

Wrestlers compete in NCAAs

■ Senior Eugene Harris earns a fourth-place finish and All-American status at the NCAA Championships

By Chris Cabot
Oregon Daily Emerald

Concluding his collegiate wrestling career, Oregon senior Eugene Harris finished in fourth place and earned the status of an All-American at the NCAA Championships.

During the weekend of March 21-23, eight members of the wrestling squad traveled to Albany, N.Y., for the tournament. Ranked as the No. 18 team in the country heading into the nationals, the Ducks came away with a 24th-place team finish.

Harris, the No. 7 seed in the tournament, began with two straight wins that advanced him to the championship quarterfinals. There he faced No. 2 seed Matt Lackey of Illinois and could not come up with the upset win, snapping his streak of 19 consecutive wins.

After that loss, Harris won two straight in the consolation bracket, which placed him in the third place match against No. 3 seed Ty-

rone Lewis of Oklahoma State. During the regular season, Lewis handed Harris a 3-2 defeat on Dec. 16, one of Harris's three losses during the regular season. Once again, Harris could not prevail, falling to Lewis 8-2, giving Harris a final season record of 33-5.

"I'm proud of Eugene and what he has done this year," Oregon head coach Chuck Kearney said. "To have only five losses with the type of schedule we had is a testament to what kind of wrestler he is."

Shaun Williams, seeded No. 8, was the other Oregon wrestler seeded in the national tournament. Leading North Carolina's Chris Rodrigues 8-5 with seven seconds remaining in the match, Williams was thrown to his back and eventually pinned with one tick remaining on the clock. A win would have assured Williams of a top-eight finish and All-American honors along with Harris.

Prior to his loss to Rodrigues, Williams was defeated 11-1 in the championship quarterfinals by the eventual national champion Steven Abas of Fresno State.

Oregon's Tony Overstake (157

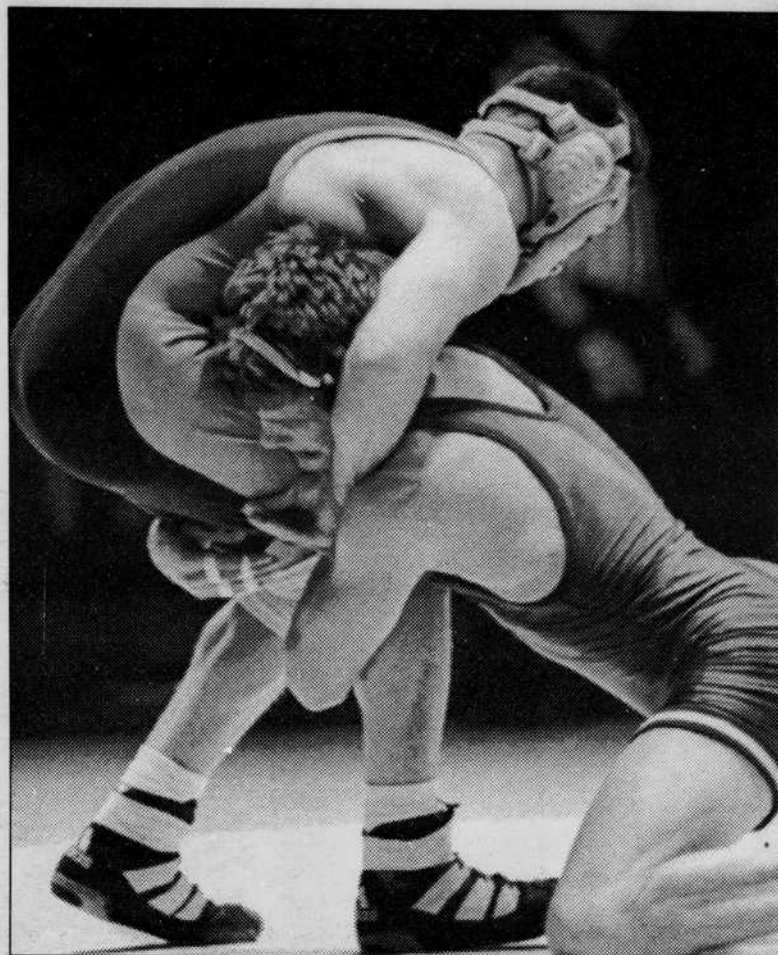
pounds) and Brian Watson (141) also advanced to the second day of the tournament but could not hang around long enough to earn top-eight honors.

