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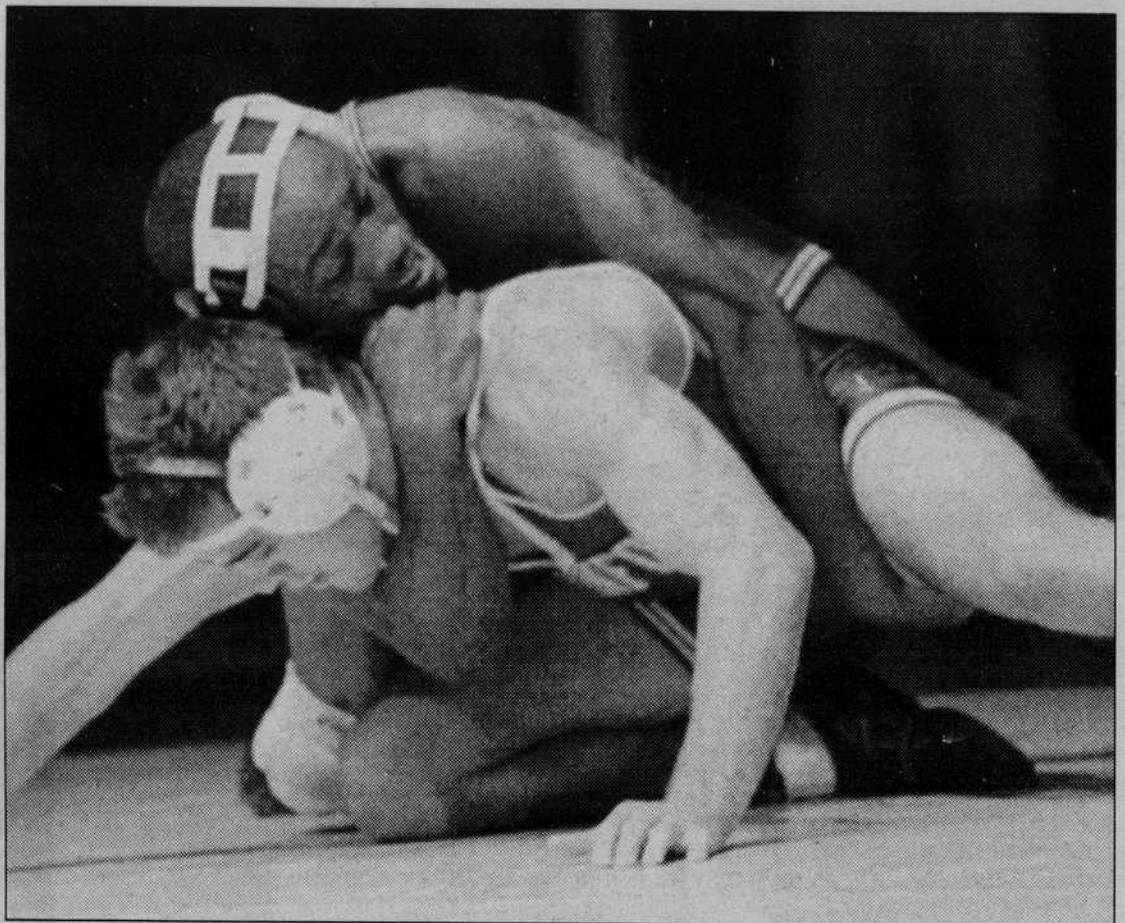
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Azle Malinao-Alvarez Emerald

Junior Eugene Harris lost just three matches at 133 pounds this season and could qualify for the NCAA's at the Pac-10 meet.

Wrestling

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Sun Devil coach Lee Roy Smith held No. 10 Kellan Fluckinger out of the match in order to gain the top seeding at the conference tournament. Webb is 27-4 and has not lost since Jan. 4.

The Ducks' pair of 2000 NCAA qualifiers, junior Eugene Harris and sophomore Brian Watson, are also predicted to be in the NCAA hunt. Watson lost three Pac-10 matches in overtime at 133 pounds, while Harris lost three matches by a com-

bined four points at 157 pounds.

Other Oregon entrants include sophomore Casey Hunt (10-12) at 141 pounds, freshman Luke Larwin (6-8) at 165 pounds and junior Leif Williams (7-16) at 174 pounds.

Arizona State is the favorite coming into the match. The No. 11-ranked Sun Devils won the regular season title and have three top-seeded wrestlers. The Ducks narrowly lost to Arizona State 22-19 on Feb. 2.

Boise State, the defending conference champion, and Oregon State are also in the running for the

team title. The Ducks split the season series with the Beavers and lost to Boise State 18-12 on Jan. 19.

