

■ Duck wrestling

No. 16 Sun Devils survive scare, win dual 23-15

BY SCOTT J. ADAMS
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

The Oregon wrestling team gave No. 16 Arizona State a scare on Sunday as the Ducks came within eight points of pulling off one of the biggest upsets of the season in Pacific-10 Conference wrestling. The Ducks were without junior Shane Webster in the lineup and would fall 23-15 but did not go quietly as they won five of the 10 matches in the dual, which featured eight nationally ranked wrestlers.

Despite the loss, Oregon (5-7 overall, 2-5 Pac-10) head coach Chuck Kearney was impressed with the way his squad wrestled.

"I feel a lot better about how we wrestled today than how we've wrestled in the past few competitions," Kearney said. "Arizona State is the No. 1 team in the conference and winning half of the matches against them without Shane Webster helps us feel like we can close the gap."

The dual started in the 125-pound weight class as Joey Lucas of

Oregon faced No. 10 Jeremy Mendoza. Mendoza recorded two take-downs and a reversal en route to defeating Lucas 8-3.

Oregon struck back in the next two matches as juniors Martin Mitchell (133) and Skyler Woods (141) won by decision over John Espinoza and Curtis Ray, respectively.

"Skyler wrestled as good as he has all year," Kearney said. "He is eager to get some more matches under his belt and continue to improve."

The next match featured No. 10 Patrick Williams of Arizona State (7-6-1, 4-0) as he faced redshirt freshman Nate Gipson. Gipson couldn't keep up with Williams and lost in a major decision, 19-7. The Sun Devils added to their lead in the next match as No. 15 Brian Smith pinned Stewart Bogart (157) with 51 seconds left in the first round.

The Ducks trailed 13-6 going into the 165-pound match which pitted Oregon's No. 17 Joey Bracamonte against freshman Patrick Pitsch. The match made for a slugfest as

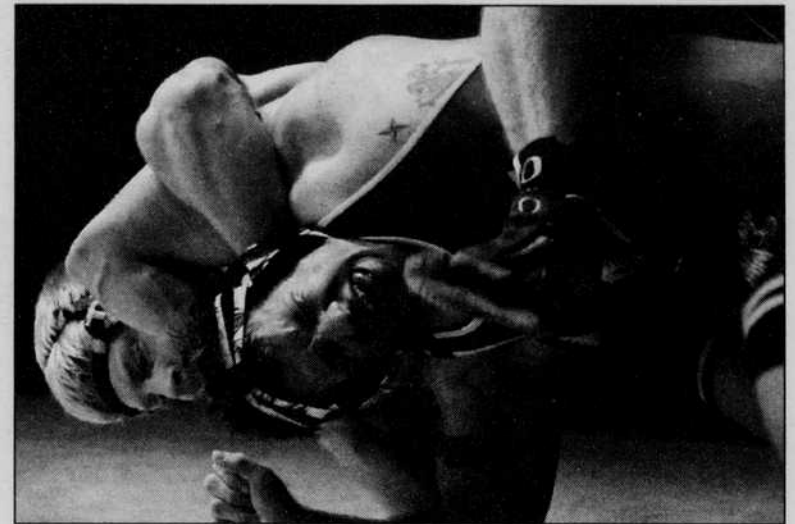
Bracamonte's point for advantage time earned him a 3-2 win.

Junior Chet McBee (174) of Oregon filled in for injured Webster and wrestled Rick Renzi. McBee held a 4-3 lead late in the third round and protected it to mark a 5-3 win.

The Ducks trailed the Sun Devils 13-12 going into the 184-pound match. Arizona State pulled away, however, as No. 11 C.B. Dollaway pinned Tony Roland of Oregon with 1:08 left in the first round.

The 197-pound match was the main event of the afternoon as No. 5 Scott Barker of Oregon squared off against No. 7 Ryan Bader. Despite their close rankings, Barker made easy work of Bader and recorded a 7-0 shutout decision.

The Sun Devils led 19-15 and needed only for their heavyweight wrestler, No. 4 Cain Velasquez, not to lose by major decision to Oregon's Chris Dearmon in order to win. Velasquez had little trouble etching a 10-2 victory over Dearmon, which sealed the win for Arizona State.



