

The Pit gears up for a conference dogfight

By DAN LINDAHL
Of the Emerald

Just when it would seem Oregon had earned itself an opportunity to lay back and enjoy its amazing success so far this season, the Ducks find themselves thrown right back into the boiling vat of Pacific-8 competition.

So far this season Oregon has experienced success the soothsayer would have predicted to predict. But after last weekend's shocking sweep of UCLA and USC, the Ducks find themselves 11-2 overall, 2-0 in Pac-8 play and rated 15th in the nation by the United Press.

There is no time for celebration in the Oregon camp, however. With Washington and Washington State invading McArthur Court Thursday and Saturday nights respectively, the Ducks are facing the most crucial pair of games this season.

"This is a great challenge," commented Oregon Coach Dick Harter in regard to the upcoming battle with the two Pac-8 co-leaders. "We haven't played two teams so good back to back all year."

Last weekend Oregon traveled to Los Angeles where it played and conquered a couple of pretty fair clubs in the Bruins and Trojans. Harter was naturally pleased with what transpired on the trip and the effect it has had on his team.

"I don't think we've played back to back as well all season as we did there," remarked Harter. "Those wins have given us confidence, but I hope they won't disturb our stability."

Washington and WSU weren't exactly idle while the Ducks are stunning the L.A. area. Both the Huskies and Cougars made things rough for visiting Stanford and California and each grabbed a pair of wins to join Oregon in the Pac-8 co-leadership after one round.

Coach Marv Harshman's Huskies had no trouble against either of its bay area foes, dumping Cal 85-75 behind James Edwards' 25 points before running

Stanford into Lake Washington 98-77. Edwards, the 7-0 all-American post, was again the key against Stanford, hitting 19 points and grabbing 13 rebounds.

Over Washington's last 10 games, all of which the Huskies have won, Edwards is hitting 68.4 per cent of his shots. But Oregon is planning nothing special to stop the agile big man.

"It will be a team defensive effort that will contain Edwards," said Harter.

Washington, which stands 10-4 on the season, can offer much more than just Edwards for opposing coaches to worry about, however. Sophomore Mike

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Neill was the leading scorer against the Cardinals with 20, while 6-7 forward Kim Stewart has been steady all season, pumping in nearly 14 points a game while hauling in 10 rebounds a contest.

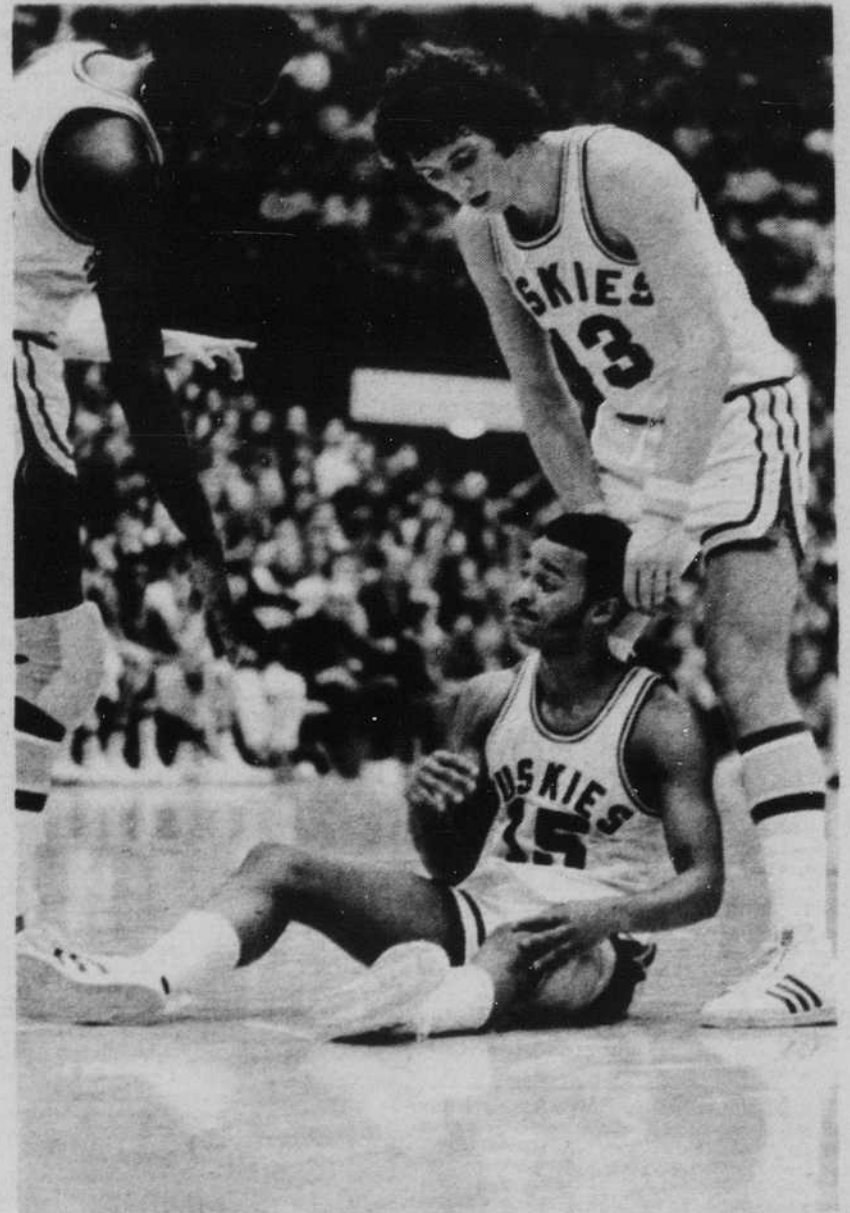
Providing other threats are playmaker turned scorer Chester Dorsey, who boasts a 10.2 point per game production, and freshman standout Stan Walker. Walker, out of Beaverton's Sunset High School, was heavily recruited by Oregon but opted for Washington where he has become a starter, hitting for double figures in six of his last eight tilts.