The two-day tournament will be divided into four rounds. First-round matches will take place from 12:30 to 3 p.m. Sunday, followed by first-round consolation matches later in the day from 6 to 9 p.m.

On Monday, consolation semi-finals and finals will go from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The lights will come down for the championship finals from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Ticket packages are available for \$25, or \$7 per round.

Basketball

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shot long ball after long ball, and that was when Kent's proverbial lid covered the hoop. Oregon went 3-17 from three-point land after ending the 18-5 run, and UCLA hit its free throws down the stretch to win by 15.

"We got a lot of open looks," Kent said about the Oregon drought in the last six minutes. "It was just one of those times that the ball didn't go down."

Bruin forward Matt Barnes was UCLA's catalyst Thursday night, just as he was when the Ducks traveled to Los Angeles earlier this season. Barnes scored 21 points and grabbed eight rebounds, almost matching his 26-point, seven-rebound performance against the Ducks Jan. 27.

"He causes a lot of problems for us," Kent said.

UCLA forward Jason Kapono also had a good night, scoring a double-double with 20 points and 13 rebounds.

Kapono's most important shots came in the first half, when UCLA cracked open a big lead on Oregon.

The game's momentum had shifted toward Oregon when Lavin was whistled for a technical foul after arguing an out-of-bounds call. Bryan Bracey hit one of the ensuing pair of free throws, and the Ducks were unable to convert the next possession, but Mac Court was rocking all the same.

"I thought we came out a little too worked up," Kent said.

The crowd and the Ducks settled down, however, as UCLA's full-court trap forced the Ducks into sloppy play and turnovers. At the same time, the Bruins and Kapono

started to get hot on offense.

With 10:21 left in the first half and the score 17-15 UCLA, Kapono hit a three-pointer and scored four more points in the next minute-and-a-half to put the Bruins ahead for good, 26-19.

For the Ducks, Bracey scored a double-double with 21 points and 10 rebounds. Anthony Norwood pulled out of a recent slump to score 12 points and was the only other Oregon player in double figures.

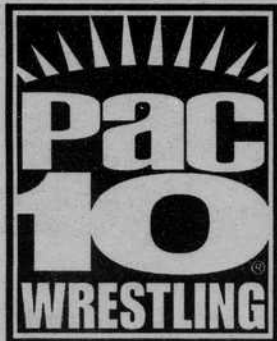
The loss puts the Ducks a step back in their postseason hopes, but the players are still optimistic about making it to the NIT.

"Tonight hurts, but there's no quit in anybody on this team," freshman Luke Jackson said.

Oregon will take on Southern California in the Ducks' last home game of the regular season Saturday at 6 p.m. on Mac Court.

Pac-10 Wrestling Championships

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Tournament Schedule

Sunday, February 25

Session I: 11:00am - 4:00pm

Session II: 6:00pm - 9:00pm

(Semifinals, Round 1 Consolation)

Monday, February 26

Session III: 11:00am - 3:00pm

(Consolation Semis and Finals)

Session IV: 6:00pm - Finals

Men

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Barnes, who ended all scoring with a monstrous windmill dunk.

The Bruins jumped out to an early 11-point lead, most of which came from layins from offensive rebounds.

"Not all of our shots were falling, but we had all those second-chance points," Gadzuric said. "I just think we had a lot of great offensive rebounding opportunities."

Six minutes into the second quarter, the Bruins had their largest lead of the game at 19 points. UCLA thought it had finally broken the Mac Court hex.

"Whenever you're up by 20 points at Oregon you're surprised,"

Lavin said. "No lead is too big at Mac Court. You know [Oregon] is going to make a run. You just hope to be able to withstand it."

That's when Oregon started a run that looked like so many other game-winning runs against UCLA teams in the past. The Bruins' corps of big men who had been so effective in the first quarter went scoreless for more than six minutes of play.

Unfortunately, the run ran out of gas.

"Their press fatigued our legs and didn't allow us to make those shots we needed," Oregon head coach Ernie Kent said. "And that's credit to their big guys and their style of play. Barnes and Kapono made a huge difference in the game."

"We ran around so much and kept throwing bodies at them," Barnes said. "We'd be controlling the ball for like 30 seconds. It takes a lot out of a team."

After starting the game strongly and dropping off in the middle, Barnes, Kapono and Gadzuric all finished the game strongly, hitting key free throws. Kapono went eight-for-nine from the free-throw line to put a dagger in Oregon's comeback hopes.

Barnes finished the game with 21 points, eight rebounds and three steals, his highest output since UCLA's 98-88 win over the Ducks on Jan. 27.

The win is only UCLA's third in the last seven years.