ERIK R. BISHOFF | PHOTOGRAPHER

Oregon's Scott Barker, ranked No. 5 nationally, wraps up Arizona State's Ryan Bader, ranked No. 7, in his 7-0 victory over the two-time Pac-10 champion in the 197-pound class. However, the Ducks lost the dual 23-15.

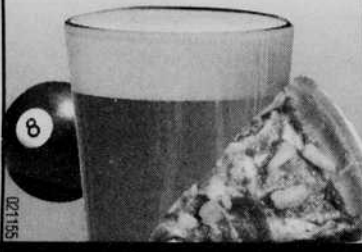
On Friday, Oregon split two duals with Cal State Fullerton and Stanford. The Ducks lost to the Titans 29-12, but edged the Cardinal 22-21.

The Ducks travel to the Sooner State this weekend to tangle with No. 6 Oklahoma Friday and No. 1 Oklahoma State Saturday.



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Women: UO hits nine of 13 three-pointers

Continued from page 9

didn't expect me to shoot the outside shots," Bills said. "Inside I was trying to be really aggressive and take it to the basket hard."

Oregon, which never trailed in the contest, expanded its lead with a 13-3 run in the middle of the first half.

A 15-2 streak that started in the final minute of the first half and spanned five minutes into the second half resulted in a 58-32 lead, Oregon's largest of the game. USC revived itself with a 12-0 streak to come within 14 points, but it never got any closer.

The Ducks recorded season-highs in shooting percentage at .617 (29-of-47) and three-point percentage at .692 (9-of-13). USC shot 34 percent (23-of-67) for the game.

"I think we're a good team, and we're starting to realize how good we can be," Kraayeveld said. "We have to play with that every night."

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Men: Haryasz's 20 points, 20 boards lift Cardinal

Continued from page 9

grabbed 20 rebounds. The junior hit eight of his first 10 shots and beat Oregon post players to seemingly every loose ball.

"It was a bad, bad performance for us," Oregon head coach Ernie Kent told 590 KUGN after the game. "Stanford played a great first half."

Oregon once again played like a team with no leadership. Kent has repeatedly said the Ducks need sophomore point guard Aaron Brooks and junior forward Ian Crosswhite to play well in order to be successful.

Brooks had another off night, finishing with 11 points, two turnovers and no assists in 24 minutes. The Seattle native came off the bench for the first time this season after being tardy to the pregame dinner, Kent told the Associated Press.

Crosswhite continued his season-long slump, finishing with five points on 2-of-7 shooting and committed two turnovers in 19 minutes.

"You look around the league and the guys who are carrying their teams are veterans," Kent said. "We're not doing that for some reason."

"When it was Freddie's (Jones) turn, he took over. When it was (Luke) Ridnour's turn, he took over. When it was Luke Jackson's turn, he took over," Kent said, referring to the three former Oregon standouts. "It's (Brooks' and Crosswhite's) turn to take it over and they're not doing it. They're leaving the young guys hanging."

"It's good to have good character and great guys. But when it comes game time, you have to bring it."

ERNIE KENT |

Oregon head basketball coach

Freshman guard Bryce Taylor continued to struggle to shoot the ball, connecting on only one of 11 field goal attempts. The Encino, Calif., native is now 3-of-25 in Oregon's last three games, including 1-of-9 from three-point range.

Taylor had been taking anti-inflammatory for a right-knee injury he suffered against Arizona on

Jan. 20, but said it had not been affecting his shooting.

Malik Hairston continued his solid play of late, scoring 19 points on 9-of-12 shooting and grabbed a team-high seven rebounds. The freshman has scored in double figures five straight games.

Chamberlain Oguchi finished with 12 points in 12 minutes for the Ducks, while Ray Schafer added six points.

Stanford had four players finish in double figures, including Haryasz's 20 points. Hernandez dropped 19 points and connected on four of seven three-pointers, Dan Grunfeld scored 14 points, while Rob Little finished with 10 points.

Next up for Oregon is a trip to Oregon State on Saturday.

Kent said the Ducks need to turn up their intensity level in order to improve during the second half of the Pac-10 season.

"It's good to have good character and great guys," Kent said. "But when it comes game time, you have to bring it."

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