events while USC's James Taylor has the best mark in the all-around with 52.40. The Duck's Steve Roskam has scored 52.10.

The meet gets underway Thursday at 8 p.m. with the compulsories. Optionals will be held Friday at 8 p.m. with individual titles to be decided Saturday night.

Doors open at 7 p.m. each night. Admission for Oregon students and their spouses is \$1. Winter sports passes for students and faculties will not be honored.

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