

Ducks blasted in Pac-8 openers

Cagers leveled by UCLA 93-64

By BEN KALB
Of the Emerald

College basketball fans are still looking for their "David," but as far as Steve Belko is concerned, UCLA's Goliaths will not falter. After the game, Belko bluntly said, "I don't know who can beat them. . . It has to be someone in the NBA. They have the best front line I've ever seen in college basketball and against us it was just a case of a bunch of young kids getting shell shocked."

Belko's Webfoots, like numerous other teams in the past, were completely "psyched out" by Lew Alcindor and his friends. Alcindor led his teammates to a 93-64 trouncing over the local Ducks before over 10,500 fans at Mac Court.

Belko, too, had praise for the 7-1½ senior. "Alcindor is all over the court. He's like a cat. He intimidates you. We had good shots, but with Lew out there we were tense."

Oregon Tense

Indeed, the sophomore stacked team was tense from the opening tip. John Vallely, junior college transfer, sank an eight-foot jumper from the corner to give the Westwood Wonders a lead they never surrendered.

The Bruins played their usual style of ball, using a fast break and a well-polished sharp-shooting offense. Alcindor, Vallely and sophomore Curtis Rowe paced the Bruins during the first half thereby providing little hope for a Webfoot comeback.

UCLA extended their lead to as many as 31 points in the first half, before taking a 54-26 lead into the dressing room. Rowe shot 5-6 to pace the visitors with 14 points at half.

Alcindor Hits 27

The second half was just a continuation of the first. With Love and Holliday in foul trouble, the Bruins kept feeding Alcindor and when the superstar left the court, he paced all scorers with 27 points.

Oregon, because of many turnovers, fell behind by as many as 41 points before Bruin Coach John Wooden started to clear his bench with nine minutes remaining in the game.

The bright highlights for the Ducks, in an otherwise disappointing game, were Holliday and sophomore 5-9 Carlton Slater. Slated, who had to fill in for the flu-ridden Billy Gaskins, was the sparkplug in getting past the Bruins' full court press. In fact, one fan even noted, "He looks like O. J. Simpson. He finds a hole and goes through."

Holliday was given the assignment of covering Alcindor and did a credible job considering his 11 inch height disadvantage.

Love Scores 18

Besides Alcindor, the visitors were paced by Rowe and Vallely with 16 and 14 and front line sophomore Sidney Wicks with 11. Oregon's scoring was led by Love with 18, before he fouled out, Holliday with 11 and forward Bill Drozdiak with 12.

UCLA shot a .505 range from the floor, while the losers hit for only .431. Oregon was out-rebounded 50-44.

After the game winning Coach Wooden would not concede that this is the finest team he has coached. "They will have to improve some, before they can match last year's squad," said the five-time NCAA champion mentor. In defense of Oregon's team, Wooden said, "the loss of Gaskins definitely hurt them."

The Bruins returned to their Westwood campus with their perfect record (11-0) still intact. The Ducks returned to their campus looking toward next week and college basketball fans returned to their homes still wondering when David will slay Goliath.

