

It's a strike!

Bowlers do it without fanfare

By Todd Fletcher
Of the Emerald

The polyester ball glides down the alley and sends the echo of falling pins bouncing off the walls of the empty bowling alley. It's a strike, and the Oregon men's bowling team comes away with a narrow 11-10 victory over the Oregon State Beavers.

There are no screaming fans showing their approval of the win, like there would be if Reggie Brown shook loose for the go-ahead touchdown, or if Paul Bain buried a 25-footer to beat the Beavers by one.

To celebrate this Civil War victory there are only the cheers and encouragement from teammates.

The past successes of the relatively obscure Oregon bowling team are quite impressive. The past two seasons have seen both the men's and women's teams capture the Oregon College Bowling league title.

In 1980-81, the women placed second in the region, which is made up of teams from Oregon and Washington. For the men, they have made it to sectionals the past two years and two years ago sent Dave Higgins to nationals and on to the world cup in Thailand.

Moreover the women's team in the second half of the current season are 3-0, while the men stand at 2-1.

How do the members of the bowling team feel about getting little support from the student body, and limited coverage by the local media for what, as history shows, is a very successful program at the University of Oregon?

To rephrase the words of Rodney Dangerfield, they don't "get no respect."

Senior Vicki Rhoades, who captains the women's squad, says she accepts the limited exposure of the bowling team as a "fact of life."

"I have pretty much given up on any type of coverage, and when we do get it, we're shocked as heck, and start putting the stories in a scrapbook."

Lynn Brigham, the men's captain, feels the limited exposure that the team gets may be justified.

"It's justified to a certain extent, we're not an NCAA team and aren't one of the big money sports, but I think receiving more coverage would let people know we do exist and that could create an interest which is a viable part of any athletic program."

Alice Garrick, a transfer from Portland Community College, is not surprised that the bowling team does not receive a lot of publicity. Says the sophomore: "I'm not surprised at the news coverage, but we would appreciate more support. Bowling takes more skill than most people realize. It is more than just rolling a ball at the pins, if people came and watched, I think they'd appreciate it more."

Her sister, Patty Garrick, a senior on the squad, has a contrary viewpoint.

"I don't expect a crowd, but I expect more news coverage, maybe not from the Register-Guard, but at least the Emerald. When we bowled at PCC we were at least recognized for it."

The feelings are echoed by the men.

Freshman, Dave Rozak, who leads the team with an 187 average, feels the same way as Brigham. The lack of coverage is justified to a certain extent.

"It's a good thing at a proper time, it's needless to create stuff out of nothing. Last year we had a good team, and the coverage was probably deserved. This year we're a young team with growing potential and there is not all that much there. Maybe people would go to watch, though, if they knew about it."

