



Silver Anniversary

In his 25 years, Ron Finley has built one of UO's winningest programs

Trevor Kearney
Oregon Daily Emerald

In a year highlighted by bowl games and upset wins, poll rankings and star senior athletes, the Oregon wrestling team is quietly celebrating a silver anniversary that marks one of the school's most successful athletic programs.

It was 25 years ago that head coach Ron Finley took over the wrestling program, and since that time, Finley has accumulated a 282-167-5 record, good for a .626 winning percentage and the program's top coaching record.

THE FINLEY FILE

■ **WHO:**
Oregon Wrestling Coach

■ **What:**
In the past 25 years, Finley has built one of Oregon's most successful athletic programs, compiling a 282-167-5 record.



FINLEY

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Amidst the glamour and glitz of college sports, the Oregon wrestling team remains largely outside of the spotlight, putting up solid numbers year in and year out without worrying about any of the hype or glory.

"It's nice to be nationally ranked," Finley said. "We would like to be there every single year."

But according to Finley, not being in the spotlight is not new to Oregon or wrestling in general.

"Wrestling has always been kind of an underdog sport," said Finley, adding that Oregon's soft-spoken program has come close to being dropped three times. The program, however, has resisted and held up strong, pulling down 17 winning seasons in Finley's tenure as head coach.

But nationally ranked or not, Finley has truly transformed his team into arguably the strongest and most consistent athletic program to grace the Oregon campus in the last 25 years, as his .626 winning percentage would indicate. And even on the national level, Finley has established the Ducks



COURTESY PHOTO

Oregon wrestling coach Ron Finley has amassed over 250 victories and a great deal of respect in his 25 years at the University of Oregon.

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FRIDAY

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DUCK NOTES

Wrestlers take on Badgers

The Oregon wrestling team takes on Wisconsin at 7:30 p.m. at McArthur Court on Saturday.

The Ducks are 2-2 in the Pacific-10 Conference and 2-3 overall. The Badgers, 2-1 overall, are ranked 21st after starting out the season ranked 18th.

The 118- and 126-pound weight classes should be the key to the meet, as the Ducks send 118-pound All-American Kevin Roberts, who is 16-1 this season, against Matt Hanutke, who has not competed because of an injury. At last season's NCAA meet, Hanutke placed fifth in the 118-pound class while Roberts took fourth. Jeremy Ensrud, 15-2, will take on Eric Jetton at 126 pounds.

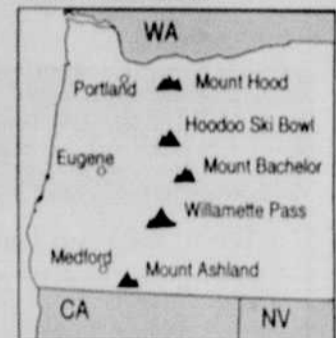
Men's tennis returns to action

The Oregon men's tennis team will be competing against some of the nation's top-ranked teams this weekend at the Pac-10 Indoor Tennis Tournament in Seattle.

Among the teams Oregon will face are three of the top five teams in the nation — No. 1 Stanford, No. 2 USC and No. 4 UCLA. Also ranked are California at 23, Arizona at 32, Arizona State at 37 and Washington at 47.

The Ducks have a 6-1 dual record this season.

SKI REPORT



■ Hoodoo Ski Bowl— snow 26 degrees 11 new 66 - 90 base powder 3 lifts 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.

■ Mount Ashland — overcast 25 degrees 11 new 85 base powder 3 lifts Thu: Men's day 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.

■ Mount Bachelor — overcast 25 degrees 3 new 81-104 base machine groomed 8 lifts 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

■ Mount Hood — overcast 30 degrees 69 base machine groomed 3 lifts 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.

■ Willamette Pass— snow 30 degrees 7 new 48 - 70 base packed powder 29 trails 4 lifts Jan. 15: Boardsports Snbrd Challenge 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Ducks prepare for Civil War contest

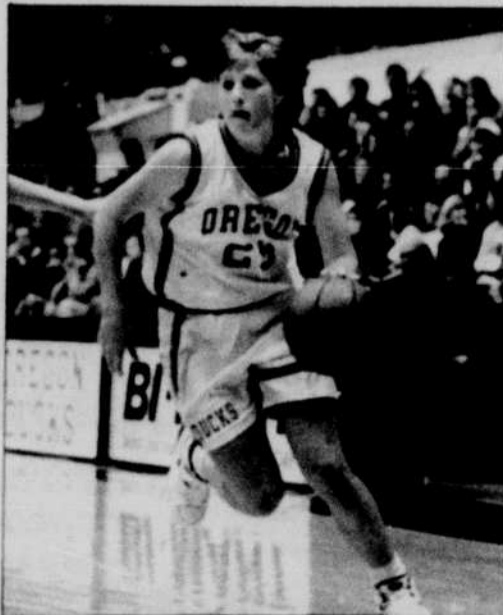
Runge's squad to face a tough Oregon State

Mark McTyre
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon women's basketball team returns to McArthur Court after a 1-1 split Pacific-10 conference road trip to face the 21st-ranked Oregon State Beavers, the Ducks' second, nationally ranked opponent in eight days.

After starting the Pac-10 season with a blowout victory over the UCLA Bruins 84-59, Oregon (8-3, 1-1) narrowly missed an attempt at a sweep in Southern California as the Ducks lost to 20th-ranked USC 77-78. The youth of the team proved to be the hurdle the Ducks were unable to clear.

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HIDEKI TOMIOKA/Emerald

Newcomer Sally Crowe has stepped into the leadership role as the Ducks have sustained two major injuries.

Greenball looks to turn the tide on OSU's floor

Kris Henry
Oregon Daily Emerald

Oregon hits the road for the first time in conference play and will add another chapter to the continuing rivalry against Oregon State.

The Civil War battle pits the 25th-ranked Ducks, 10-1 overall and 2-0 in conference, against the Beavers, 4-7 and 1-1, on Saturday night in Gill Coliseum at 7:30.

In the 300th meeting between these two intrastate rivals, the Ducks seek their first triumph at Corvallis in 11 years. Oregon State holds a 175-124 advantage between the two teams.

With a victory the Ducks would go into

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