Harter sees the Huskies as being an "excellent team. They are big and skilled and fastbreak well."

And what will it take to stop Washington with all its skill as the momentum of a 10 game winning streak? According to the Oregon mentor, the same things that have brought the Ducks their present lofty state.

"The player's unyielding determination and unselfishness," stated Harter.

Both games will be broadcast on KUGN radio beginning at 7:45 p.m.



Staff photo

Chester Dorsey (15) will be one of Washington's key veterans as the Huskies make their first Mac Court appearance this year.

Flying Ducks down Portland St.

By STEVE GEIGER
Of the Emerald

Oregon's Flying Ducks set a new season gymnastics scoring high at McArthur Court Wednesday night, shooting down Portland State 216.60 to 187.95.

The Ducks, rated number one in the nation after scoring 213 points against Indiana State and Northern Illinois in Chicago last week, increased their national number

one point total by 3.6 points. Teams are rated by the most number of points scored in a single meet rather than by voting.

Freshman Breck Grigas continued his role as team leader by winning last night's all-around competition despite not winning any individual events. The Illinois native broke the 9.0 barrier three times, including a 9.30 total on the vault, on the way to totaling 54.00 points for the evening.

Freshman Mike Moyal won just one event while taking second place behind Grigas in the all-around. Moyal broke the 9.0 barrier twice, including a meet-high 9.5 on the vault, to total 53.40 points. Gene Christensen scored 52.25 and Scott Phillips had 50.75 as the other all-around competitors for the Ducks.

The Ducks jumped into a quick lead at the outset and the evening quickly turned into nothing much more than a good practice session. The Ducks outscored the Vikings 36.15 to 34.10 in the first event — the floor exercise — with Don Lester, Grigas and Christensen leading the way with scores of 9.30, 9.15 and 9.05, respectively.

The meet was over when the second event was through. Tom Truedson and Curt Rodgers both scored 9.4's in the pommel horse while PSU's four scores ranged from 7.55 to 5.55. After the pommel horse competition, the Ducks were leading 72.20 to 60.50.

Oregon then went on to outscore PSU in the rest of the events and take the lopsided victory.

The 216.60 total by the Ducks surpassed their previous season high of 216.50 set last Sunday evening against a touring Japanese team. Wednesday night's total was just 1.3 points short of the school record 217.90 set a season ago.

This Sunday, the Ducks will co-host with the University women's team against the University of Washington, beginning at 4 p.m. in Mac Court.

