

*"Now, because of the potential fines, my kids won't get Christmas stockings."*

Seattle Seahawks coach Mike Holmgren who faces possible fines after stating that the NFL admitted officiating mistakes in Sunday's win over the New York Giants

■ Duck wrestling

## Top ten wrestlers lead team to success

*Seniors Shane Webster and Joey Bracamonte have helped keep Oregon consistent this season*

BY SPENCER CRUM  
FREELANCE REPORTER

Consistency is the main ingredient for the Duck wrestlers' success, and they have served it up with three straight strong performances.

The end of November marks the end of the Ducks' tournaments, in which they performed strong every weekend. Oregon senior wrestlers Shane Webster and Joey Bracamonte are now ranked among the top 10 in the nation.

Webster, ranked by Amateur Wrestling News as No. 7 for 184-pound wrestlers, has already begun the campaign for a national title and is currently undefeated (11-0) with five of those victories coming by major decision. Webster has wrapped up three titles already, winning the 184-pound titles at the Cowboy Open, the Best of the West Tournament and the Mat Town Classic.

"Shane had another great tournament," Oregon coach Chuck Kearney said. "He continues to wrestle at a very high level and looks as focused and determined as ever."

Bracamonte is ranked 10th in the nation in the 165-pound weight class, according to the same publication. This before he saw his first action of the season at the Mat Town Classic in Lock Haven, Penn., and came away with a title.

Bracamonte, who has missed the first two tournaments of the season with an injury returned and looked like he was in top-form as he opened his senior season with a 13-4 defeat of Matt Marquart a Lock Haven native. Bracamonte then took down Jake Blowers of Buffalo. Finally, Bracamonte used two straight decisions, the last one a 6-5 score against Buffalo's Mickey Moran to claim the title.

With Oregon's top two Ducks ranked in the top 10, fans have a lot to look forward to.

"While I wouldn't discount the early season ranking of those two, it is the ranking come March, after the NCAA Championship Tournament, that means more to myself and to the two of them," Kearney said. "I believe that the rankings are an important reflection of national respect on the two of them and on this program, which is significant in many areas." The Ducks have been gaining attention with every match and their seniors' showings.

Skyler Woods continues to show his value and came away with a second-place finish at 141 pounds at the Mat Town Classic. He looks to join Webster and Bracamonte to provide an unbeatable core of Kearney's budding program.

The Ducks had 10 wrestlers finish in the top eight for the Mat Town Classic, including third-place finishes by Justin Pearch and Martin Mitchell, at 133 and 141 pounds, respectively. Oregon's heavyweight, Chris Dearmon, was solid and earned a third-place finish.

