





By Steve Mims

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A wrestling Civil War is the main attraction at McArthur Court this weekend, as the Ducks face Oregon State tonight at 7:30.

The Beavers are one of the top teams in the country, compiling a 13-3 record in dual meets. OTEBOOK including a 7-0 mark in the

Pacific-10 Conference. The ninth-ranked Beavers are led by 177-pound Les Gutches, ranked No. 1 in the nation at that weight. At 167 pounds, Oregon State's Chad Renner is ranked No. 2 in the country.

The Beavers have taken control of the series, winning five straight meetings, including a 23-15 win earlier this year in Corvallis. The Ducks stayed close to the Beavers in that match, but were hurt by a pair of forfeits.

This weekend's match is the Ducks' final dual meet of the year and the last chance to prepare for the Pac-10 Championships Feb. 26-27.

The Oregon softball team kicks off its season with a busy weekend in Arizona, beginning this morning

The Ducks are coming off an 18-16 season of a year ago that was cut short by 11 rainouts, including nine of 12 scheduled home games. The Ducks return nine of ten starters from a year ago, including all-Pac-10 Conference shortstop Kathy Stahl, who hit .352 last year

The Ducks will look to catcher Laura Schmidt for power and run production. Schmidt hit .381 last season to go along with a team-leading three home runs. On the mound, Rachelle Taylor, who pitched 186-2/3 of the Ducks' 235 innings, returns after compiling a 1.39 earned run average last year.

The Ducks begin the weekend with a game against No. 7 Fresno State this afternoon, followed by a matchup with No. 18 Utah State. Saturday Ore gon faces No. 9 UNLV and Illinois State, followed by a doubleheader against Michigan on Sunday.

The spring golf season gets under way when the Oregon men's golf team plays in the Big Island Intercollegiate at Wailoloa, Hawaii this weekend, and the women's golf team prepares for the Chris Johnson Arizona Invitational next week.

The men are coming off a disappointing fall season that saw them fail to finish higher than seventh in any of their five tournaments. The field in this weekend's tournament will probably be the toughest the Ducks have faced all season, as 24 teams are entered in the tourney, including No. 1 Oklahoma State, fifth-ranked Stanford and eighth-ranked Arizona

Oregon was led in the fall by junior Ted Snavely, who posted a 74.3 scoring average. Snavely had his best collegiate showing to date last year at this event, when he finished third.

The Oregon women are ranked 15th in the nation by Golfworld after finishing in the top 10 at all six fall tournaments, including a win at the Oregon State/Nike Invitational. Ten other teams ranked in the top 20 will be in Tucson, Ariz., for the tournament, including top-ranked Arizona State.

The Oregon men's and women's tennis teams will head south this weekend to face several matches against California foes

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The women will face Nevada this morning at Santa Clara before heading to Moraga to face St. Mary's. The Ducks finish the trip with matches against San Jose State and Santa Clara on Sunday

Meanwhile, the men will embark on a three-day, three-match road trip that sees them face Pacific this afternoon and Sacramento State on Saturday before concluding their trip at Cal-Davis on Sunday.

Baseball season starts at Pacific

By Mark McTyre nerald

The Oregon club baseball team kicks off its 1994 season this weekend against Pacific's junior varsity team at Forest Grove.

The Ducks finished their season last year with a .500 record and are looking to improve on that this year with new head coach Mike Peterson. Peterson. a former player at Long Beach State, brings an aggressive style of play to the team.

Along with a Peterson comes a whole new team. From last year's squad there are only four returning players, pitcher Jason Spohn, catcher Chip Bradley, middle infielder Tim Sexton and

outfielder Joe Lang.

Spohn, a senior, figures to be the only true starting pitcher for the Ducks, Bradley, a junior, is battling newcomer Sean Martin for time at catcher. Sexton, a sophomore, also faces stiff competition at second base and shortstop from newcomers Tony Gray and Matt Keeperman. Lang, also a sophomore, anchors a solid outfield that features newcomers Colby Taylor, Rico Ramirez, and Greg Sinclair.

Meanwhile, the Oregon club hockey team, after gaining a split on a recent California road trip, is back in action this weekend at home against visiting Western Washington

The Ducks took 14 players to California for a two game stint against Stanford and San Jose State. The Ducks started off against Stanford with a close win over the Cardinal, 6-5. Oregon's next game provided just what it had expected, a tough San Jose State team. The Spartans sent the Ducks back home with a 7-1 loss.

The Ducks are expecting another war with their opponents this weekend as well. Although the Duck's season record is only 2-4-2, in their last four games the Ducks have picked up the pace with a 2-1-1 record. The Ducks hit the ice Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, both at Lane County Ice Arena.



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