

# Stirring second half comeback earns 68-60 NCAA tournament win for Ducks

By PAUL HANSON  
Emerald Sports Writer

Oregon's come-from-behind Ducks managed to survive the onslaught of a 6-7 center named George Knighton and some erratic refereeing to make up a seven-point half-time deficit and down New Mexico State 68-60 for the right to an NCAA playoff berth in Seattle tonight.

**THE GAME**, played before a paltry crowd of 2,109 at neutral Gill Coliseum Wednesday night—one of the smallest turnouts ever to see a college basketball game at the Coliseum—saw the Ducks jump off to an early 5-4 lead on the strength of baskets by Dale Herron and Bill Simmons plus a free throw by Chuck Rask.

But the Aggies, not to be denied, soon turned the tables as the Ducks hit a cold spell, and raced to a quick 14-5 advantage. Leading this successful barrage on the Webfoot goal was New Mexico's big (6-7, 225 lbs.) center George Knighton, who until he fouled out with a little over seven minutes left in the game, was the outstanding player on the court with his great rebounding and daring hooks and jump shots.

**KNIGHTON IN THE** first five minutes of the game pumped in 11 points, and with help from tricky guard Vincent Knight, and center Billy Jo Price, it looked as if the Aggies were going to run the tense and cold-shooting Webfoots right off the court.

However, the Ducks, who appeared to be trying too hard to

win this important game, tightened up their defense, and with some excellent shooting and rebounding by Simmons and Rask, slowly got back into the contest. Warren tipped one in with eight minutes gone to give Oregon the lead again, 15-14, but Gerald Robinson of the Aggies arched a 20-footer and New Mexico grabbed the lead for the next 20 minutes.

**AT THE HALF** the score was 34-27, and Knighton immediately made it 36-27 for the Aggies at the start of the second half. No other Aggie scored for the next nine minutes, as Knighton and Oregon's Dale Herron matched

baskets for nine points apiece, and Simmons and Denny Strickland moved Oregon to within one point—46-45 with 11 minutes gone in the half.

Dale Herron then dropped in a free throw to tie it up, but Billy Jo Price added two gifters and the Aggies grabbed the lead again. Vincent Knight and Charlie Warren traded baskets, and then Denny Strickland drove for two fast break lay-ins, and the Ducks had the lead for keeps, 50-48.

**MOMENTS LATER**, with Oregon leading 53-48, Knighton fouled out and the Aggies seemed to

wilt without his needed shooting and rebounding.

In the closing minutes, Oregon  
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## Freshman cagers close out year with 8-6 mark

By RON BUEL  
Emerald Sports Writer

The Oregon Frosh cagers, although they dropped a pair of tough contests with the OSC Rooks last weekend, finished the year with a winning record of 8-6.

In fourteen games, the Ducklings scored 987 points while holding their opponents to 883. This gave Phil McHugh's hoopers a 70.5 point per game average and their opposition a 63.1 average.

**NOT ONLY** did the Frosh function well as a team, they had outstanding individual performances from several men, despite the fact only three were on scholarships.

Gordon Scott, Ralph Rittenour, Tom Tuttle, Lloyd Robinson and Larry Kincheloe all received valuable experience, and are top prospects for next year's varsity.

Pacing the freshman club in scoring was the big center, Gordy Scott, who led in free throws, field goals, total points, and points per game. He was followed by Tom Tuttle, in field goals, total points and average per game. Larry Kincheloe was first in free throw percentage, hitting 17 for 22.

Scott scored 213 points for a 15.2 average per game. His high night was against the Rooks, Friday night, when he dropped in 27 points, although the Frosh lost by two points.

**FOLLOWING** are the final individual point totals:

Gordon Scott	51	70	81	213	15.2
Tom Tuttle	33	48	73	174	12.4
Ralph Rittenour	43	64	62	167	11.9
Lloyd Robinson	20	29	32	84	6.0
Larry Kincheloe	17	22	26	77	5.5
Pete Peterson	17	31	22	66	4.7
Jim Endicott	8	15	15	38	2.7
Jim Blanton	13	19	10	33	2.4
Don Peck	14	26	4	22	1.6
Tom Smythe	0	2	3	7	0.5
Jerry Eckhart	0	3	2	4	0.3

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