



Photo by Mike Marino

Cal's Al Garcia nipped Oregon rivals Jerry Bush and Scott McEldowney with a 9.45 on the rings Sunday, but it wasn't enough as the Ducks defeated the Bears in the first round of a two-day meet.

Ducks don't sparkle, but still beat Bears

By MIKE MARINO
Emerald Sports Editor

Oregon won the initial battle between themselves and arch gymnastics rival California Sunday night, but you'd never have known it.

The Ducks and Bears both looked unspectacular, there wasn't the excitement you'd expect when the nation's number two and eight teams collide. But if Oregon wasn't flashy, it was still firm, and walked away from the first round of a two-day meet with a 214.95 — 211.90 win.

Oregon coach Bill Ballester was pleased that his Flying Ducks won, but could smile at little else. "We could have pulled away on side horse and again on parallel bars, but we didn't do it," he said. "It wasn't a great team performance."

The Bears bombed on the horse with a team total of 31.30, but Mike Weidemann and Gordon Hocking, two of Oregon's specialists, both broke on their routines. The Ducks' Tom Truedson put together his "best performance," but received only a

9.55. As a result, Oregon could only total 35 points and the meet stayed close.

Oregon began the evening with a distinct disadvantage, as top all-around man Jim Kelch was feeling the effects of an injured ankle and competed in only five events.

Truedson and ring man Jerry Bush were named the outstanding gymnasts for Oregon, the latter for a solid 9.4, good for second place behind Cal's Al Garcia. Oregon's top man, Scott McEldowney, finished third with a 9.35.

The teams will next compete in a compulsory competition to be held in the Oregon practice gym, beginning Monday at 2:30. That'll be just a formality though, and for Oregon the real work lies ahead. "We're still not sharp yet," Ballester assessed. "We need a few more good routines so we can be confident."

Floor Exercise — 1, Mark Knupp, Oregon, 9.2. **Pommel Horse** — 1, Tom Truedson, Oregon, 9.55. **Rings** — 1, Al Garcia, Cal, 9.45. 2, Jerry Bush, Oregon, 9.4. **Vaulting** — 1, Warren Long, Cal, 9.45. **Parallel Bars** — 1, Warren Long, Cal, 9.4. 2, Jim Kelch, Oregon, 9.2. **High Bar** — Warren Long, Cal, 9.4. Mark Knupp, Oregon, 9.35. **All-around** — 1, Warren Long, Cal, 54.60. 2, Mike Dubos, Cal, 52.65. 3, Gene Christensen, Oregon, 51.15.

Women get season high in win

By JULIE HOWARD
Of the Emerald

The Oregon women's gymnastics team continued their progressive upward climb Saturday, earning a point total of 120.60 to defeat Seattle Pacific's 106.75, and Pacific University's 42.7.

"Today's meet was a real boost," said Oregon coach Henriette Heiny. "Last weekend at Forest Grove, we won, but it was the lowest performance we've ever done. We were much better at Oregon State on Wednesday, and today we progressed even further."

Oregon's Wendy Halberg gave an "above-average" performance to capture first place all-around with 33.20 points. Pacific University's Sandy Ballard was second all-around with 30.50 pts. followed by Lori Jergenson of Seattle Pacific with 28.90 pts.

But contrary to the team evenness the all-around statistics might show, the meet was pretty much dominated by the Ducks, with Halberg claiming firsts in the vault (tying with Ballard), the uneven parallel bars, and the floor exercise and placing second to teammate Sue Wilson on the balance beam. Wilson also won second on the bars followed by another Oregon competitor, Lorene Gamble, in third place.

Patti Thompson contributed to the Ducks' total score by placing third in the vault competition.

Heiny was pleased with the meet and the performances of these girls and Cindi Gleason also, who competed in only two of her four events due to illness.

The win puts the Ducks at 8-2 as they look to a last-minute scheduled meet with Fresno State and San Jose State in Fresno Feb. 17, and the Western Hemisphere Games in Hayward, California, Feb. 18, in which the two top all-around gymnasts from 15 colleges will compete.

Vault — tie, Sandy Ballard, Pacific, and Wendy Halberg, Oregon, 8.5. **Uneven Bars** — Wendy Halberg, Oregon, 8.55. **Balance Beams** — Sue Wilson, Oregon, 7.95. **Floor Exercise** — Wendy Halberg, Oregon, 8.15. **All-Around** — Wendy Halberg, Oregon, 33.20.

Oregon falls to Beavers

It was the same old story. Oregon State used victories in the first six matches as a stepping stone to a 38-5 blasting of Oregon, in collegiate wrestling action Saturday night at OSU's Gill Coliseum.

The Beavers, ranked fourth in the nation, improved their season record to 22-3 with their fourteenth

straight victory. The Ducks fell to 8-11 on the year.

The only Duck points were registered by seniors Dan Hollembaek and Randy Besaw. Hollembaek defeated Ron Ziebart, 5-4, for the second consecutive time this year in the 158 pound class. Besaw earned a draw with the Beavers' Marty Ryan at 177 pounds.

Oregon forfeited at 118 pounds to start OSU on its way. The Beavers then got decisions from Mike Bauer and Dan Caballero before Dan Hicks, undefeated for Oregon State this year, garnered a pin at 142 pounds. Dick Knorr, Mark Elbert, Gary Yarco and Howard Harris also won for the Beavers.

Thursday night, Oregon's Don Brown set a school record Thursday night for pins in a single season in the meet against Southern Oregon. Brown's pin, his fifteenth of the year, broke the record previously held by former Duck All-American Greg Gibson.



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