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Oregon Daily Emerald SPORTS

Best Bet
Olympics: Men's hockey
3 p.m., CNBC



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Wrestlers to take on Vikings in final dual meet of season

By Chris Cabot
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon wrestling team will look to maintain the momentum from its 18-14 win over Oregon State last Wednesday when it hosts the Portland State Vikings in Oregon's final dual meet of the season at McArthur Court at 7:30 tonight.

With one more dual meet before the Pacific-10 Conference Championships, head coach Chuck Kearney's squad is looking to up its current record, which now stands at 8-7 overall and 4-4 against Pac-10 opponents.

Portland State (9-12 overall, 3-5 Pac-10) is coming off a 1-1 weekend where they defeated San Francisco State, 25-16, and lost to Stanford in a 28-9 decision.

In Oregon's first meet of the season, it defeated Stanford 29-4, and with a win today, the Ducks would extend their winning streak over the Vikings to 20 straight meets.

Following last week's Civil War, which figuratively pitted brother against brother, today's meet against Portland State literally pits two brothers against each other.

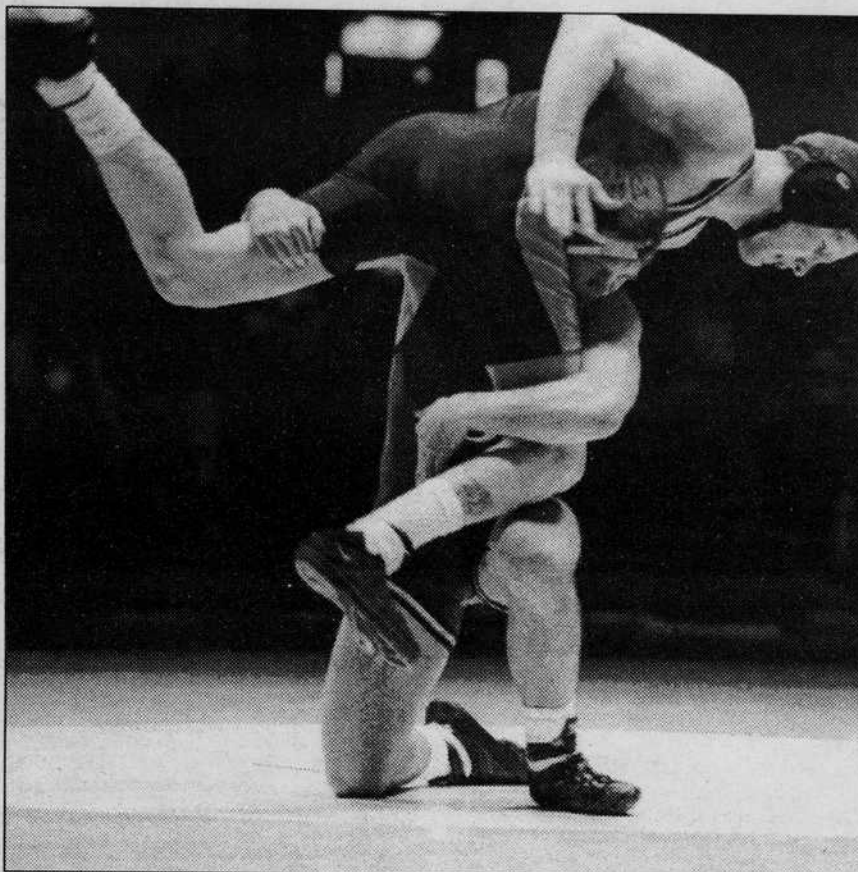
Oregon junior Jason Harless (13-5), who has been wrestling well for the Ducks lately at 133 pounds, will host his younger brother, Danny. The younger Harless is a redshirt freshman at Portland State and has compiled a 12-15 record this year at the 149-pound weight class. He will probably not start against Oregon, as sophomore Casey Banks (3-12) is listed to take on Oregon's Casey Hunt (9-8).



The Vikings are led by senior Jeremy Wilson, who is ranked No. 19 in the country at the 184-pound weight class. Wilson is 29-5 on the season, which includes 8-0 in the Pac-10, but has been hampered lately by an ailing back. He will face Oregon's Elias Soto (2-14), who has competed against some of the nation's best wrestlers in his weight class in his freshman year with the Ducks.

