

Women host 'Pac-10' foe

Ducks, Cards meet for tough contest tonight

By TAMARA SWENSON
Of the Emerald

Coming off an impressive win over Oregon State, the Oregon women's basketball team takes a step into a "Pac-10" for women when they host Stanford University tonight at 7:30 in McArthur Court.

"This is a Pac-10 opponent," says Oregon coach Elwin Heiny. "In general, when we play a team like Stanford, USC or UCLA people will come. They know the names and know it will be a good game."

Tonight's match-up between the Ducks and the Cardinals has every ingredient of a good game.

Oregon is ranked 14th in the nation, Stanford is unranked but considered a top competitor. And the two teams have never met before.

"We know nothing at all about them," said Oregon's 5-11 forward Debbie Adams. "We'll go over what they do... but it might be a total surprise."

But the two teams do have six opponents in common: UCLA, Arizona, Washington, Montana, Louisiana State and San Jose State.

Of the six, Oregon has only lost to one — UCLA by four points in Pauley Pavilion.

Stanford fell to UCLA by 11 points, though they were down by only one at the half. The Cardinals also recorded losses to Montana, Washington, San Jose State and two losses to Louisiana State, a team the Ducks have topped twice this season.

Oregon is 17-5 for the season and 7-0 in league play, following a 80-66 victory over OSU Wednesday.

Stanford, unlike the Ducks, has met little success in its league games. The Cardinals,



Photo by Steve Dykes

Debbie Adams led Oregon in the scoring column Wednesday against Oregon State, and is expecting another tough contest tonight against Stanford.

12-12 this season, are sixth in the Nor-Cal Conference with a 3-5 record.

But despite the win-loss record, Stanford is the only unknown factor left in the Ducks' regular season schedule, which is five home games against league foes.

"They have played some tough teams, though," says Heiny, who says he isn't taking the game lightly. "They are a big team, with four players 6 feet or taller. Three top 6-1."

Stanford's height may provide them an advantage against the Ducks, Heiny says. "They've had respectable scores against top teams."

The Cardinals are led by Louise Smith, a 6-1 center, who's averaged 18.6 points and 7.8 rebounds a game.

Supporting her on the court are 6-1 center Kim Kupferer, 13.5 points and 7.8 rebounds, Ann Miller, a 6-0 forward from Portland, and Debi Gore, a 5-7 guard.

"They're all out to knock us off (the rankings)," Heiny says. "We're ranked and they're not, but they are a Pac-10 opponent. That counts for something."

Bev Smith, a 6-1 forward, continues to lead the Ducks in scoring (19.5) and rebounding (11.8). She is also within 12 points of Julie Cushing's all-time scoring record of 1392 points in four years.

"This is another one of those teams I only know from the statistics," Heiny says. "We'll just go out and do what we do — play our game."

Duck, Sun Devil wrestlers clash for conference crown

By MIKE RIPLINGER
Of the Emerald

Sandwiched between this weekend's matches with Southern Oregon and Utah State looms the number-one test to the Oregon wrestling team's supremacy in the Pacific-10 Conference — Arizona State University.

The Saturday match at 7:30 p.m. between the sixth-ranked Ducks and seventh-ranked Sun Devils will decide the Pac-10 dual meet championship.

"Arizona State is a very tough team. We have definitely been concentrating on them," says Oregon coach Ron Finley. "That match is a real biggie and will decide much of the (individual) seeding for the conference championships."

To top the Sun Devils, Finley says his squad will have to perform "better than at any other time this season. This is our biggest dual match of the year, and we're really going to have to wrestle well to win."

Finley figures the Ducks will have to win three out of the first five matches to have a shot at winning the dual.

"If we don't win a couple of those early matches, we're going to be in real trouble. I think we can win in the upper weights, but if we don't win in the lower ones we won't have much of a chance to win the match."

ASU is lead by heavyweight Dan Severn, ranked second nationally, and Gary Bohay, ranked third. The Sun Devils will be strengthened by the return of All-American Harlan Kistler, who has been injured most of this year.

"Lately, we've been able to count on six points (a pin) from our heavyweight, Dan Cook," Finley says, "but against Severn he'll be in trouble. Severn recently tied the number-one-ranked heavyweight and looks like he is in good shape."

The Ducks will have a better chance at getting one of their much-needed wins in the

lower weights with the return of Mike Erb. Barry Boyles, another wrestler who has been hurt all season, is listed as possible and may be able to compete.

Ironically, the coaches of Oregon and Arizona State had some shootouts of their own during their wrestling careers.

"Bobby Douglass (ASU's coach) and I have been fighting it out since I can remember," recalls Finley. "We were on the same Olympic team in '64, and we were always fighting it out to make the different national teams."

"He was always a tough match."

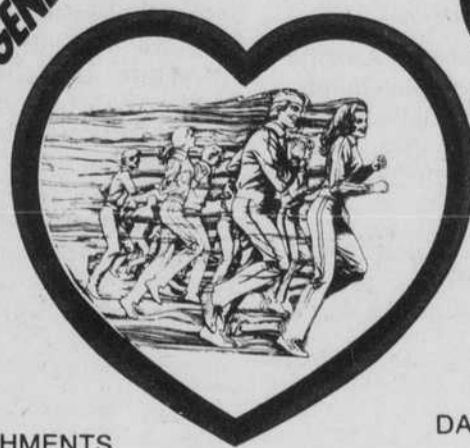
These former wrestlers have passed on their own characteristics to their teams, as the Oregon-Arizona State match should prove to be a battle with no quarter given.

The Ducks will take on Southern Oregon at 7:30 in Ashland before returning to face ASU. Sunday the Oregon wrestlers will face Utah State at 2 p.m. in Mac Court.

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