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Ducks take one dual

Oregon splits its second day of dual meets against Menlo and Fresno State

Wrestling

Mindi Rice

Freelance Sports Reporter

Oregon had a tough Friday in California.

The Ducks wrestled two complete dual meets in six hours, beginning with a win and ending with a loss

Fresno State hosted both Oregon and Menlo College in its gymnasium, with each team wrestling the other two on Friday afternoon.

The Ducks (7-10 overall, 5-3 Pacific-10 Conference) started the day with a win over Menlo College, 31-10. Menlo, ranked No. 4 in the Coaches Poll, is an NAIA school.

Sophomore Martin Mitchell added another pin to his list. Mitchell pinned Menlo's Isaac Pumarejo at the 2:41 mark of the 125 match. The pin is Mitchell's seventh at 125 this season.

Casey Hunt had a 14-3 major decision over his Menlo opponent at 141. The senior earned his second fourpoint major decision in as many

matches. The two major decisions are also Hunt's first of his collegiate career.

Senior Tony Overstake, at 149, earned a four-point major decision over Menlo's Nickolos Saldivar, 11-2. Overstake is 7-1 in dual meet major decisions this season.

Redshirt freshman Chet McBee earned his first dual meet pin this season. McBee pinned Sean VanDerWende at the 3:45 mark of the 157 match.

Luke Larwin fought for a 3-2 decision in the 164 match. The sophomore beat Eddie Lucatero, ranked No. 7 in the NAIA at 165.

No. 11 Shane Webster earned his fifth technical fall of the season with a 25-9 defeat of Howard Falvey. Webster, at the 174 weight class, has been ranked in the poll throughout the season.

Freshman Tony Rolen won his sixth match of the season with a 4-0 decision over Jeff Dahl.

Rolen's win put the Ducks ahead 31-4. They lost the last two matches of the meet, winning the dual 31-10.

The Ducks had time to rest while Menlo and Fresno State wrestled, then Oregon stepped back on the mat to battle Fresno State.

The Ducks lost a tough match, 19-12. Oregon was ahead 12-10, but lost

the last three matches by decision to give the Bulldogs the win.

"We wrestled hard and tough, and it was an exciting match to watch," head coach Chuck Kearney said. "We just

let a couple get away from of us.' Mitchell and Overstake both won 6-3 decisions over their Bulldog opponents. Overstake improved to 18-7 on

the season at 149. Larwin earned an 11-7 decision and Webster followed with a 6-4 win. Webster is 24-4 on the season.

Redshirt junior Jason Harless, who is 15-11 on the season at 133, did not travel with the team because of a

The Ducks have a week to prepare for their next match - Civil War, part two.

In the season's first Civil War in Eugene, Oregon came from behind to win, 18-15. The Ducks were down 15-3 when Mitchell pinned his opponent. Harless, Hunt and Overstake won their matches, giving Oregon the win.

The season's second Civil War will be held in Corvallis on Sunday.

Mindi Rice is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

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"They had a great game plan," Ridnour said. "You have to give Cal credit for playing so well in Mac Court.'

After a slow first half, in which he scored just four points on 2-for-8 shooting, Tamir led the Bears' offensive barrage in the second half, finishing with 18 points. In four games against Oregon, Tamir is averaging 25.3 points per game.

Cal (16-4, 9-2) shot 68.4 percent from the field in the second half, silencing the sold-out Mac Court crowd.

"(Cal) is as good as any team in the conference," Oregon center Matt Short said. "We slowed down Tamir compared to what he usually does against us, but Wethers and Shipp were phenomenal."

After getting swept in Arizona last

week, Cal completed its sweep of Oregon and Oregon State to claim sole possession of second place in the conference, one game behind Arizona.

"(Mac Court) is one of the toughest courts in the country," Tamir said. "We're fighting for the Pac-10 title, and if you don't win here, you aren't going to win the Pac-10. Arizona did it, and we knew we needed to do it."

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Men's

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a backcourt violation on the Bears, and Ridnour hit an NBA-range three-pointer with Cal guard Richard Midgely hanging all over him. As the crowd went nuts, Ridnour then stole the ball on the next possession, and again on the possession after that in a de-pantsing of Cal's Brian Wethers on a fast break.

All that put Oregon within 10 points, but the Ducks missed shots on the next possessions, and forward Robert Johnson fouled out of the game. After another Short dunk and Ridnour trey, Oregon got within six points at 71-65 with less than three minutes left, and the Ducks started fouling. That's when the game seemed to simply slip from Oregon's grasp.

"They just hit their shots down the stretch," a visibly downtrodden Ridnour said after the game. "They're a veteran team; they know how to hit those shots. They hit their shots, we didn't, and that was the story right there.'

Ridnour led the Ducks with 19 points but fouled out of the game, the first time he's ever fouled out of a game in three years at Oregon. He also extended his record streak of

consecutive free throws to 47, the Pac-10 record for free throws in conference games only. Luke Jackson, who had 13 stitches removed from his injured right ring finger after the game, scored only nine points. Kent said Jackson's game is

still suffering from his injury. Oregon will have a week off before facing Oregon State on Saturday in Corvallis. The Bears, only one game out of first place in the Pacific-10 Conference, head home to face Washington State and Washington this week

Contact the sports editor at peterhockaday@dailyemerald.com.



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