Event winners

All Around: Breck Grigas, 0, 54.00. Floor Exercise: 1, Don Lester, 0, 9.30; 2, Grigas, 0, 9.15; 3, Christensen, 0, 9.05. Pommel Horse: 1, Tom Truedson, 0, and Curt Rodgers, 0, 9.4; 3, Moyal, 0, 8.7. Still Rings: 1, Jerry Busk, 0, 9.30; 2, Grigas, 0, and Hiegechuk, PSU, 9.15. Vaulting: 1, Mike Moyal, 0, 9.50; 2, Grigas, 0, 9.30; 3, Bowden, 0, 8.95. Parallel bars: 1, Gene Christensen, 0, 9.10; 2, Moyal, 0, 9.00; 3, Grigas, 0, 8.95. High Bar: 1, Gene Christensen, 0, 9.20; 2, Scott Phillips, 0, 9.00; 3, Breck Grigas, 0, 8.90.
TEAM — Oregon 216.60, Portland State 187.95.

Men break two records as Ducks drown SOSC

ASHLAND — Steve Hamilton and Jay Evens both cracked meet records as they paced the Oregon men to a 64-49 victory over Southern Oregon College in Ashland Wednesday night.

The Oregon women, led by Michelle Menkens with three first-places, also defeated the Red Raiders, 87-52.

Hamilton blasted the old 1000-yard freestyle mark of 11:16.02 with a 10:00.29. Evens nipped almost a full second off the 200-yard freestyle record with a 1:50.2.

Timers needed

Persons with good eyesight and a thumb to operate a stopwatch are needed as timers for Oregon's swim meet against Utah Friday night and all day Saturday. No previous experience is necessary — call ext. 4110 at Leighton.

Men's coach Don Van Rossen said, "Our extra work paid off. We had a lot of swimmers swimming their best times of the season — we are coming around now and will be ready for the University of Utah."

Besides Menkens' efforts, Robin Wheeler and Megan Riddle both grabbed two first-places apiece in the women's events to help extend the team record to 3-1.

For the weekend, the Ducks return to Leighton Pool with the men challenging highly-ranked Utah at 7 p.m. Friday, and the women facing Central Washington at noon Saturday.

The Central Washington team is coached by John McConnochie, a former Duck swimmer who holds Oregon records in the 500, 1000 and 1650 freestyle and 400 individual medley events.

Ski camp to set up today

This weekend's training camp at Mt. Bachelor will be arranged at the Oregon Ski Team's meeting at 4:30 p.m. today in McArthur Court, directly after practice.

Letters

No ice

Jeff Nielson's column is usually excellent, but the paragraph about a "hard rain" of ice on Marv Harshman is inexcusable. Granted, the man is an obnoxious superjock. But for you to use the Emerald to encourage obnoxious superjocks of the local variety to behave in ways which are not only rowdy but downright dangerous — want to see GB out for the season after slipping on a chunk of ice? — shows an appalling lack of responsibility.

Retract it. Loudly. All we don't need tonight is something to turn an already hostile crowd into a violent ice-tossing mob.

Roberta M. Taussig
GTF, Computer Science

Ed. note — You're 100 per cent correct. The particular passage quoted above was an unfortunate choice of words; the last thing the Emerald advocates is the throwing of debris in Mac Court. Keep the ice in your soft drink where it belongs.

Sportfolio

Rugbers practice Thursday

The Oregon Rugby Club will have a practice at 3:30 p.m. Thursday on the practice field behind McArthur Court. People with questions should call Jim Crowder at 344-4076.

Crew turnouts Saturday

Oregon's women's crew team will hold its winter turnouts at 9 a.m. Saturday in the East Stands of Hayward Field. Prospects should be dressed to run, and newcomers are encouraged to join the team.

Racquet club meets today

The Oregon Racquetball Club will meet at 6 p.m. today in the EMU to prepare for the winter league and discuss the ladder. The room will be announced, and new players are welcome.

Ski race scheduled

A beginner's cross-country ski race will be held at noon Sunday near Odell Butte at the intersection of Highway 58 and Road 244B, 77 miles southeast of Eugene.

Skiers can choose a 10- or two-kilometer course on a terrain that is flat and rolling. The purpose of the race is to provide beginning and advanced skiers with a groomed surface on which to develop technique.

For more information, call 345-5584 or go to the Sugar Pine Ridge ski store, 877 E. 13th Ave.