

Women gymnasts finish highest ever — 12th

BOONE, N.C.—The Oregon women's gymnastics team beat the odds and a lot of stiff competition Saturday to finish 12th in the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) championships at Appalachian State College.

The Ducks' finish was the highest ever for an Oregon women's

gymnastics team at nationals and their score — 98.85 — was a school record, as well.

"I'm very proud," said coach Henriette Heiny. "Everybody performed very well."

The Ducks had to perform well to place high in the competition. They entered the meet with a best of 98.05, which ranked them dead

last of the 25 teams entered.

But just as Oregon had pulled through in the clutch to qualify for the meet (the Ducks made it by .05 of a point), Heiny's team rose to the occasion at the championships.

Wendy Halberg led the Ducks with a 33.80 all-around score. Ann Olson, overshadowed at times by Halberg and Jan Model much of the year, pulled through with a fine 33.75 effort and Model hit 31.95 to give Oregon its total. Elaine Fisher scored 30.85.

Halberg's 8.85 score on the parallel bars was a personal record. No less than seven season's individual bests were set by the Ducks in marching to their 12th place finish.

In the process, Oregon got some revenge over Seattle-Pacific and Washington — teams which whipped the Ducks in the regionals — by defeating them both.

Olson was tops for the Ducks in the floor exercise (8.45) and vaulting (8.75). Halberg led in the parallel bars with her record 8.85 and on the balance beam, with an 8.25.

Clarion State College (Pa.) won the meet with a 107.95.

But it wasn't the only school that enjoyed success. Just ask the Ducks.

