

# Sports

## Ducks face tough Wildcats

By Robert Collias  
Of the Emerald

The Oregon basketball team will take on the University of Arizona tonight at 8 p.m. at McArthur Court in a Pac-10 Conference clash.

The game will be a contest between two teams that are going in different directions.

The Ducks are 8-15 for the season and 3-10 in the conference, while the Wildcats are 18-7 overall and 9-3 in the conference, one-half game behind conference-leader Washington.

The game will be the start of four games in the last five for the Ducks at home, and Oregon coach Don Monson is happy about that.

"We have five games left, and four of them are at home," Monson said after Oregon lost a tough one to Washington Sunday in Seattle. "It would be nice to come home and play well in front of our crowd."

The game will be important for Arizona in its chase for a possible first-ever Pac-10 championship.

They beat the Ducks with relative ease, 85-68, in the first meeting between the two teams this season on Jan. 25 in Tucson.

The magnitude of this contest becomes apparent with a glance at the rest of the Wildcats' schedule.

After facing the Ducks, Arizona will travel to Corvallis to take on the struggling Oregon State University Beavers Saturday.

Next week they will face a showdown with the Huskies at home, but coach Lute Olson is not overlooking this weekend.

"We have a chance for the conference championship, so we have to take each game one at a time," Olson said. "We have to beat Oregon, to make that Washington game mean very much."

The Ducks, on the other hand, are playing for pride now, but that does not mean they will be an easy target for the Wildcats.

Oregon played the Huskies well in their last game, although they came out on the short end of a 73-67 score.

Monson said, "That was the first-place team playing the last-place team in their place, so I'd say it was a credible effort."

The Ducks certainly did have a credible effort in that game, especially senior Jerry Adams.

Adams had a career-high 21 points to go along with 11 rebounds. He is leading the conference in rebounding at 10.1 per game, and has been having a stellar senior season on a team that is struggling.

The Wildcats are led by their only returning starter — guard Steve Kerr.

Kerr always has had a reputation as a deadly outside shooter, but this year he has been called upon to lead the Wildcats offense from the point-guard position.

Kerr had only four turnovers in the first six conference games and has given Arizona an added dimension this season from the point-guard position.

Kerr was a pre-season All-Pac-10 pick by the league's coaches, and he has not disappointed any of them.

Oregon is expected to continue to use a three-guard starting unit that Monson has employed in the last five games.

The Ducks will have leading scorer Anthony Taylor (16.6 points per game), Rick Osborn (10.9 points per game) and David Girley (5.1 points per game) in the back court. Sophomore Keith Balderston will join Adams in the front court for the Ducks.

Arizona will counter with freshman Anthony Cook (5.0 points per game) and Sean Elliott (14.8 points per game) as forwards.

The Wildcats will have senior John Edgar at the post position, and Craig McMillan and Kerr in the back court.

## Oregon golf team hosts invitational

By Lynne Casey  
Of the Emerald

The Oregon golf team will swing into action for the second time this season as it hosts the Pacific Northwest Invitational tournament on Feb. 24 and 25. The first 27 holes of the tourney will be at the Eugene Country Club on Monday, and the next 27 holes will be at Emerald Valley Country Club on Tuesday.

In earlier competition, the Ducks finished eighth at the Michelob National Golf Invitational in Tucson, Ariz. Senior Tim Scott headed the list for the Ducks as he tied for 12th place overall with a 54-hole total of 219.

Although the team finished eighth overall, it finished the tournament strongly with its best round on the third day of the tournament.

"A lot of good things came out of that tournament," senior Paul Weinhold said. "We should be considered an equal favorite towards the end of the season."

Scott added, "It was good to get a good start and get some experience early in the season. That experience will help us when Pac-10 and NCAA tourney time comes around."

Although the competition within the conference is tough this season, the Duck's strong point will be their experience and depth as they start the season with three returning seniors.

Coach Scott Krieger said there are also at least two quality players in each class, and he feels the Ducks are the most balanced team in the conference.

Sophomore Steve Rintoul said, "The competition in the Pac-10 is the strongest it has ever been, which just means we'll have to work a little harder."

The tournament Monday will be the smallest of all the competitions the Ducks will take part in this spring. The field will include Oregon State University, Portland State University, the University of Portland, Washington State University and the University of Washington.

"We use this one to get ready for the rest of the season," Krieger said.

## Duck swimmers go to PacWest Invitational

By Jeff Lutzky  
Of the Emerald

Coming off a two-week break, the Oregon men's and women's swim teams will return to action in the PacWest Invitational, in Moscow, Idaho, Thursday through Saturday.

The meet will feature six teams the Ducks have already swam against this season (the University of Washington, the University of Puget Sound, Willamette University, Oregon State University, Idaho University and Washington State University).

All but Idaho and WSU will send both men's and women's teams.

Idaho will send only a men's team and WSU only a women's team. Also, the University of California at San Diego and Northern Arizona University will send teams, and the University of Arizona will send a women's team.

Of the teams Oregon has already swam against, only Washington and WSU have defeated the Ducks, and Oregon coach Dan Cole doesn't see a reversal of this trend against the Huskies.

"Washington will win the men's and women's meets," Cole says. "Second place should be a tussle

between us and UCSD on the men's side, and us and WSU, Arizona and UCSD on the women's. The women's meet should be a little tighter."

Although the WSU women beat the Ducks twice this season, once at the Washington State Triangular, and the other time at the Oregon State Invitational, Cole feels they will end this trend in Idaho.

"WSU has beaten us twice this season," Cole says. "But I think we'll win this time."

The PacWests started out as an unofficial Northwest championship but recently has brought in other schools like UCSD and Northern Arizona. For those schools, it is more like a championship meet.

"UCSD is a division III school and will be trying to make their NCAA cuts," Cole says. "We're not shooting for NCAA cuts. We've had some rest, but we're not capable completely yet. It's a good quality meet."

The meet will be used more by the Ducks as a testing ground for the upcoming NorPac and Pac-10 championships.

"It will help us decide on relay spots still up for grabs," Cole says. "Also for some of the men, it is the end of the season. We won't take the whole team down

to the Pac-10's in Los Angeles. All the women will be going to the NorPac's in Portland."

But Cole doesn't think this will be an extra motivating factor to the men who are on the borderline of whether they will go to Pac-10's or not.

"It won't be that much different," says Cole. "It is a question of who will swim the fastest. All of them will swim hard and fast, it's just a matter of who will swim the best."

Driving to the meet also won't play any factor in the Ducks' performance.

"It will take at least 10 hours to drive up, but I don't think that will cause us any problems," Cole says. "We'll probably swim a little in the morning before we leave and at night after we get there to get the kinks out. Going by bus isn't as bad as in vans, since at least you can walk around."

Going into this meet and their final championships, the Ducks are in good health, Cole says.

"We've been real lucky to have no major illness," Cole says. "So far it has been real good. But you never know, suddenly six or seven of them could come down with the flu."

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