

Swimmers nab second in Northwest meet

Seven women qualify for nationals



Photo by Suzanne Algen

The Oregon women's swimming team won 13 of 24 events in the Northwest College Women's Sports Association Swimming and Diving Championships, but it wasn't enough as Washington won the meet, and the Ducks finished second.

Oregon's women's swimming team won 13 of 24 events and took second place overall in the Northwest College Women's Sports Association Swimming and Diving Championships concluded Saturday at Leighton Pool.

Senior Robin Wheeler, sophomore Tami Cuddeback and freshman Tina Helm all set meet records for the Ducks, but the team was second behind the University of Washington.

Washington, with a score of 1,360, won the meet for the sixth consecutive time. Oregon amassed 1,035 points, and Oregon State was third with 653.

"My girls did a fantastic job. They all had a super good meet," said Oregon coach Virginia Van

Rossen.

Wheeler qualified for the AIAW national meet with her time of 26:5.3 in the 50 yard fly. Cuddeback qualified in the 200 yard backstroke with a time of 2:23.35, and Helm qualified in the 50 yard backstroke with a time of 28:3.2.

Oregon sophomore Kathy Hemmer won four of the five events she entered, and placed second in the fifth event. "In this

meet she qualified in four events," said Van Rossen. "I have seven girls now that have qualified for nationals."

The Duck medley relay team took first place, but was disqualified when the team jumped in the pool. The time, however, was good enough to qualify for nationals. "With that time (1:49.38) according to the last rankings, the relay is the fourth best in the nation," said Van Rossen.

Helm and Wheeler join Mary Miller and Kelly Peyton on the relay team. The national meet is scheduled for Mar. 15-17, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Blazers win on the road

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — Lionel Hollins scored six of his 29 points in overtime Sunday night as Portland took a 126-119 National Basketball Association victory over Detroit Sunday.

The victory snapped Detroit's longest winning streak of the season — four games — and ended a string of losses at three for the Trail Blazers.

It was also the first time in eight games that Portland has won on the road.

Trailing most of the game, Detroit rallied in the fourth period to tie the game. The lead changed hands 10 times in the last four minutes of regulation play before Portland's Bob Gross hit a jump shot at the buzzer to force overtime.

Men win Nor-Pac swim title

The men's swimming team shot into the lead in the first event of the Northern Pacific Conference swimming championships in Moscow, Idaho, Thursday through Saturday, with a 1-2-3-4 finish in the 50-meter freestyle and were untouchable from then on.

Oregon coach Rick Schleicher said outstanding performances by less strong swimmers were the main factor in Oregon's winning score of 745.5, easily outdistancing Simon Fraser, 531, and Washington, 484.

"That (1-2-3-4 finish) broke everyone else's back. The team

was just very, very high," said Schleicher. "It's the other people, who were in the background all year long, who did the job — total team effort."

Only one Aqua Duck, George Koch, who won the 200-meter breaststroke, did not set a lifetime best at the meet.

Schleicher singled out a number of swimmers for their efforts in the meet. "Jay Avey, a senior, did an outstanding job in the 200- and 400-meter intermediate medley." Avey knocked 20 seconds off his previous best in the 400 and 6 seconds in the 200, just 2 seconds short of a school record.

Sam Glass, a freshman, won the 100- and 200-meter freestyle events and anchored all the team's relays. Glass broke the 200-meter school record set in 1974 at the NCAA championships.

Diver Jeff Smith scored high enough in winning the one- and three-meter diving events to qualify for the national championships, but first has to compete in the regional qualifying meet before becoming eligible.

Koch would have broken the 58-second time for the 100 breaststroke but for an official who started her clock late, said Schleicher. His official time was 58.1 seconds but four other watches had him unofficially below 58 seconds. Koch was competing in the event with a shoulder injury.

Top men, women skiers advance to national meet

Men's and women's ski teams raced with mixed results in their respective regional meets held during the weekend, both placing in the middle of the pack.

The men, competing for the Northwest championship at Mt. Hood Meadows, placed fifth out of eight schools, as Oregon State won the meet. Gary Davidson led the Ducks by placing fifth in both the slalom and giant slalom, while Paul White took seventh in the giant slalom.

The women's team, which competed at Bridger Bowl near Bozeman, Mont., finished third in a six-team meet won by the host team, Montana State. Monica McClain paced the Ducks with a second-place finish in the slalom, and Lisa Culver and Kristy Matthes placed sixth and seventh, respectively, in the giant slalom. All three racers, plus Kristy Knight and Valerie Sloan, will advance to the nationals, to be held in Michigan March 8-10.

Ducks outshoot Stanford

Junior center Dan Hartshorne sank two of his team's 48 free throws with 13 seconds left to give the Ducks a 80-77 win over Stanford Saturday night in Palo Alto.

The win lifted the Ducks into eighth place in the Pac-10 conference, and was their eighth straight win over the Cardinals.

Oregon made 36 of their 48 free throws, and Stanford made 19 of 31. The Oregon total and the combined total of the two teams were both records for Stanford's Maples Pavilion.

"It was a boring game — a free throw marathon," said reserve center Rich Davis, who was five-for-six at the line, and had seven points.

Friday night's game against California was worse, said Davis. The Ducks lost 74-62 to the last place team.

Davis indicated the Ducks weren't ready for the California game, partly because they had won their last game (against Washington last Monday). "The coach told us that we were only as good as our last game, and after the Cal game we learned that we had to cope with success better," said the 6-11 sophomore.

Kelvin Small led the Ducks against Stanford, scoring 15 points and gathering seven rebounds. Guards John Murray and Barry Walker each added 10 points.

Women win a close one

The University women's basketball team almost suffered its first defeat of the season in the Bay Area Saturday against the University of San Francisco, but the hot shooting of guard Julie Cushing helped the Ducks overcome the Dons by a single point, 76-75.

The women bounced back Sunday in Berkeley against California, defeating the Bears 79-59 behind a 22-point performance by Suzanne Washington. The Ducks are now 17-0 on the season.

On Saturday, the Dons' offense fed the ball to All-American Mary Hile, who responded by scoring 37 points. Meanwhile, Bev Smith, Oregon's leading scorer this season, drew her third foul only 15 minutes into the game. The Ducks led at halftime, 37-33.

Cal proved less of a problem on Sunday, as Washington, Smith, Cushing and Claudia Eaton scored in double figures. Smith also collected 17 rebounds in the contest, while Washington had seven assists. The Bears were led by Colleen Galloway's 25 points.

Gymnasts lose first meet

The women's gymnastics team suffered their first loss of the season Friday to Oregon State in Seattle, while star all-around performer Dawn Haberland suffered a season-ending ankle injury.

The Beavers won the event with 130.00 points to the Ducks' 127.25. Defending AIAW northwest champion Washington was third with 117.90 and Eastern Washington placed fourth, 111.30, in the four-way meet.

Before succumbing to the injury on her second vault, Haberland won the floor exercise in a tie with teammate Sara Gustafson, both with 8.55. She also won the vault with an 8.70 score.

OSU's Mary Ayotte, the Northwest's leading gymnast, won the uneven bars (8.80), the beam (9.05), and the all-around (34.20), in leading her team to victory.

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