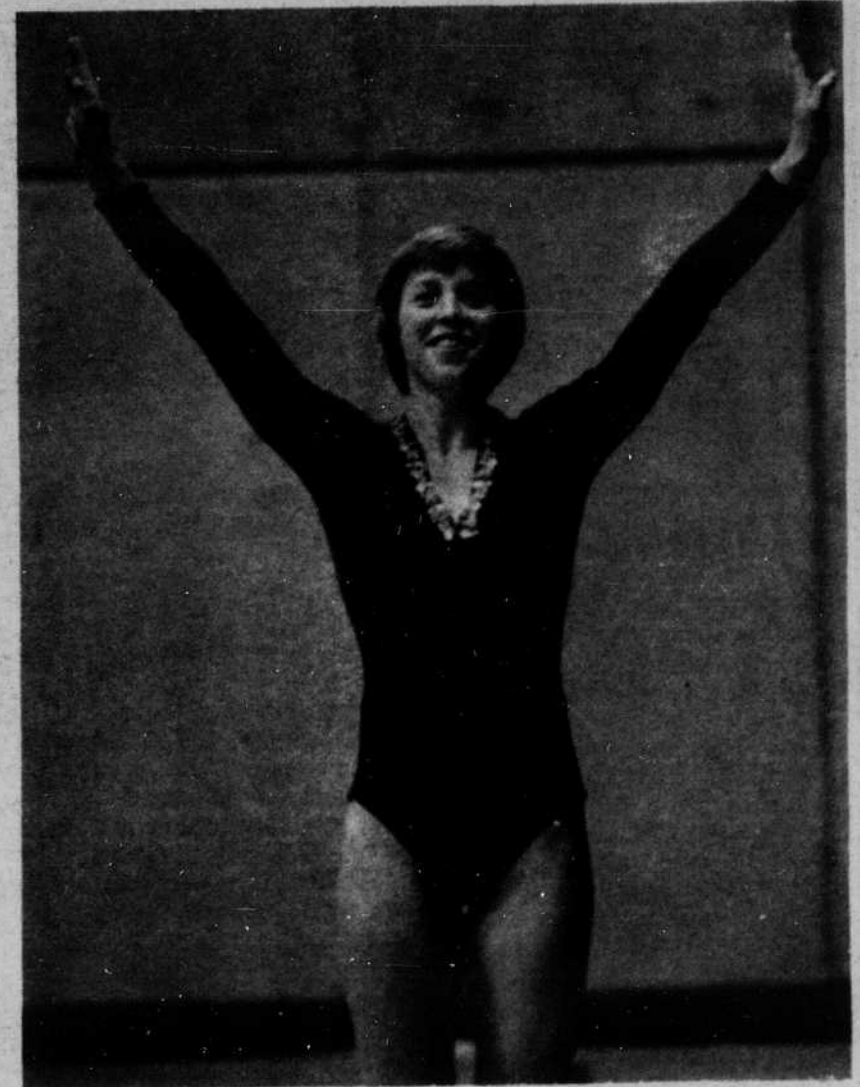


Photo by Jacki Wilson

Halberg had a personal best in the Ducks' best-ever finish.

Rikli second in floor ex at NCAA gymnastics meet

PHILADELPHIA — Oregon's gymnastics team, at one time ranked first in the nation, finished out its season Saturday in the NCAA national meet here at Temple University by placing one man in second place in the floor exercise competition.

Bob Rikli, the leader going into the finals of floor exercise, was passed in the last day by Colorado State's Bob Robbins, who won the event with a score of 18.900. Rikli finished with 18.875.

The Flying Ducks had two other men who scored in the meet — Curt Rodgers, who placed fifth in pommel horse, and Mark Stone, fifth on the high bar.

Penn State won the team competition for the ninth time with a total of 432.075 points. LSU was second with 425.125 and California, the champion from the Pacific-8, was third with 421.950. Oregon did not count in the team totals.

Individual champions included Stanford's Ted Marcy, who won the pommel horse for the third straight year; Penn State's Gene Whelan on the parallel bars; Doug Wood of Iowa State on the rings; Tom Beach of California on the horizontal bars and Cal State-Fullerton's Sam Shaw in vaulting.

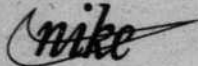


Bob Rikli: 2nd place finisher

the athletic department

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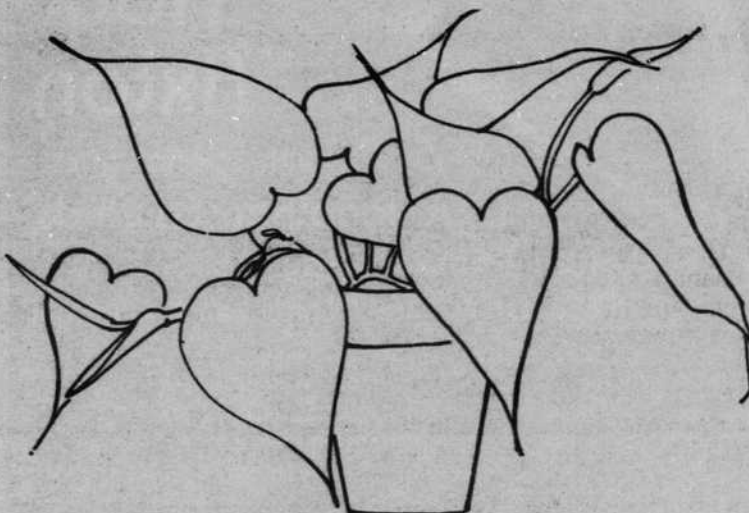


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Monday, April 5

GOLF—University of Oregon Invitational, Eugene CC. BASEBALL — OCE, Howe Field, first game 1 p.m.

Tuesday, April 6

TENNIS—Southern Oregon, here, 3:30 p.m. BASEBALL—Linfield (2), Howe Field, first game 1 p.m.

Wednesday, April 7

BASEBALL—Willamette, at Salem, 3 p.m. WOMEN'S GOLF—Oregon State, in Corvallis, 1 p.m.

Thursday, April 8

BASEBALL—Lewis & Clark, Howe Field, 3 p.m. WOMEN'S TENNIS — OCE, Alder St. courts, 3:30 p.m. MEN'S TENNIS — Idaho, here, 3:30 p.m.

Friday, April 9

WOMEN'S TENNIS—LCC, at Lane, 3:30 p.m.

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