The weight classes on either side of Wilson have also been strong points for

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Adam Amato Emerald

Oregon junior Casey Hunt (149 pounds) lifts Oregon State's Jordan Barich in the Ducks' 18-14 victory over the Beavers last Wednesday. Oregon hosts Portland State tonight at 7:30.

In their final match before the Pacific-10 Conference Championships, the Oregon wrestling team hosts rival Portland State at Mac Court



Adam Amato Emerald

Oregon is looking to go 16-0 at home this year, thanks in large part to a raucous McArthur Court crowd.

Men shoot for undefeated home season

■ Wins against the Washington schools would make the Ducks 16-0 at Mac Court for first time in 64 years

By Peter Hockaday
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon men's basketball season is far from its finish line. The Ducks have four regular-season games left, including this weekend's games with Washington State and Washington, a Pacific-10 Conference Tournament and the NCAA Tournament waiting for them.

Then why does this weekend seem to have so much closure to it?

For one, this weekend's games mark the last home contests for six players and one student manager. For another, the Ducks (18-7 overall, 10-4 Pac-10) have a

chance to finish a home season 16-0 for the first time since 1938. Finally, Oregon will have a chance to wreak revenge on a Washington team that edged the Ducks in

Seattle, 97-92.

"There's a lot of hype surrounding this weekend," Oregon head coach Ernie Kent said at McArthur Court on Wednesday. "But it's all positive hype. This building should be alive for these basketball games."

That Mac Court atmosphere has led to an unblemished home record for the Ducks this season. Oregon has gone undefeated at home only three times, in the 1911-12, 1925-26 and 1937-38 seasons. The latter season was the only one with 16 home games. The Ducks won seven in 1911 and six in 1926.

"It's one of the miniature goals we've set for ourselves," Kent said about going 16-0. "Now that we're within two games of that, we're certainly focusing in on it."

While the home streak doesn't come close to rivaling the sheer magnitude of the football teams' Autzen Stadium streak or the recently-ended 53-game home streak of the Michigan State basketball team, it is impressive in small terms. The Oregon home streak is currently the longest in

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'I' can't be found in Kourtney Shreve

■ It's been a rough transition for junior Kourtney Shreve this season, but she says it's a team effort

By Adam Jude
Oregon Daily Emerald

About the only thing that has been the same for Kourtney Shreve this season was a half-court shot against Stanford at McArthur Court.

In Oregon's victory over Stanford on Jan. 13, 2001, Shreve drilled a half-court buzzer beater to give the Ducks momentum heading into halftime. Against the Cardinal two weeks ago, Shreve found herself in the same situation, with the ball on the far end of the court as the clock faded in the first half. This time, though, the attempt wasn't even close.

"When we played them this year, my shot was completely off, but when I got the ball, I was like, 'Oh, replay,'" Shreve said.

So goes Shreve's season.

You see, Kourtney Shreve is a junior trapped in a freshman's role.

Last year's starting point guard for the Oregon women's basketball team is averaging less than nine minutes per game this season compared to more than 20 minutes per game last year.

Two years ago, Shreve was an honorable mention on the Pac-10's all-freshman team. This year, playing on a squad with seven guards, Shreve rarely gets honorably mentioned at Mac Court.

"It's been a big adjustment," the Albany native said. "It's been harder than I thought with everything being so new this year."

"Although I did have high expectations for myself, I knew there were some people in front of me," she added. "When the opportunity comes, I just try to make the most of that."

The two points per game this season haven't fazed Shreve, who keeps her focus on the good of the team.

"What's best for the team is what I want," she said. Oregon first-year head coach Bev Smith said Shreve has been a "super role player" this year for the Ducks, who travel to Washington State on Thursday.

"She's just a positive athlete, and I know it hurts her not to play, but she understands that she has to do certain things and play a certain way to contribute in a game," Smith said. "I think Kourtney has done a great job because she's kept such a positive approach. She works hard in practices, she makes practices better and she pushes our starters."

In the last three games, when the Ducks have played their

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