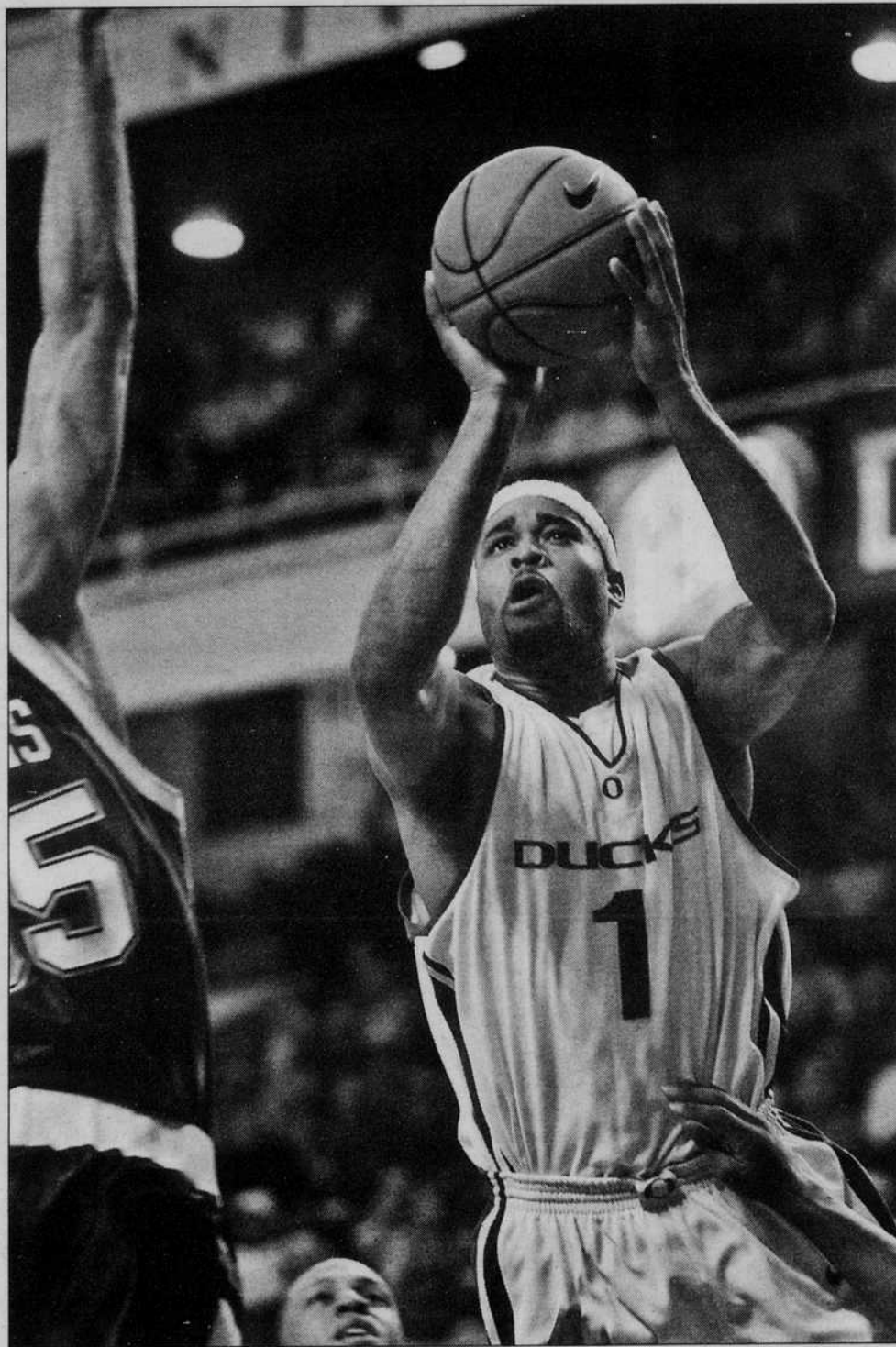
Oregon grappled with University of Indiana, and finished tied for second with University at Buffalo. The teams were in championship matches in most weight classes.

The Ducks have the week off as they recover from three tournaments in as many weeks. The Ducks head north to Corvallis on Dec. 9, where they will square off with Oregon State in the Civil War. The meeting is the first of two for the Ducks and Beavers as they will also meet in Eugene on Feb. 10.

After the Ducks meet with Oregon State, they will prepare for the Reno Tournament of Champions.

■ Men's basketball

## Ducks hope to rebound after tough loss



NICOLE BARKER | SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Malik Hairston shoots in a recent game against Rice. Hairston scored a career-high 25 points and grabbed 10 rebounds Wednesday during a 76-75 loss at Vanderbilt.

*Following a heartbreaking first loss, Oregon plays today at noon against the Georgetown Hoyas*

BY LUKE ANDREWS  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Oregon Ducks (4-1) will attempt to put past heartbreak aside Saturday when Georgetown (2-1) invades McArthur Court at noon for the final game of the Hispanic College Fund Classic.

Oregon, which lost its first game of the season in dramatic fashion last Wednesday at Vanderbilt when Mario Moore connected on a three-pointer at the buzzer to give the Commodores a 76-75 victory, will now set its sights on the Hoyas in the first ever meeting between the two schools.

The Ducks are returning home to play their fifth game at McArthur Court this season.

It appeared Oregon would escape Nashville last Wednesday and return to Eugene with an undefeated record when, with the game tied at 73, point guard Aaron Brooks banked in a driving layup to put Oregon in front with 3.3 seconds remaining.

But Moore's desperation runner changed that for the Ducks, who had won their previous four games by an average of 32.75 points per game — albeit against lower-caliber teams.