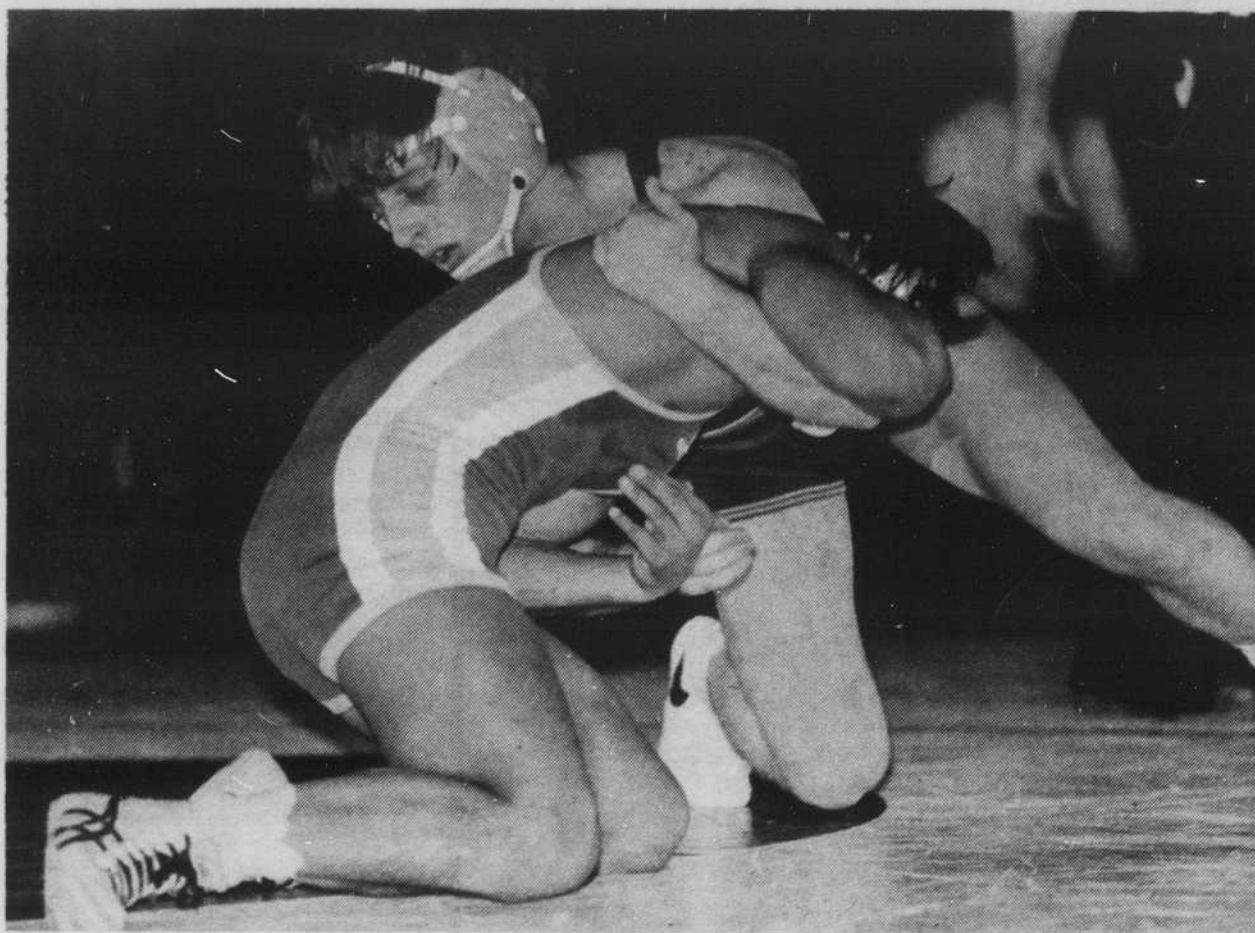


Photo by Mark Pynes

While Oregon's Bill Nugent (above) is off wrestling for the U.S. national team against the Russians, the Ducks take on Cal-Poly San Luis Obispo tonight at Mac Court.

Cal Poly-SLO next for Ducks

By Paul Danzer
Of the Emerald

Lineup changes will be in order when Oregon's injury-plagued wrestling team returns to dual meet competition, hosting Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo in a 7:30 p.m. contest in McArthur Court.

Sophomore Lance Hohanadel continues to suffer from a back injury he incurred in the Ducks' 20-16 dual meet triumph at Utah State January 26. Hohanadel's absence is forcing Duck coach Ron Finley to shuffle the lineup for Thursday's meet.

Junior Paul Sheriff will jump from 167 to 190 to fill the void created by Hohanadel's absence, Finley said, and sophomore Keith Beutler will take Sheriff's spot at 167. Beutler is 4-0 in dual-meet competition this season at 158.

Randy Ohta will go again at 118, where junior Mike Erb remains sidelined with a bad arm. Ohta is 4-7 in dual meets on the year.

At 142, freshman Lorenzo West, will take the spot of Bill Nugent who is scheduled to return to the Ducks from the Soviet Union on Sunday. West will be involved in one of several key matches Thursday night according to Finley.

"The big thing is whether we can beat their best wrestlers," Finley said of Thursday's matchup. In addition to the match at 142, senior Cliff Porter at 134 and sophomore Rick O'Shea at

158 will need to come up with big wins, Finley said.

Porter will be matched against Jeff Barksdale, who Finley described as an excellent wrestler.

O'Shea, who carries an 11-1-1 dual-meet mark into Thursday's battle, will most likely be the opponent for SLO's talented Louis Montana, who the coach tabbed as one of their better wrestlers.

"I feel like we almost have to beat those guys to win," Finley said of Barksdale and Montana.

Rounding out the Ducks' lineup Thursday will be junior Miles Hancock at 126, senior Barry Boyles at 150, freshman Charles Nutter at 177, and junior Dan Cook at heavyweight.

Hancock's effort at 126 may also be a key to the meet according to the coach. "Another key will be to keep the scores down if we get beat at 118 and 126 where we've kind of been struggling all year. They (Cal Poly) are pretty sound there."

In other words the Ducks can't afford to get too far behind.

Thursday's meet is the first of three in as many days for the Ducks, who take a 12-2 dual meet mark into the Cal Poly contest. The Ducks travel north to challenge Portland State Friday night, and then go south to Southern Oregon State College on Saturday.

Last season, Oregon beat Cal Poly 20-18. The Ducks now trail the overall series with SLO 8-10-1.

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