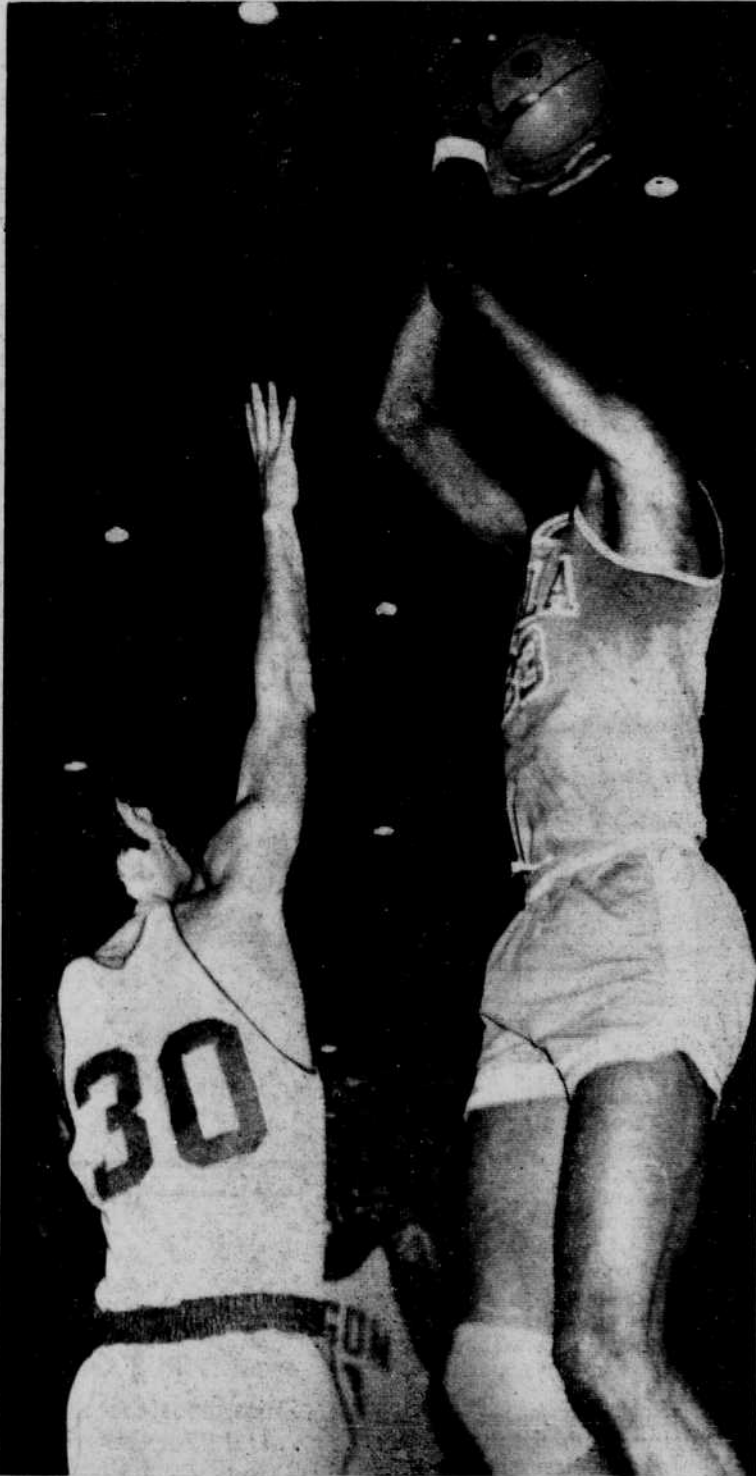


Photo by Dean Brickey

7-1½ FORWARD LEW ALCINDOR
Jim Henry Tries to Defend Against UCLA "Goliath"

Frosh defeat OCE, Portland

Coach Frank Arnold's Frosh troops worked around an 18-point halftime bulge and went on to crush the Oregon College of Education JV's, 100-66 Friday night at Mac Court, before returning to the same scene Saturday evening to bury the University of Portland Frosh, 93-75.

The Ducklings in rolling to the one-sided victories Friday and Saturday maintained their unbeaten skein, which now numbers seven triumphs.

All 13 Ducks who suited up for Friday's game entered the scoring column, with a four-man double figure parade leading the way. Guard Ken Strand's 22 paced Oregon scorers, while Rusty Blair's 16, Steve Shaw's 14 and Mark Bailey's 13 tallies were right behind.

Portland fell back, 8-0 as the Frosh hit its first four attempts from the field Saturday. The Pilots called time out with 18:25 remaining in the first half to try and snap the Oregon momentum, but by then it was already too late.

The Ducklings continued to pull away from their guests, storming to leads of 16 and 17 points throughout the opening 12 minutes. But the Pilots caught fire with just over seven minutes left and edged within five points on several occasions before the Oregon Frosh could again get going. At intermission it was 53-42 for the Lemon and Green.

Steve Shaw's 22 points led the balanced Duckling offense. Shaw was followed by Ken Strand with 15, Rusty Blair with 14, and Mark Bailey and Bobby Moore with 10 apiece.

USC tops Webfoots

By STAN HORTON
Of The Emerald

Oregon had trouble and shooting seemed to be the problem.

The Ducks, trying to bounce back from their Friday loss to UCLA, had real problems from the floor and the foul line as the lost to USC, 86-75, in Saturday night action.

The Ducks were behind from the start as USC jumped to a 10-2 lead in the first two minutes. Oregon's first field goal did not come until Stan Love hit an eight-foot jumper with 16:50 left.

And then it seemed that everything Oregon threw to the hoop hit the rim and slid off. The Ducks could manage to make only 11 of 30 shots in the first half and 26 of 67 for the game.

USC, meanwhile, converted half of their shots (27-54) to take their first Pac-8 conference win of the season. They led by as much as 14 points during the first half but staved off a late Oregon rally to maintain a 39-31 edge at halftime.

The Ducks hit five straight shots from the field, one of the few times they hit consistently during the entire game, to pull within six at 35-29 but USC hit two field goals to maintain their lead.

Oregon shooting did not pick up in the second half although they were able to convert 14 of 17 free throws to offset somewhat their bad showing from the field.

Oregon began to move during the final minutes when Gaskins connected on a lay-in and a jump shot to put Oregon to within three at 50-47. But USC used their press and great shooting to take a comfortable lead and coast to victory.

Stan Love had to be the Webfoots' biggest disappointment of the night as he connected on only two of 15 shots from the floor and two of nine from the free throw line.


Although still weak from his bout with the flu, Billy Gaskins still put in a creditable performance as he led Oregon scorers with 19 points. Gaskins played most of the first half and much

of the second and looked exhausted when he finally left the game with Oregon still behind.

Oregon Coach Steve Belko commented that "Gaskins ran out of gas. I guess he's still having dizzy spells. He just couldn't go anymore."

Belko added that Oregon as a team "played very loose basketball. They (USC) shot awfully well the first half (.552) and we had to go get 'em. USC has fine talent and they're all very quick."

Oregon now stands 0-2 in conference play and 6-5 for the year. The Ducks take on the winless University of Portland Pilots in a Tuesday night game in Portland and face Washington State in a Saturday afternoon TV game in Pullman.



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