

Stuebing hopes to add another laurel

By MIKE RIPLINGER
Of the Emerald

Senior takes Pac-10 title to NCAAs

Oregon senior Jeff Stuebing, who has already left the Pac-10 in style, will reach for another laurel in the NCAA wrestling tournament.

The competition in Princeton, N.J., will be the last in an Oregon uniform for Stuebing, who was named the most outstanding wrestler of the Pac-10

championship meet.

"I have big expectations for this tournament," says Stuebing, who has compiled a 27-3 record in the 167-pound class. "I've been looking forward to this for a long, long time."

Stuebing had problems at the 1980 NCAA meet after winning the Pac-10 title. He won his

opening-round match, but didn't fare too well in the rest of the tournament.

"That initial shock is pretty bad your first year if you're not ready for it. This year I'm a little older and hopefully a little more prepared," says the nation's eighth-ranked wrestler at 167.

"Jeff has a very good chance to place in the tournament," says his coach, Ron Finley. "He has so much more confidence than ever before. He had some really excellent practices after the Pac-10 championships, and seems well prepared for the nationals."

"He has worked hard all year and I really hope he does well to finish out his career." Stuebing, fifth on the all-time Oregon win list with 80, sounded remorseful when asked how he felt going into his last tournament as a Duck.

"My goal in wrestling is to perform to the best of my capabilities. If you lose, you can always go back and work harder to try and get better for the next time. But now I don't have that chance any more. This is it for me at Oregon. I don't have next year to come back and improve."

"I'm not looking forward to it being all over. I hate to leave here because it has been so nice. I've had such a good time," he says.

"But you've got to grow and

go on with your life. There is always wrestlers coming along all the time. You just have to do the best you can and then move on."

"I always hate to see them go," Finley says. "You're always sad when you lose one to graduation. Jeff is especially a hard one to lose. He is such a tough competitor — a very tenacious wrestler who never gives up. A very classy performer."

Stuebing plans to continue wrestling after college in freestyle and Greco-Roman

tournaments. In addition, the AAU championships are coming up in about a month and Stuebing hopes to do well there.

"I'm going to continue wrestling with all of it pointed for a berth on the 1984 Olympic team," Stuebing says.

"I'm going to try and keep on improving to see how well I can do. That's all you can do is try to become the best you can, and if you're not good enough, well, you'll just have to settle for that."

Luckily for Stuebing, he has been able to settle for that which other wrestlers can only dream.

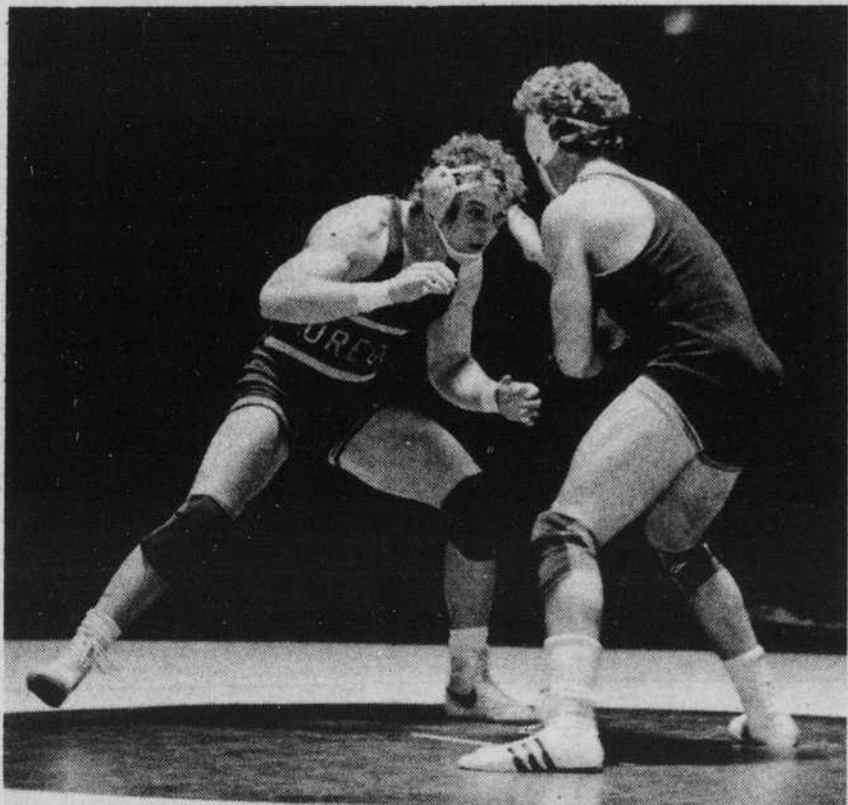


Photo by David W. Zahn

Oregon senior Jeff Stuebing won the Pac-10 title at 167, but is expecting a tougher time at the nationals.



