



Emerald photo

Oregon will be counting on pins from heavyweight Dan Cook if they're going to do well this year.

Grapplers hit the road

The old Willie Nelson tune "On the Road Again" would be appropriate for this year's Oregon wrestling team.

The Duck grapplers, off to a relatively slow start this year due to injuries, take to the road for the second time this season traveling to the Bay Area to take on San Jose State and Stanford in dual meets. They'll then travel to Las Vegas to participate in the 33-team Caesar's Palace Invitational.

The Ducks opened their season a week ago in Arcata, Calif. taking on Humboldt State. After forfeiting at 118 pounds, Oregon never got untracked losing a 25-20 decision.

Next came the Lumberjack Invitational for the Ducks. Senior 126-pounder Miles Hancock was the biggest bright spot by capturing the title in his weight division.

Oregon Coach Ron Firley describes tonight's opponent, San Jose State, as "a traditionally scrappy bunch who do a lot of upper-body wrestling. They really don't have a weak spot in their lineup."

But, unfortunately, Oregon does. Mike Erb, the 118-pound defending Pac-10 champ has an injured knee and 190-pound Lance Hochanadel is out for the year with a damaged knee.

The next stop for the Ducks is Stanford, where the Ducks captured the Pac-10 championship last year. Oregon brings a perfect 10-0 record against the Cardinal into the dual meet. The last time the two teams met was in 1976 when Oregon swept past Stanford 46-0.

The final destination is Las Vegas where Oregon will match up with the likes of powerhouses Oklahoma and Oklahoma State in the Caesar's Palace Invitational.

"The Las Vegas meet is like a mini-NCAA meet," Finley said. "Caesar's is going all out to make the tournament a great one for year's to come."

Oregon will open its home wrestling season against Athletes in Action on Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at McArthur Court.

Cavaliers retain No. 1 ranking

From Associated Press Reports

Virginia, which opened the season by winning the Virginia Tipoff tournament, remained the No. 1 team in The Associated Press college basketball poll Tuesday.

The Cavaliers, the preseason favorite, received 55 of 63 first-place votes and 1,245 of a possible 1,260 points from the nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters. Virginia defeated Johns Hopkins and Virginia Commonwealth to win the Tipoff tourney during the Thanksgiving Day weekend.

North Carolina, the defending NCAA champion and No. 3 in the preseason, dropped to No. 15 after Missouri dealt the Tar Heels their second straight loss last Saturday. Coach Dean Smith's club lost its opener to St. John's.

Georgetown, which posted victories over Brigham Young-Hawaii and Hawaii Hilo, mainta-

ined its hold on the No. 2 spot by collecting three first-place ballots and collected 1,140 points.

Kentucky, an easy victor over Butler, moved into the No. 3 spot by getting two first-place votes and 1,024 points.

Villanova moved up a notch to No. 4. Memphis State, UCLA, Louisville and Indiana also each moved up a spot in the poll and took over the Nos. 5 through 8 positions. Missouri's 64-60 win over North Carolina boosted the Tigers from No. 15 to ninth, while Iowa, 1-0, moved from a No. 11 to No. 10.

Villanova, a winner over Colgate in its only start, attracted two first-place votes and 965 points, 23 more than Memphis State, 2-0. UCLA, a winner over Brigham Young in its only game this season, landed 907 points.

Louisville, winner of the Great Alaska Shootout that gave the

Cardinals a 3-0 start, got the other first-place vote and 890 points. Indiana, 2-0, had 800 points.

Missouri collected 694 points while Iowa had 659 points and replaced Oregon State in the 10th spot.

OSU in for difficult times, says Miller

PORTLAND (AP) — Oregon State Coach Ralph Miller says his basketball team doesn't deserve to be ranked among the nation's top 20, and he feels the team will be doing "a heckuva job" to have a winning record by the end of December.