Oregon expected facing perimeter-oriented Vanderbilt on the road to be its biggest test thus far, and the Commodores delivered, shooting 76 percent from the field in the second half and 80 percent from three-point range to spark a 17-5 run late in the game.

Despite the loss, many positives emerged for Oregon. Sophomore guard Malik Hairston posted a career-high 25 points and the Ducks were in position to win the game in a hostile environment (12,626 at Memorial Gym). Oregon led 35-30 at halftime and 53-43 midway through the second half, mostly without the inside presence of newcomer Ivan Johnson, who played only 15 minutes due to foul trouble. He finished with a season-low two points.

"You are coming through an arena where a team (Vanderbilt) has won 27 straight non-conference games and you come in here and battle your tails off," Oregon coach Ernie Kent said following Wednesday's loss. "(Oregon) is going to be a very good basketball team. They feel terrible in there right now. It's unfortunate it took a hail mary shot at the buzzer to beat them in this environment."

Oregon has a chance to erase the memory Saturday against another quality opponent.

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■ Club wushu

## A Self Taught Master

*Coach Phillip Dang will travel to Hanoi, Vietnam to compete in the Wushu World Championships*

BY WILL SEYMOUR  
FREELANCE REPORTER

While most students will still be relaxing after a demanding term, Oregon student Phillip Dang will be facing an entirely different type of test. Dang is one of 10 Americans and among 800 athletes worldwide selected to participate in the Eighth Wushu World Championships Dec. 8-15 in Hanoi, Vietnam.

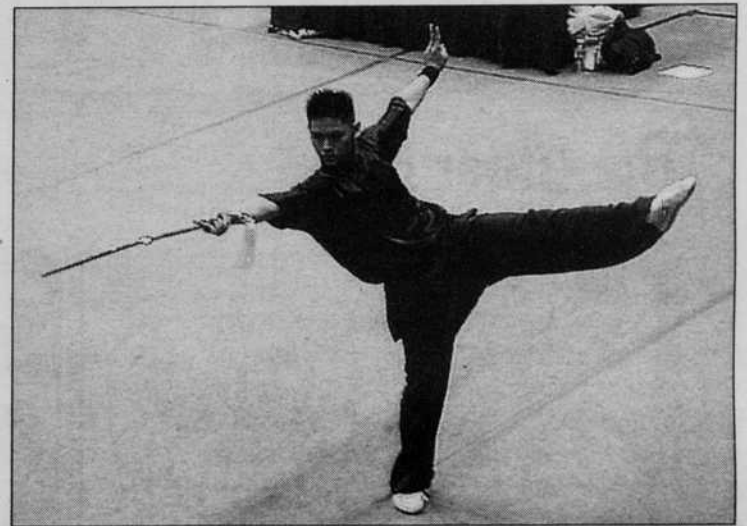
Wushu, commonly known in America as kung-fu, is routine-based when used in competition. An emphasis is placed on athletic ability, especially the speed of the routine as well as the height of the various jumps. The jumps in the routine make up 20 percent of a

competitor's overall score, with the remainder awarded for presentation and technique.

"There are lots of punch-kicks and sweeps; we mimic self-defense and attacking with an athletic twist," Dang said.

Dang took a chance to prove his skills at the United States Wushu Team Trials this summer. More than 100 athletes from across the country traveled to Virginia trying to make the 10-person team — five men and five women — that would make the trip to Vietnam for the World Championships held once every two years.

At the trials, the entrants completed routines in three categories: Empty-handed, short weapon



COURTESY

Oregon student Phillip Dang competes at a 2003 Chinese martial arts tournament in Berkeley, Calif. Dang will be competing in the Eighth Wushu World Championships Dec. 8-15 in Hanoi, Vietnam.

and long weapon. Their efforts were scored by a panel of 10 judges on a scale of 0-10. The athletes were given only one attempt at each event, and to increase the pressure, the judges were empowered to enforce deductions as small as

one-hundredth of a point.

Dang received a score of 9.0 in the empty-handed event and followed that with marks of 9.2 with a sword in the short weapon portion and 9.21 with a staff in the long weapon

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