

Sports

Wrestlers prevail again, keep undefeated record

By Kevin Allen
Emerald Contributor

The Ducks did it again. Rolling out to a 10-0 lead, the Oregon wrestling team triumphed by its biggest margin of the season by destroying the Spartans of San Jose State 39-3 Tuesday night at McArthur Court.

The victory keeps the Ducks undefeated at both 3-0 in the Pacific-10 Conference and 7-0 overall for the year. San Jose fell to 3-4-1 overall, 1-3-1 in the Pac-10.

"Our team unity is booming, we're competing, morale is high and things are going our way," commented sophomore Danny White after the meet. White was one of six Ducks victorious by a major decision or better.

He defeated San Jose's Jeff Profio 16-2 for his sixth victory of the season.

Everyone's overview seems to be better for Oregon. The only blemish on the night was freshman Jason Pehling's 10-9 loss to Spartan Joe Zamlich. Pehling took a quick 4-0 lead, then fell asleep.

Talented freshmen help Duck wrestlers improve

By Gary Henley
Emerald Sports Reporter

After finishing seventh in the Pacific-10 Conference with a disappointing 8-13 record last season, Oregon wrestling coach Ron Finley has the Ducks turned around and off to a flying start this season.

The Ducks are currently 6-0 in overall dual meets and 2-0 in the Pac-10.

One of the main reasons for the turnaround is the performance of this year's freshman class, which has not only added depth to the roster, but has been a big contributor to the Ducks' early success.

Going into Tuesday night's match with San Jose State, Curt Strahm is 7-2 overall and 5-0 in dual meets; Scott Myers is 2-1, 2-0; and Jason Pehling is 5-7, 3-3.

With Strahm and Myers, Finley may have the foundation on which to build a successful program.

"I certainly hope so," said the Ducks coach. "They have a lot to learn, but they've shown a lot of toughness and intensity."

When talking about Strahm and Myers, "toughness" and "intensity" seemed to be the words that Finley used most.

"Their biggest adjustment

"He had a nice lead, but he tried to protect it; he went on the defensive, and if he had attacked more he would have been OK. But he's learning that's what's important for a freshman. He's got to be ready to compete throughout the whole match," Oregon coach Ron Finley said.

Finley was pleased by the Ducks' success.

"Everything's coming together for us except the crowd," he said. Only 190 fans attended the Ducks' seventh straight victory.

"We have two workouts a day...everyone is working together toward one goal," Finley said. He attributes the team's success to both unity and assistant coach Dean Dixon's emphasis on being tough once on top.

Friday the Ducks play host in the civil war battle versus Oregon State. The meet will be at 7:30 p.m. in McArthur Court.

"We need a crowd bad," Finley said. "We haven't beaten the Beavers since 1982. Both sets of guys will be sky high, and it will be dog eat dog out there, so we need all the help we can get from the crowd."

has been getting used to the intensity and the tough level of competition," Finley said. "They don't have typical high school matches anymore. Every time out it's like a state meet for them."

Strahm first met Myers in their senior year of high school.

"He beat me in my first match of my senior year," Myers said. "Curt wrestles ahead of me here, so there is some competition between us, but we still get along."

"There's more competition

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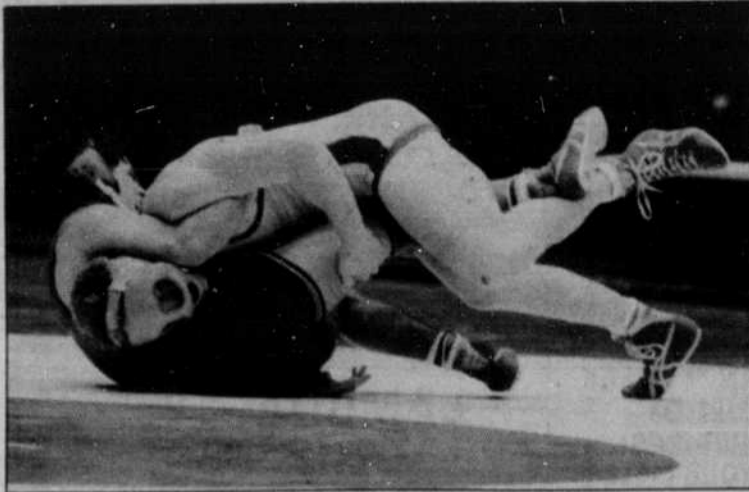


Photo by Bobbi Lo

The Oregon wrestling team remained undefeated Tuesday night by crushing San Jose State 39-3 at Mac Court.

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Correction: The Emerald Ad Last Friday contained an error regarding the rate for the Workshop for the GMAT; the fee is \$75, not \$50. As with all ALS workshops, the fee covers all materials, texts, and instruction. The Emerald apologizes for any inconvenience this error might have caused.

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