

Sports

Women face important weekend of NorPac action

By Capi Lynn
Of the Emerald

The Oregon women's basketball team faces an important weekend of NorPac Conference play as they visit San José State University tonight and the University of California-Berkeley Sunday.

"This weekend will be the toughest weekend of the season and maybe the most important," Oregon coach Elwin Heiny says. "If we were to lose either game, the game against Washington wouldn't mean as much."

The Ducks, 16-6 overall and 5-1 in the conference, have a firm hold on second place in the NorPac, just a half game behind the University of Washington Huskies who are a perfect 6-0 in the conference.

Oregon easily defeated SJSU (77-64) and Cal (88-71) in the first round of conference play, but Heiny is not ready to overlook either team.

"One of my biggest fears is when we beat a team fairly big at home," Heiny says. "Playing them on their court is then very difficult."

Heiny also shows concern about the Ducks' 6-6 road record this season. All of Oregon's losses have been on enemy hardwood.

"We haven't really played that well on the road yet," Heiny says.

However, the Ducks have won 15 of their last 17 games, losing to only Long Beach State University and Washington, both on the road.

"The main thing we want to do right now is show consistency as a team and as individuals," Heiny says.

Although the Ducks have been producing a balanced offensive attack lately, Lauri Landerholm and Gabi Neumann continue to be the team's top scorers. Landerholm, third in the conference in scoring, is averaging 15.8 points per game, while Neumann is producing 13.1 points per outing. Neumann, last week's NorPac Player of the Week, also leads the team in the rebounding column with 7.1 caroms per contest (fourth in the NorPac), and tops all conference players with a 56.4 field goal percentage.

SJSU is an "amazingly quick team" according to

Heiny. The Spartans, 5-14 overall and 0-6 in conference play, are paced by Dana Foster, the speedy guard who poses as one of the reasons why Oregon is not able to use its tenacious press against them. Foster is tops in the NorPac in assists (7.42 per contest) and steals (3.74 per game).

Cal, 11-9 on the season and 3-3 in the NorPac, is led by Jennifer Bennett, who Heiny considers the best post player in the conference. Bennett is second in the conference in scoring, averaging 16.6 points per game, and fifth in the NorPac in the rebounding column, averaging 6.8 per outing.

Every game down the stretch is an important one for the Ducks. This year, only one team from the NorPac Conference will receive an automatic berth to the NCAA Tournament. There will be no conference tournament playoff, thus the conference champion will be the only team assured of a post-season bid, although at-large bids are possible.

This weekend's action should shed some light as to whether or not the Ducks keep within reaching distance of the sole automatic berth.

Gymnasts looking good in 1986

By Dean Connor
Of the Emerald

This season the Oregon gymnastics team has been a pleasant surprise to everyone except Duck head coach Ed Boyd. Boyd, who is now in his fourth year, has taken the gymnastics team from scratch to a competitive team in 1986.

"I knew we had a good team going into the season," Boyd says as the Ducks prepare for their two upcoming meets this weekend in Washington. "The only surprise was some of the girls weren't in good shape when they came to school, consequently it has taken them longer to get into competitive shape."

In shape or not, the Ducks have been competitive for the first half of the season. Oregon, 8-7, has lost five meets by 7.0 points or less. With those eight wins the Ducks have surpassed

their win total of the past three years combined.

Oregon has nearly rewritten all the gymnastics records this year. The only one unbroken is the individual record for the balance beam. In all likelihood, that record will be broken before the end of the season by freshmen Nicky Eden. Eden has set new standards in every other individual event for the Ducks this season.

The Ducks, who finished last in the NorPac Conference in 1985, are currently 1-3 in Conference action this year.

"We still hope to finish third or fourth this season," Boyd says. "The only thing that will stop us from doing it is injuries."

Until Wednesday night the Ducks had managed to stay away from any serious injuries,

but freshman Jennie Harvey is the first casualty. Harvey had to leave Wednesday's meet against Oregon State University after two events because of a possible stress fracture in her leg.

"It has been a tough week for the team," Boyd says. "The traveling takes a lot out of you and consequently you become a lot more susceptible to injuries."

Injuries aside, the Ducks are vastly improved this year. One of the reasons is assistant coach Kim Rogers. Rogers, who competed for Washington State University the past four years, brings to the program experience and knowledge.

"Kim helps the team in many ways I can't," Boyd says. "She's a great communicator."

With a little more than half the season left it will be exciting to see what surprises are in store for the Oregon gymnastics team.

THIS WEEKEND ONLY

\$1.50 OFF large or giant pizza

TRACK TOWN PIZZA

484-2799 • 1809 Franklin Blvd.

Good only Fri Feb 14, Sat Feb 15 and Sun Feb 16, 1986 ONLY

Not valid with any other offer

COUPON

You're Invited To Stop and Shop

at **THE THRIFT & GIFT SHOP**

Gift Certificates now available!

Latest Fashions	Women's Clothes
Accessories	Low Prices
Men's Clothes	Toys
Quality Used Items	Small Appliances
Children's Clothes	Sporting Goods
Books	Household Items

30 Years Serving the Eugene-Springfield Area

2839 WILLAMETTE ST. EUGENE, OREGON 97405

OPEN MONDAY-SATURDAY HOURS 10 AM-4 PM

FOR CONSIGNMENT APPOINTMENTS CALL 343-3861

JUNIOR LEAGUE

Sports shorts

The Oregon women's tennis team will open its season this weekend at the Louisiana-Pacific Invitational tournament at the University of Portland Chiles Center.

The women boast a lineup of six returning players from last year's team, and are led by

senior captain Sarah Grall.

Grall will welcome her freshman sister Cindy Grall to the Ducks roster this season.

The Oregon gymnastics team will be in action this weekend as they meet the Washington State University Cougars, the

Stanford University Cardinal, and the University of California Golden Bears today in a four-way meet in Pullman, Wash.

The Gymnasts will then travel to Spokane, Wash. to take on Spokane Community College on Saturday.

Franz Optical

EYE GLASSES \$39

Quality eyewear need not be expensive

SINGLE VISION PRESCRIPTION LENSES AND FRAMES

- Choose from a specially selected group of fashion frames
- FT-25-28 Bifocals \$20 Extra
- Extra charge for high powers

EYE EXAMS.....\$32

SOFT CONTACTS \$99

Complete! Price includes eye exam, care kit, and all dispensing fees. S.V. spherical only

EXTENDED WEAR CONTACTS \$149

Dr. Dan Caldwell, Optometrist

Santa Clara Square

689-1115

(Formerly located at Fred Meyer)

BAMBOO PAVILION

CHINESE RESTAURANT

省時快捷 經濟實惠

Oriental Buffet Lunch Downstairs & Try Our Dinner Upstairs

Hours: Downstairs M-Th 11:00 - 7:00; F-Sa 11:00 - 4:30; Closed Sundays

Hours: Upstairs Su-Th 4:30 - 10:00; F-Sa 5:00 - 10:30

1275 Alder Street • 683-8886

John & Sandy's

The Breakfast Place

Try Our Fish & Chips or Broasted Chicken To Go!

Open 7am - 7pm

1249 Alder • 484-2956

HOUSE OF RECORDS

258 E. 13th • 342-7975

THE INCREDIBLE 5 FOR \$1 SALE STILL JAMS ON!

until Feb 17th