

sports

Women face weekend action after easy victory on the road

By MARK STEWART
Of the Emerald

With injured players returning to normal, the Oregon women's basketball team travels north tonight to face Portland State, then returns home for a non-counting game with an AAU team sponsored by Dr. Bernard's.

The Ducks blasted Southern Oregon State College Tuesday 84-43, with Julie Cushing leading the scoring parade with 23 points. Shannon Kelly scored 20 and was the leading rebounder with 12. Southern Oregon committed 44 turnovers with Cushing getting nine steals.

The Ducks received some rather shocking news this week

from the Northwest College Women's Sports Association Ethics and Eligibility Committee. They said Oregon would have to forfeit three games played in December due to the use of an ineligible player, lowering their season record to 7-7 and league mark to 4-4. They are still in second place in the Coast Division of the Northwest Women's Basketball League, one-half game ahead of Western Washington.

Coach Elwin Heiny said the Ducks handled SOSOC and noted "it was a long trip for an easy game." He did have problems though, as one of the vans carrying players missed the Ashland turnoff on the freeway, headed to California and didn't arrive until

five minutes before game time. He said the first half was used to warm up, with the Ducks playing "tough" in the second half as they limited SOSOC to 16 points.

All the injured players made an appearance except Becky Paschke, who returned to practice Wednesday. Heiny said Paschke will see some action this weekend.

Heiny figures the opposition this weekend to be tough, especially Portland State, which beat Western Washington, a team Oregon handily defeated. Heiny also said he would not use the Dr. Bernard's game as a practice game this time out and will play it as a normal game. The women were defeated earlier this year by the AAU team.

Ducks host Viks in home finale

Oregon will make its last wrestling appearance of the year in Mac Court when it hosts Portland State in a dual meet, Saturday, Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m.

The Ducks will need to be at their best, because they dropped a 24-22 decision to the Vikings, Dec. 10, at the PSU Gym.

"They beat us once and they're out to do it again," said Duck coach Ron Finley. "I predict it'll come down to the last match before the winner is decided."

In the earlier meet, Oregon went into the heavyweight match with a 22-18 lead, but a disqualification cost the Ducks the meet. Oregon also gave up six points by forfeiting at 126 pounds.

Though Oregon will have Larry Gleason at 126 pounds this time around, it will be forced to go without Barry Boyles, because of illness, at 142 pounds. Finley will probably move 134-pounder Steve Starzenski up to 142, with Dave Lofts filling in at 134 pounds.

Lofts will have to wrestle one of the best grapplers in the nation in Mike Mathies. "He's undefeated and he's an excellent wrestler. He was ranked number two in the nation last year," said Finley.

For Oregon senior Randy Besaw and Dan Hollembaek, it

will be the last chance to wrestle in Mac Court. "They've both given us an awful lot," Finley said.

"It'll be special for the team," said Besaw of the last meet of this

year, "but especially for me and Hollembaek."

Especially if they win. "That would be the best way to go," Besaw said.

Away meet scheduled for Oregon women gymnasts

The women's gymnastic team will be south this weekend for a triangular meet, and for the Western Hemisphere Games.

Friday night, the Ducks will be in a three-way with Fresno State and San Jose State. The meet was just scheduled last Monday. Originally, the two California schools were going to compete by themselves, but included Oregon at the last moment.

Because of the Western Hemisphere Games on Saturday, coach Henriette Heiny decided to get competition for her squad Friday night.

The Western Hemisphere Games are for all-around performers only. At this stage, Heiny plans on entering only Wendy Halberg in the all-around, though Cindi Gleason may compete.

Halberg placed eleventh in the all-around competition at the

Games last year, and will be defending her individual title in the parallel bars.

There will be approximately 15-16 teams in the competition that consists of schools from the west coast only.

Ruggers battle this weekend

This Saturday, next to Hayward Field, the Ducks open what promises to be one of their best rugby seasons yet. One team will take on Willamette University at noon, while the other team plays Reed College at 2 p.m.

The club has had a remarkable growth this year, which is in line with the phenomenal growth of the game in the United States in the past five years.



Photo by Mike Grady

Debbie Adams, alone here on a breakaway lay up, will lead the Ducks into action against Portland State and Dr. Bernard's tonight and Saturday afternoon.

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