

# Duck women face fatigue, Portland State on road

By Dennis Fernandes  
Of the Emerald

The Oregon Ducks travel to Portland tonight for their last nonconference game of the season against Portland State University.

Fatigue continues to be a con-

cern for Oregon coach Elwin Heiny, as tonight marks the fifth time in just under two weeks the Ducks have embarked on the road.

"Right now, we're playing more than we're practicing for the whole month," he mused.

"It will be good to have these three-game weeks and non-counting games out of our schedule."

Although the Ducks blew out the 8-10 Vikings, 102-65, in a game last December, they will

not be looking past this team for a few reasons.

For one, Oregon has been struggling. After flying to a 9-2 record overall and a 3-0 mark in Pacific-10 Conference play, the Ducks have lost three

of their last five and dropped from a tie from first to third place in league play.

Also, the Ducks cannot underestimate this opponent, who defeated the University of Portland, 92-86, last Saturday and are winners of four straight games. The Ducks were heavy favorites in a 1984 game against PSU, and the Vikings pulled off a 75-74 overtime upset at McArthur Court. Two weeks prior to that contest, the Ducks drilled the Vikings by an 83-54 count. So, as the cliché goes, anything is possible.

"They're a weaker opponent, but at the same time a stronger team than University of Portland, and we had our hands full with them last week (in a 79-70 win)," Heiny said. "I'm afraid we might let down; we might not put forth the effort we need to win."

Stacey Liebl leads the Vikings in scoring at 20.4 points per game and averages 6.4 rebounds. Sandy Cerkan adds 13.4 points, and Cathy Kunz, a player the Ducks did not see in the last matchup, has 12.0 points a contest.

"We got a real good defensive effort from Sheila (forward Sattiewhite) last time, and Liebl still got 22 points," Heiny said. "Both Kunz and Liebl will mix it up inside and also pop outside for some shots."

Obviously, Oregon's biggest strengths will lie in the hands of post players Gabi Neumann, Stefanie Kasperski and Kris Glidden. Heiny has stated the Ducks may have won at Washington with a more consistent inside game.

"We've had trouble with the transition game, but if we can get the ball inside to Gabi, Stefanie and Kris, that should be a big plus for us," he said.

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