Wrestlers shoot for top 10, send 9 to championships

Oregon's wrestling team aims for unfamiliar territory as the Ducks try for their best finish ever at the NCAA championship tournament.

The three-day meet begins today in Princeton, N.J.

Oregon, the Pacific-10 champions, will take nine wrestlers to

the tournament in their bid to reach the nation's top 10.

"I think we could place anywhere from eighth to 15th, depending on how we perform," says Oregon coach Ron Finley. "I would really be tickled to death if we could make the top 10."

The Ducks are led by Bill Nugent, ranked sixth nationally, Jeff Stuebing, ranked eighth, and Dan Cook ranked sixth.

Nugent, Stuebing, Mike Erb and Ryan Kelly all were individual champions at the Pac-10 meet. Cook, Cliff Porter and Rick O'Shea placed second, while Barry Boyles and Mike Miller won wild card berths to the NCAA meet.

"I think we have a good chance of placing high," says Finley. "All of our wrestlers have been consistent scorers in every tournament we've wrestled in this year."

But Oregon will need a big effort to finish higher than last year's 11th-place finish, Finley says.

"We'll need a couple of wrestlers who place," Finley says.

"Last year Scott Bliss scored most of our points in getting second place. We'll need some kind of effort like that if we are going to do as well."

Despite Oregon's finish last year, most people expected a poor performance from Oregon this season, says Finley. "We have really had a great year. That record we got for team wins demonstrates what we achieved this year."

The Ducks, who are ranked eighth nationally, set a school record for wins with their 23-3 mark.

"They thought we would have a rebuilding year, but we sure surprised them," says Finley.

the two-day meet in Pocatello, Id., Friday and Saturday.

Batiste, a two-time AIAW All-American in the mile relay, will compete in the 300 meters, where she has a best of 39.3. Miller, the Northwest's 100 hurdle and long jump champion, will compete in the 60 hurdles. She has an indoor best of 8.05 in the event.

Duck pentathlete Jeanne Borchardt will have her first shot at the heptathlon Saturday and Sunday at the Track and Field Association/USA Heptathlon at Oregon State.

The javelin and 200 meters were added to the five-event pentathlon beginning this year. Other heptathlon events include the 100 hurdles, high jump, long jump, shot and 800.

Oregon also will send a contingent of runners to compete in a 10,000 at OSU Saturday. Tentative Duck entries include Eryn Forbes, Alice Munz, Susie Niedermeyer and Mimi Carlo.

Tracksters await test at three weekend meets

Two Oregon runners will face a tough challenge this weekend as they travel to the AIAW Indoor National Championships.

Melanie Batiste and Lexie Miller will represent Oregon at

Tennis squad faces tourneys on trip south

Paced by number-one singles player Lindsay Bartlett, the women's tennis team travels south for two competitions.

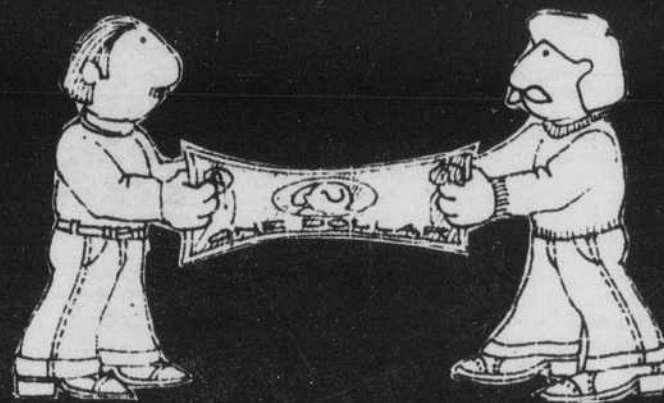
The Ducks face Nevada-Reno today, then travel to Sacramento for a 32-team invitational March 13-15. The top two teams from last season, Cal-State Northridge and Cal-State Fullerton, are the top-seeded teams at the tournament.

Oregon will be without its number-two singles player, Lynn Haackler, who has a fractured thumb.

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