

Wrestlers win two on road trip

By Mike Maloney
Emerald Contributor

The University wrestling team took their show on the road this weekend and came away with two dual meet victories over Boise State and Brigham Young.

The wins moved the Ducks to 12-1 for the season, a mark unparalleled in Oregon wrestling history.

Oregon upended conference rival Boise State 19-14 on the strength of its upper weights Friday.

"Our bigger guys did a really fine job against Boise State," head coach Ron Finley said. "There was a lot of pressure on them and they really came through."

The Ducks trailed Boise State by a score of 14-10 going into the evening's final three matches.

Curt Strahm started the comeback in the 177-pound match, defeating BSU's Mitch Mansfield 7-2.

Joe Rissone followed Strahm's lead, posting a 10-4 victory over BSU's Dean Hastriter in the 190-pound

match. The win gave the Duck senior a 15-7 mark for the season.

As would be the case one day later on the BYU campus, the Boise State match came down to the heavyweight match-up.

Nursing a 16-14 lead, the Ducks sent big man Cam Strahm to the mat to seal the victory. Strahm proved to be up to the challenge as he posted a decisive 5-0 win over BSU freshman Tony Vanek.

"Cam really responded well to the pressure," Finley said. "He got the job done."

Also earning wins against Boise State were 118-pounder Dan Vidlak, 126-pounder Rob Stone, and 142-pounder Scott Glenn.

On Saturday, the Ducks traveled to Provo, Utah, for their final dual meet of the season where they overcame a tough Brigham Young challenge to earn a 21-14 victory.

Finley praised the lower weights this time for getting the Ducks the win.

"This was a really different match than Boise State," Finley said. "With the way they matched up, we needed the lighter guys to take over — which they did."

The Ducks opened up a 15-2 lead on the Cougars after the dual's first four matches.

Oregon 118-pounder Dan Vidlak started the charge by scoring a technical fall over BYU freshman Marcus Stones. Stones, a product of Oregon's West Linn High School, became Vidlak's 20th victim of the season.

In the next match, 126-pounder Rob Stone added to the lead by dominating BYU's Rob Egbert, 13-0. "Stone is wrestling really well right now," Finley said. "He could do something at the Pac-10 tournament."

Further wins: 134-pounder Jason Jones added four more points to the Duck total, smacking BYU's Kelton Anderson by a score of 18-4.

Scott Glenn added a 1-1 tie with BYU's Robbie Winter in the 142-pound bracket to open up the 13-point gap. Winter is one of two nationally-ranked wrestlers on the Cougar roster. The other, 177-pounder John Kohls, defeated Oregon's Curt Strahm during a BYU comeback bid.

That comeback cut the Oregon lead to four points heading into the heavyweight match.

Once again Oregon's Cam Strahm was up to the challenge, riding out BYU's Corey Veach through the entire third round to earn a narrow 1-0 victory.

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Decou Flex 31, Vanilla Thunder 29
Pine St. Phenoms 45, Sigma Nu III 25
Masonry Personified 79, Lambda Chi Alpha II 46
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