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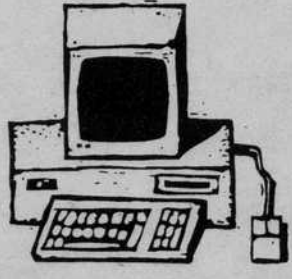
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# Oregon takes 14th in Vegas

■ Oregon wrestlers finish 14th out of 52 teams at the Las Vegas Invitational despite injuries in three weight classes

By Chris Cabot  
 Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon team wrestled their way to 14th place this weekend at the annual Cliff Keen Las Vegas Invitational in Las Vegas.

Two other Pacific-10 Conference foes placed in the top 10 at the two-day tournament that involved 52 squads from around the country: Arizona State finished fifth with 97 points, while Oregon State earned the ninth spot with 73.5 points.

No. 3 Michigan won the competition with 163 points, and West Virginia was the runner-up.

Eric Webb, Oregon's heavy-weight competitor, and 133-pound Jason Harless had the best finishes for the Ducks, both placing seventh in their respective classes. Webb had a good day Friday, winning all three of his matches and picking up his first pin of the season against Pacific's John Small 1:45 into the match. "I really think we are continuing to gain confidence and continuing to wrestle better," head coach Chuck Kearney said. "This is a chance to gain experience and prepare for the rest of the season, and I'm pleased with how we performed."

Harless was 3-1 Friday, earning two major decisions and losing only to Michigan's No. 8 Foley Dowd.

At 157, Tony Overstake was also 3-1 on the first day of the match with two major decisions and a

loss to Michigan's No. 10 Ryan Bertin.

Junior Brian Watson (141) placed eighth and Las Vegas native Eugene Harris lost in his semifinal match to Chris Vitale of Lehigh in the 165-pound class.

Three Oregon wrestlers were held out of the competition due to minor injuries in the 125, 149 and 197 weight classes.

"It's tough to come in and not have three wrestlers, but I think we are where we want to be and would have broken into the top 10 if we had a full roster," Kearney said. "We wrestled hard, but we need to capitalize on some of (our) opportunities."

The men wrestle next Dec. 12 in a dual meet at Oregon State.

Emerald sports reporter Chris Cabot can be reached at [chriscabot@dailyemerald.com](mailto:chriscabot@dailyemerald.com).

## Women's

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senior Edniesha Curry deflated the Jayhawks' momentum, allowing the Ducks to pull out to a 10-point lead, 61-51, with only 2:27 left.

"Kansas wouldn't die. They kept fighting back," Williams said. "It was a good test for us on the road, and this will make us a better team."

Senior forward Alyssa Fredrick led Oregon with 15 points and eight rebounds against the Jayhawks. The Ducks were out-rebounded by Kansas 31-29 but held the advantage in second chance points, 11-5.

On Friday, the Ducks jumped out to a quick 14-4 lead in the first half against St. John's, and saw it balloon to 47-18 by the end of the first half. Oregon opened the game by hitting four straight treys, two each by Craighead and Curry.

"We played a really good first

half," Smith said. "We kept our intensity throughout the game even though we led by a large margin. We lived up to our standards tonight."

*"We kept our intensity throughout the game even though we led by a large margin. We lived up to our standards tonight."*

Bev Smith  
 Oregon head coach

Craighead nailed her first six three-pointers en route to her game-high 20 points. As a team, Oregon was 7-of-12 from three-point range against the Red Storm in the first half, while St. John's shot 36 percent from the field.

Although the Ducks were outscored 34-28 in the second half,

Oregon's 29-point lead that resulted from their play in the first half was more than enough to get them the win, 75-52.

Oregon was 29-of-60 from the field in the game, but more important, they kept their hot shooting from beyond the arc alive. They were 11-of-23 against the Red Storm, with Curry and Williams chipping in with two of their own and freshman Kedzie Gunderson contributing with one as well.

After their win against Kansas, the Ducks have their first two-game winning streak of the season and are beginning to finally gel as a team. They return to Eugene to face Utah on Saturday at McArthur Court.

"We're starting to click and really get a rhythm — both defensively and offensively," Williams said.

Emerald sports reporter Hank Hager can be reached at [hankhager@dailyemerald.com](mailto:hankhager@dailyemerald.com).

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