The winless Beavers, rated 10th in the Associated Press pre-season poll, tumbled to 19th this week after last Friday's 68-62 overtime loss to

Utah in Salt Lake City. Oregon State also has lost a 62-61 non-counting decision to the Athletes In Action of Canada.

Miller said in a telephone interview from his Corvallis office Tuesday that the unexpected loss of starting guard Danny Evans has been the major reason the team hasn't developed as well as expected.

"This young man represented about 25 percent

of my experience," Miller said.

Evans was hospitalized for several days due to a severe virus and the date for his return to the team isn't known.

Without Evans, the remainder of the Oregon State players took it on themselves to take up the slack, rather than continuing to play the offense and defense that had established the Beavers as a national power, Miller said.

Blazers sink Clippers

PORTLAND (AP) — Mychal Thompson took over where two Portland teammates left off Tuesday night and the Trail Blazers beat the San Diego Clippers 121-114 in a National Basketball Association game.

Jim Paxson scored 15 of his 21 points in the first quarter, during which the Blazers went ahead 33-23. Calvin Natt concentrated 16 of his 22 points in the first half. They managed only nine shots between them in the second half.

Thompson got 11 of his team-high 23 points in the third quarter, when Portland outscored San Diego 29-24. He got 10 rebounds.

"I started slow," Thompson said. "It wasn't that I was playing terrible in the first half, but I wasn't getting the ball much. In the second half, the guys started looking inside for the big guys. I got some good shots and, fortunately, they went in."

Once Portland established its lead in the first quarter, San Diego never caught up. The Clippers closed to within six points twice in the fourth period.

Paxson said of his second-half scoring letdown, "It seemed we weren't very positive

about running the offense. We weren't running things through. I was still doing the same things I was in the first half, but I wasn't getting the ball, it seemed.

"We were taking quick shots, not running things through. I was just kind of out there," he said.

Portland broke a three-game losing streak and improved its record to 9-9. San Diego fell to 3-13.

"We'll take the win," said Portland Coach Jack Ramsay. "Natt had a great game. Paxson played a classic basketball game for a No. 2 guard in the first half."

Terry Cummings of San Diego led all scorers with 26 points, and teammate Lionel Hollins scored 23.

San Diego Coach Paul Silas lamented that the playing time of Cummings and Tom Chambers was limited by foul trouble.

"The fouls killed us," Silas said. "This could have been an interesting game. The teams are well matched, but the officials controlled the game when Cummings and Chambers were put into foul trouble so early. Instead of an interesting game, it got to be boring."

Walter, Brown named to Pac-10 all-star team

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. (AP) — Defensive end Mike Walter and punt returner Steve Brown both were named to the Pac-10 Conference all-star team.

Linebacker Chris Cosgrove was also named honorable mention.

Walter is a 6-foot-4, 235-pound senior. Brown, who made the all-star squad as a defensive back last year, is a 6-foot, 182-pound senior.

OFFENSE

WIDE RECEIVER — Cormac Carney, UCLA; Paul Skansi, Washington.
TIGHT END — Chris Dressel, Stanford.
LINEMEN — Tony Slaton, USC; Bruce

Mathews, USC; Jeff Kiewel, Arizona; Don Mosebar, USC; Harvey Salem, California.

QUARTERBACK — Tie, John Elway, Stanford; Tom Ramsey, UCLA.

RUNNING BACKS — Jacque Robinson, Washington; Vincent White, Stanford; Vance Johnson, Arizona.

PLACE KICKER — Chuck Nelson, Washington.

DEFENSE

LINEMEN — George Achia, USC; Jim Jeffcoat, ASU; Mike Walter, Oregon; Karl Morgan, UCLA.

LINEBACKERS — Ricky Hunley, Arizona; Mark Stewart, Washington; Vernon Maxwell, ASU; Jack Del Rio, USC.

BACKS — Mike Richardson, ASU; Joey Browner, USC; Vaughn Williams, Stanford; Al Goss, Arizona.

PUNTER — Mike Black, ASU.
RETURN SPECIALIST — Steve Brown, Oregon.

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