Overstake earned Oregon's most decisive win of the tournament by defeating Eastern Illinois's Frank DeFillippis by a 17-1 (4:59) technical fall in his first match of the tournament. Overstake then lost to top-seeded Bryan Snyder of Nebraska, who lost in the finals to Minnesota's Luke Becker.

Watson was pitted against No. 3 seed Sean Gray of Virginia Tech in the first round and lost 5-0. In the consolation bracket, Watson defeated Stanford's Brad Metzler, 5-2, before losing to West Virginia's Shane Cunanan, 3-2, early on the second day.

Living legend Cael Sanderson from Iowa State, who was named the tournament's outstanding wrestler, completed his four-year undefeated run at the championships by winning his fourth national title. Sanderson's record of 159-0 was capped by a 12-4 major decision over Lehigh's Jon Trengre.

E-mail sports reporter Chris Cabot at chriscabot@dailyemerald.com.



Adam Amato Emerald

Senior Shaun Williams (right) was one second away from earning All-American honors at the NCAA Championships. The Oregon wrestling team came in 24th overall.

Sports briefs

Graham hired by Boise State

Oregon men's basketball assistant coach Greg Graham was hired to be the next head coach at Boise State, Bronco Athletic Director Gene Bleymaier an-

nounced Wednesday.

Graham had served as an assistant to head coach Ernie Kent for five years. This is his second head-coaching job in 20 years on the sidelines. Graham was the head coach at Western New Mexico during the 1984-85 season.

Spring practice underway

The Oregon football squad will kick off spring practice today, and the Ducks will begin the search to fill holes left by star quarterback Joey Harrington and other departed seniors.

The Ducks will practice 15

times over the next four weeks, with the practices concluding in the annual intrasquad Spring Game, held this year at PGE Park in Portland. Today's practice is scheduled for 4 p.m. but could change, according to Oregon officials.

Golfers win own tournament

The Oregon men's golf team kicked off the spring season by winning their own Oregon Invitational at the Shadow Hills Country Club in Junction City over spring break. The Ducks won by one stroke.

—Peter Hockaday

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EARN MONEY

Now accepting applications for Rec Sports softball and soccer officials. First general meeting is Thurs., April 4th, 6p.m. in Rm 63, SRC. Apply at 102 Esslinger or call 346-4113.

University of Oregon

Recreational Sports

Come out and Play!

Spring Term 2002

League	Manager Meetings	Location	Time
Softball	April 8	*SRC Multipurpose 4	4:00P.M.
Soccer	April 16	*SRC Ulrich Room	4:00P.M.
Ultimate Frisbee	April 24	*SRC Ulrich Room	4:00P.M.
4-on-4 Grass Volleyball	April 25	*SRC Ulrich Room	4:00P.M.

League	Playoff Meetings	Location	Time
Softball	May 13	*SRC Multipurpose 4	4:00P.M.
Soccer	May 14	*SRC Ulrich Room	4:00P.M.
Ultimate Frisbee	conducted via e-mail		
4-on-4 Grass Volleyball	conducted via e-mail		

Special Events	Deadline	Dates	Location
Fitness Fest		April 15-19	SRC*
Soccer Scramble	April 16	April 17 4-7:00P.M.	Southbank Field
Track Meet	TBA	TBA	Hayward Field
Golf Tournament	May 10	May 19	Tokattee Golf Course

Tournaments	Deadline	Dates	Location
Spring Tennis Classic	May 15	May 17-19	Covered Courts

For more information, stop by 102 Esslinger Hall or call 346-4113. *Student Recreation Center
Visit our Web site: <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~pars/>
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