

Scoring key for gymnasts

Scoring will be the key Friday night for the Oregon women's gymnastics team as they face Oregon State University and University of California-Davis in a three-way meet at Mac Court.

Oregon has been scoring in the neighborhood of 130 points per meet, with a high of 132.05 against Washington, and assistant coach Kurt Krichko is hoping that statistic will increase soon.

"Before the season, we were expecting big scores right away," explains Krichko of the Ducks' disappointing early-season scores, "and it didn't happen. But I think that each meet is going to build, and our scores will improve."

The scores will have to improve if Oregon has any shot of

gaining an at-large NCAA berth, an outside goal set by head coach Gary Vanderhoef before the season. Ten teams qualify for the NCAA's from six regions — the six winners gaining automatic berths and the remaining four berths decided by the highest meet scores from teams across the nation. Krichko figures it will take scores in the low 140's to qualify.

No matter how many points the Ducks score, it may not be enough on Friday night. Second-ranked Oregon State is the meet favorite, and UC-Davis was the 1980 Division III national champion.

OSU, holder of the nation's best dual-meet score this year, 144.90 points, would probably be ranked first were it not for the

fact that last year's champion, Utah, has not had a meet yet.

As far as Oregon's chances, Krichko is optimistic. "We have the tricks, but it's our showmanship and execution that must come out," he says. "We're looking for individual performances from each gymnast, and then the scores will come."

Oregon should have everyone healthy for the meet, which has not occurred often this year. Jeannette Stewart is over early-season knee problems, and Maureen Nolan has recovered well from her knee problems of a year ago. "She has been our bright spot," says Krichko of Nolan.

Scheduled starting time for the meet is 7 p.m.

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scoring (17.3) and second on the team in rebounding (7.1).

Added to these injuries is a nagging case of the flu that has plagued the team over past weeks, and a foot injury to backup center Jerry Adams that is still not 100 percent.

So what could be possibly worse for the Ducks?

They have to face two of the hottest teams in the conference this weekend.

USC (6-1 in the Pac-10, 12-4 overall) has won six a row since losing its conference opener to Washington in overtime.

Leading the way for the Trojans is 6-3 guard Dwight An-

derson, who is 2nd in the Pac-10 in scoring, averaging 21.5 points. Teammate Maurice Williams (15.1 points per game) is also among the conference's scoring leaders, while freshmen Ken Johnson and Wayne Carlander are combining for 14.6 rebounds per game.

"Johnson and Carlander are tough on the boards, but they aren't looked on to score a lot," Haney says. "Anderson is capable of beating us by himself, but because of his aggressiveness, he's capable of helping us by being out of control sometimes."

Haney describes Saturday

night's opponent, UCLA (4-3, 10-5), as the most talented team in the conference, though he says the Bruins are still in a transition stage under first-year coach Larry Farmer.

After losing its first three conference games, UCLA has bounced back to win its last four. Mike Sanders leads the Bruins in scoring (14.7), and his partner at forward, Kenny Fields, was recently named the Pac-10 Player-of-the-Week. Fields scored 18 against Stanford last Friday, and a career high 27 against California the next night.

Oregon in Classic

Over 150 quality athletes representing 10 West Coast teams and nine Oregon high schools will compete in the 19th Annual Dolphin Invitational Swimming Championships this weekend at Leighton Pool.

The Dolphin Championships, hosted each year by the University, will hail men and women athletes from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and California to compete in the three-day meet beginning today.

Featured in the women's competition is Jenny Harshbarger, who was the 1981

Washington state high school 200-yard and 500-yard freestyle champion, and the men's competition features high school swimmer Jeff Erwin, the 1981 champion in the 400, 800 and 1500-meter freestyle at the U.S. Swimming Junior National Championships.

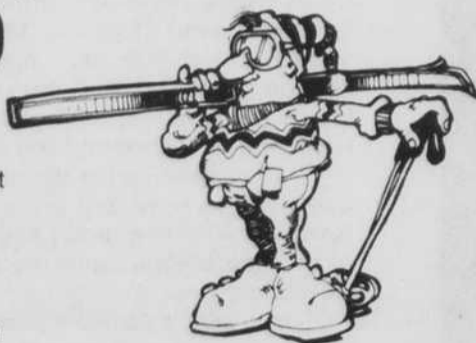
Teams and clubs participating include Oregon, Concord-Pleasant Hill swim team, Chinook Aquatic Club (Bellevue, Wash.), Boise YMCA, Highline Swim Club (Seattle, Wash.) and Multnomah Athletic Club (Portland).

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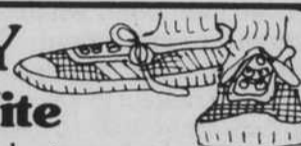
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