Wrestlers open season in SOSC tourney

By Erick Studenicka Emerald Sports Reporter

The Oregon wrestling team will make its season debut this weekend as it participates in the Southern Oregon State Invitational tournament in Ashland.

Head coach Ron Finley said the tournament format will allow the Oregon coaches to get a good look at the entire squad of wrestlers.

"The format allows for more than one wrestler in each weight category, so we'll be able to take our entire squad," Finley said. "This tournament gives the wrestlers some early season experience and

helps the coaches to see which wrestlers should be in the starting lineup for later meets."

Finley said the team is hoping to improve upon its fourth-place Pacific-10 Conference finish of a year ago.

"We didn't lose too many people," Finley said. "Plus, we'll have Pat Craig back in December fully recovered from knee and shoulder surgery."

Finley will, however, have to replace two of his top lightweight wrestlers from last season because Dan Vidlak, the 1992 conference champion, and Jarrett Clark, a NCAA qualifier, have graduated.

Finley expects Kevin Roberts, a red-

shirt freshman, and Chris Jensen, a junior transfer from Notre Dame, to battle for the 118-pound slot vacated by Vidlak. Redshirt freshman James Stephens will step in for Clark at 126 pounds.

"Stephens was beating Clark in the wrestling room a lot of the time last year, so we should be just as strong at 126 pounds this season," Finley said.

Finley expects defending conference champ Oregon State and perennial national power Arizona State to be the teams the Ducks will have to top for this year's title.

Ducks sign new recruit

The Oregon men's basketball team announced the signing of junior college guard Brion Smith Wednesday.

Smith, a 6-foot-3, 185-pound player from Cisco Community College, signed a letter of intent with Duck head coach Jerry Green.

The Houston, Texas, native is averaging eight points, four assists and three rebounds per game so far this

From the Campus-Community Relations Task Force...

A Message on Campus Safety

We are committed to informing each of you, as valued members of the university community, about personal safety issues so you can take immediate precautions to protect yourself, your friends and your associates. Recent incidents of beatings and apparently unprovoked attacks in the West University neighborhood and other nearby areas lend serious urgency to this message.

A pattern of assaults has developed during recent months. Those involved are college-age people in late-night encounters of lone victims and small groups of attackers. Some of these incidents apparently have been motivated by the race or the perceived sexual orientation of those involved.

We want to alert you about these incidents-if you weren't already aware of them-and to assure you that law enforcement investigations involving Eugene police and the UO Office of Public Safety are underway. In the meantime, we want to remind each of you-as UO students, employees and campus visitors-of measures that will help assure your personal safety, especially at night.

First, we urge each of you to exercise good judgment and use common sense. Don't hesitate to seek assistance or to report suspicious persons or activities to law enforcement officers.

In case of an on-campus emergency, 6-6666 connects you with the Office of Public Safety. If you're off campus when an emergency occurs, call 911 to get help from the Eugene police, fire department or ambulance services.

With daylight hours becoming shorter as winter approaches, it's only smart to travel along well-lit streets and walkways when going to and from work, classes or other events. If possible, travel in groups. Public Safety officials can identify well-lit pathways for those unfamiliar with the campus.

When working late on campus, take time to locate the nearest telephone. In addition, more than 60 emergency call-boxes are located strategically throughout the campus. The boxes' locations are shown on campus maps available from the UO Office of Public Safety in Straub Hall. In case of emergency, punch the button on the nearest box to call directly for help from the public safety office.

For female UO students, Safe-Ride offers free transportation service. From dusk to midnight (2 a.m. on weekends), two Safe-Ride vans driven by women follow routes throughout campus and, with advance reservations, nearby destinations off campus. Information is available at 6-4239 or from the Women's Center in Suite 3 of the Erb Memorial Union.

New this year on the ASUO staff is a safety affairs coordinator. Call 6-0628 for information and assistance. In non-emergencies, any UO student-male or female-may call the public safety office, 6-5444, for assistance such as after-dusk escort service.

Working together, we can achieve a safe, secure and healthful campus environment for all of us by combining the university's initiatives with individual acceptance of responsibility for personal safety. Thank you for your cooperation and participation in this important effort.

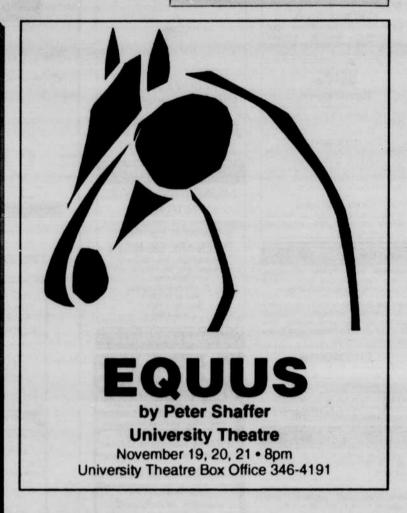
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