

UCLA Outstanding but Beatable

By PHIL SEMAS
Emerald Sports Editor

UCLA can be beaten.

You don't believe it, huh?

Well, listen to Oregon assistant coach Phil McHugh who scouted the Bruins at the Los Angeles Classic.

"If you follow your plans and keep your poise and don't get careless, their press shouldn't be that devastating," says McHugh.

McHugh is the first to acknowledge that the Bruins are a great team. He saw them demolish Minnesota and Arizona in Los Angeles and knows how good they are.

"The press is big threat but if you don't let it scare you out, you can stay with them," added McHugh.

And listen to Steve Belko. "Any team can beat any other if they have the right plan and follow it," says the Webfoot mentor, "that's what makes college basketball such a good game."

So that's what Belko has been doing this week, giving his charges the plan and tell them not to be scared out by the Bruins before the two teams meet.

The Ducks must also shoot

well, avoid ball handling errors, and keep the Bruins on their toes on defense. But most of all they must avoid losing their poise, even if they miss shots and commit ball-handling errors.

Meanwhile, ticket sales have been going great guns (the Athletic Department estimates a turnout of from 8,000 to 10,000) and most people are sounding the death-knell for Oregon and admiring UCLA's prowess.

UCLA is good. There's no question about that.

"They have exceptional speed, good shooting, and they can rebound," says McHugh. And there's not much else you need to have for a great basketball team.

UCLA's full court zone press and their "fastest breaks" are well known among college coaches. McHugh explains it this way: "Offensively they rely a lot on the break. Their half court offense is good but the two parts of the game they really excel in are the press and the fast break."

Press Aids Break

These two strategies complement each other well. "They use the press to keep the tempo fast all the time," says McHugh, "and that helps the break."

UCLA has the speed and the personnel to fit this kind of offense, too. Here are McHugh's impressions of the Bruins' sturdy seven:

- Guard Gail Goodrich: "He's real quick, a good shooter with a good outside shot but doesn't rely on it too much."

- Guard Fred Goss: "A good shooter, real quick, likes the outside shot more than the inside."

- Center Doug McIntosh: "6'6", "Strong, good on the boards, does most of his scoring on the boards."

- Forward Keith Erickson: "A real good shooter as well as a good board man. He's possibly their best outside shot."

- Edgar Lacey, the 6'6" sophomore forward: "Best leaper on the ballclub, tough inside, likes to work inside, good quickness, plays in the front line on the press."

- Kenny Washington, college

But the first order of business is UCLA.

Belko says he has a plan, though he won't say what it is, and the Ducks showed in the Far West Classic that they are a pretty good basketball team.

And a pretty good team that has a plan and keeps to it can beat UCLA.

USC's Tough, Too

With all the hullabaloo about UCLA most everyone — except probably Belko and his team — is forgetting about USC.

The Trojans bring the PAC's number two rated team to Eugene Saturday night. McHugh also saw them in Los Angeles and calls them "a good strong team."

Allen Young, a 6'5" All-PAC forward, leads the Trojans. He's typical of the USC club, says McHugh. "He's real aggressive, strong. He's a good rebounder, too. He reminds me a little of Purdue's Dave Schellhase."

The Trojans have a strong front line. Bill Westfall, a 6'5½" junior forward who McHugh calls "kind of a scrambler who gets a lot of loose balls" is paired with Young at forward.

Block at Center

The center is John Block. The 6'9" pivot man "uses more strength than finesse," according to McHugh, but he rebounds well and is an adequate shot.

The guards, John Bacon, and Tony Oddo, are still learning but are potentially pretty good.

USC will be tough.

Bowlers to Face Eugene All-Stars

Oregon's nationally famous bowling team will open winter term's action this weekend with two matches.

Saturday, Oregon's first team will take on the Oakridge All-Stars in an exhibition match at the Oakridge Bowl, beginning at 7 p.m.

The first in a series of six matches with the New Car Classic League All-Stars will get under way Sunday at Fairfield Lanes at 3 p.m.

Lou Bellissimo's top ten bowlers will meet the top ten men from the Eugene loop, which boasts the highest league average, 197, on the West Coast.

Total pins for the six matches will determine the winners. Last year, the Oregon varsity came out on top while the junior varsity was edged by the all-star second team.

Lineups for Oregon Sunday will be: varsity, Bill Starens, Dennis Murphy, Andy Smith, Ron Babjar and Jim Bradbury; junior varsity, Larry Kraft, Larry Bell, Jim Susbauer, Tom Brendgord and Jim Parker.

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What's Happening

Friday

Basketball—UCLA, 8 p.m., here
Frosh basketball — Clark JC, 5:30 p.m., here
Wrestling—Washington, there

Saturday

Basketball—USC, 8 p.m., here
Frosh basketball — Clark JC, 5:30 p.m., here

Swimming—Oregon Senior Championships, 7 p.m., Leighton Pool

Wrestling—Western Washington, there.

Sunday

Swimming—Oregon Senior Championships, 7 p.m., Leighton Pool.

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Senior Swimming Title Meet Set

The Oregon Senior AAU Swimming Championships will be held this weekend at Leighton Pool.

Preliminaries will be held Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m. with finals those same days at 7 p.m.

Oregon, Oregon State, and the Multnomah Athletic Club will be the leading teams. The Ducks and Beavers have also entered their freshman teams.

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