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Olympic hopeful heads to judo event

■ **COMPETITION:** The freshman has his sights set on the 2000 Olympics

By Kristin Bailey
Student Activities Reporter

Ducks as Olympic contenders? Two University students left Oregon on Wednesday to attend the U.S. Senior National Judo Competition, taking place Friday and Saturday in San Jose, Calif. The winners will represent the United States at the Olympics in Atlanta this summer.

The competitors, a freshman and a Russian international student, are members of the Oregon Club Sports judo team. Both said they hope to put up a good fight at the tournament.

"I'm not really predicting an outcome," freshman Nathan Pietsch said. "I just want to have fun, have my name recognized and attain my goal, which is making the 2000 U.S. Olympic team."

Judo, which means "the gentle way" in Japanese, is the method of using strength and the strength of your adversary in self defense.

"Judo is maximum efficiency with minimum effort," said Pietsch, who has trained in Japan. "It's the redirecting of strength."

Injuries, cutting pounds to make it into a lower weight division and academic stress have made preparation for the competition difficult, Pietsch said.



Nathan Pietsch (left) flips Maziar Sattari-Raof. Pietsch is one of two University students that are going to a tournament in San Jose, Calif.

However, training and optimism have helped.

"I'm just going to do my best and keep a positive attitude," he said. "Despite everything, I want to completely clear my mind, have no regrets and do my best. I feel I'm ready. I've been swimming and lifting weights every day and keeping positive."

Russian student Sergei Matveev, the world's fifth-best competitor in Sambo (a form of self defense that doesn't use weapons) will also compete this weekend. However, because

Matveev is not an U.S. citizen, he would be unable to compete in the Olympics should he win the competition.

"I can fail, but Russians never quit," he said. "Even if I lose and I've done my best, that's important."

Matveev won the bronze medal at the U.S. National competition two years ago.

"[This weekend's competition] is preparation to start the big life," he said. "It's a crucial championship."

Event: Student senate funds bus for march

■ **Continued from Page 1**
the student fees.

"The issues are not student issues per se," Osorio said. "In the literature we were given, the word student never showed up."

The Senate ultimately agreed to pay for one of the busses with \$2,200, Osorio said. Many of the Senators feared a rejection of the request would "deny them the opportunity to go," he added.

"We didn't want to leave them empty-handed," he said. "We want them to go."

Kanter said the issues would affect students and would have a campus impact.

The rally will also publicize the University, she said. Because there's going to be a lot of press, the University's presence will be recognized, she said.

"The UO has the largest contingency from the

Northwest," she said. "We're pretty proud of that. We're just increasing the UO's image as an activist campus."

The Women's Center got involved when representatives from NOW asked them to join the march in February, Kanter said. The center workers originally expected only a few participants.

It was hard for them to get the word out, Kanter said, because much of the publicity for the event came during dead and finals weeks and spring break.

Kanter said the march should educate the University about the major issues and dangers surrounding the right-wing movement.

"This is obviously a very powerful way to get the issues out," she said.

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