

## Softball to regroup against Oregon State

By MIKE GRADY  
Of the Emerald

After losing six straight games on a spring swing through California, the women's softball team will try to turn it around in a double-header at Oregon State on Friday.

Although the Ducks have yet to taste victory going into their first league games of the season, head coach Becky Sisley doesn't seem too worried.

"For the very first games of the season we played extremely well," said Sisley. "We were able to play everybody and give everyone the experience we

need."

"The competition was very tough," she continued. "Utah State, the first team we played, had already played 10 games, while for us it was only our second day out on a field."

On the other hand OSU swept through their spring trip by winning seven and losing only one. A .368 team batting average which the Beavers boast of after eight games is somewhat inflated due to easy opponents according to Sisley. But at the same time the Oregon coach warned that they will be very tough.

Last year, while finishing 12-9 overall, Oregon managed a split of three wins and three losses against the Beavers.

Oregon State returns seven players from last year's squad and are led both on the mound and at the plate by Denise Small.

Sisley indicated that she will probably use all three of her pitchers — Kim Knox, Vicki Lesh and Shawna Baxter — in Friday's double-header. The trio lost two games a piece in California, but Sisley stated she was still pleased with their performance due of the earliness of the season.

Knox led all regular playing Ducks with a .230 batting average while junior second baseman Allyson Smith slugged two doubles and three triples in the initial six games.

Defensively, Oregon played well even though their actual field experience was quite lacking according to Sisley. "For the experienced players, the defense was quite good," said Sisley. "And the ones who hadn't had that much experience played pretty good too."

Friday's game against OSU will be held at 4 p.m. in Corvallis' Pioneer Park.

**Duck Notes:** After missing all of the 1977-78 basketball season because of a knee injury, junior Chris Briot is playing Varsity softball and made the traveling squad on the spring trip... Utility infielder Jody Salter developed a sore arm during the California trip, but Sisley is hoping that the junior will be at full strength for the OSU doubleheader... Sophomore Vicki Lesh continues to play errorless ball. She has played in every game for the Ducks at either third base, catcher or pitcher and is yet to make a defensive miscue.

## Ducks hit big to whip SOSC

Oregon scored 14 runs in the first six innings on the way to a 16-2 slaughter over Southern Oregon College in the Duck's 1978 home opener.

The Tuesday afternoon win improved Oregon's season record to 10-9.

Four Oregon hurlers combined to limit the Red Raiders to single runs in the fifth and ninth innings. Freshman Dean Kegler improved his team best record to 4-0, giving up seven hits and striking out five in his six innings of work.

The Ducks rapped out ten hits, the same amount as Southern Oregon, however the Ducks were aided by 11 walks, six wild pitches and five errors.

Jerry Rinella led the Duck attack, collecting three hits, one a home run, and three runs batted in in three appearances at the plate. Ron Sloy rapped a double and homer, picking up three runs batted in in the process, and Kevin Tabler added a home run and two runs batted in.

Southern Oregon 000 010 001 — 2 10 5  
Oregon 233 150 20x — 16 10 0

McLaughlin, Austed (2) and Azevedo; Kegler, Jordan (7), Richardson (8), Strahm (9) and Nelson, Wilkinson (7). W — Kegler. L — McLaughlin. HRs — Sloy (1), Tabler (1), Rinella (1).



Photos by Mike Marino

## Ready for the Big Meet

It was a light workout day for the NCAA gymnasts in Mac Court Wednesday. And while Oregon Coach Bill Ballester, arm still in a sling from his February injury, watched from the sidelines, Ducks Gene Christensen (Left) and Pat Mullen conversed over chalk. The meet gets under way tonight at 7 p.m., with tickets \$3 for general admission and \$2 for students.

## Seaver's start highlights openers

From the Associated Press

Tom Seaver is accustomed to opening day pitching assignments. He's never missed one in the last 10 years and he'll be on the job again Thursday when the National League opens its season.

The only difference for the pitcher they call Tom Terrific is that his 11th opening day assignment will be for the Cincinnati Reds instead of the New York Mets. Seaver went to the Reds last June and posted a 14-3 record in the half-season he spent with them and 21-6 overall.

He is the No. 1 hurler on Manager Sparky Anderson's staff and

he'll get the call when the Reds open against the Houston Astros before a sellout crowd in Riverfront Stadium. The Astros will counter with J.R. Richard, who had an 18-12 record last season including four victories over the Reds.

Cincinnati traditionally hosts the National League opener but will have to share the baseball spotlight Thursday with three American League games, two of them openers.

The AL season got under way Wednesday night at Seattle with the Minnesota Twins facing the Mariners. Dave Goltz, one of three 20-game winners in the American League last season, was scheduled to start for the Twins against Glenn Abbott, 12-13 in 1977 for the expansion Mariners.

A crowd of 50,000 was expected with Hall of Famer Joe DiMaggio scheduled to throw out the first ball.

The Mariners-Twins series continues Thursday when the AL opens on two other fronts.

Crowds of 55,000 are expected in Detroit where Mark "The Bird" Fidrych, coming back from an injury-plagued season, will start for the Tigers against Toronto's Dave Lemanczyk, and at Milwaukee where Mike Flanagan has Baltimore's opening day assignment against the Brewers' Jerry Augustine.

Fidrych, whose antics on the mound captured the imagination of the baseball public when he won rookie of the year honors for a 19-9 season in 1976, battled knee and arm problems and dipped to 6-4 last year.

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