

Duck swimmers cut down the Loggers at Leighton

By Jeff Lutzky
Of the Emerald

Coming off a period of "hard training" in San Diego over Christmas vacation, the Oregon mens and womens swim teams still were strong enough to win this weekend.

On Friday night, both the men and women defeated the University of Puget Sound Loggers. The men took their side of the meet 63-32, and the women won 57-38. On Saturday, the women were victorious over Chico State University 96.5-41.5.

"We swam real well," said assistant coach Jamie Hetzel following the meet against UPS. "We swam great considering the type of training we were coming off of."

A couple of quick starts by the Ducks and equipment problems during the relays were the only problems the Oregon swimmers encountered all weekend.

"We jumped on the mens 400-yard medley, and on the womens our second swimmer lost her goggles and she got a little scared," said Hetzel. "I'd have to question whether our women jumped on the 400-yard freestyle. You want them to be aggressive for the championships."

After the first relay, however, Oregon took over. The women won eight of the next nine individual events to run away with the meet, losing only in the 200-yard breaststroke.

For the men the exact same thing was happening. After losing the opening relay and the first individual event, the 1,000-yard freestyle, the men came back to capture the next eight individual events and the final relay.

"We had a lot of good performances," said Hetzel.

"For the men Mike Pruett and Bill Christensen had great meets."

"For the women we had good performances all through," Hetzel said.

Hetzel singled out senior Babette Brundage, junior Gwen Roedel, and freshman Linda Mason for their performances in the meet. Hetzel was also extremely impressed with sophomore Gee Gee Wharton.

"Meet in and meet out Wharton has swam as well as anybody out there," Hetzel said.

Hetzel said, "We have meets the next three weekends, and I don't see any letdown."

The Ducks will swim against Oregon State University on Friday night at Leighton Pool and will host the 23rd Annual Dolphin Invitational the following weekend before traveling to Corvallis for the Oregon State Invitational Jan. 30-Feb. 1.

Gymnasts down SJSU

By Dean Connor
Of the Emerald

The Oregon womens gymnastic team opened its 1986 season with a NorPac Conference victory over visiting San Jose State University by a score of 166:55-163:15 Friday night in Gerlinger Annex.

The Ducks, who are picked to finish last in the NorPac coaches preseason poll, sent a message to the other conference teams — preseason polls mean nothing.

Oregon came out strong and outscored their opponent in all four events. Ducks head coach Ed Boyd said, "I told the team to go out and be aggressive."

Nicky Eden, a freshmen from South Devon, England, led the way for the Ducks scoring a 9.0 in the vault as Oregon posted a 43.55-42.25 lead after the first event.

Eden, who went on to take first in all four events, was the easy, all-around winner with a total of 35.5. It was her first competition in nearly two years. Eden's last competition was in Europe while traveling with the British National team in 1984.

The uneven parallel bars proved to be the Ducks' weakest event, but it was also SJSU's worst event, as women from both teams took some falls. Oregon ended up winning the event fairly easily 39:8-38:75 to build a 83.35-81.00 lead after two events. Oregon assistant coach Kim Rogers said the team would concentrate on the event in practice before Wednesday's meet against Sacramento State.

On the balance beam, the Ducks held their own with great efforts coming from Eden and sophomore Jan Nishimura, as they edged SJSU 40:75-40:40. Nishimura, who turned in an 8.5 on the balance beam, put together one of her finest college performances by taking second in the all-around scoring with a total of 33.55. Duck head coach Ed Boyd said it was a great effort on Nishimura's part because it's so early in the season.

By the last event, the floor exercise, the Ducks had opened a comfortable 124.1-121.40 lead.

Other outstanding performances for the Ducks were Jenni Harvey, who posted a 8.75 in the vault, and Cyndee Maxwell who had an 8.2 on the balance beam.

Oregon's next meet is Wednesday night at 7:30 in Gerlinger Annex against Sacramento State.

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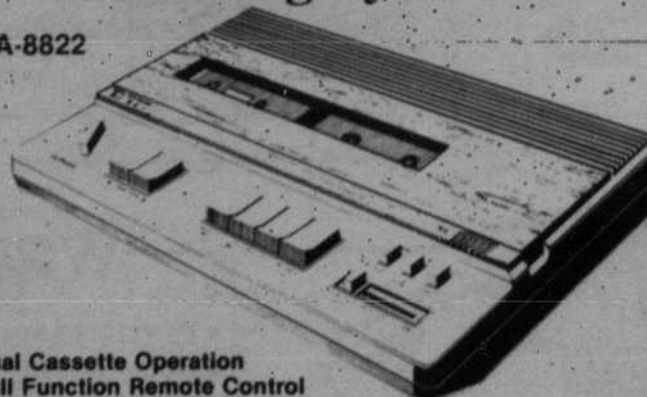
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