

Frosh basketball retrospect; 'a good year, good team

By JIM HUNTER
Of the Emerald

In the realm of sports jargon, when a coach says his basketball team is going to be "mediocre to good" you can expect 20 or more wins. Coaches are just prone to gross understatement.

But the next time Coach Jim Dietz says one of his teams is going to be merely "mediocre to good" you'd better believe that's the caliber squad he has.

Dietz contended that this year's Frosh basketball team was, at best, "good;" not a squad that would go undefeated or even win 22, like the 1969-70 version.

And strangely enough he was right.

For the first half of the season the Frosh were averaging 104.2 points a game and had won 11 of 12. Then with a 12-1 record the Ducklings proceeded to lose 6 of their last 11 games on the way to a 17-7 record.

Not only did their scoring drop off 18 points a game in the second half but their points allowed increased ten, from 77.1 to 87.1.

Dietz felt it was the double losses to Oregon State in the middle of the season that set off the dismal chain of events.

"When OSU took it to us (106-92 and 97-84) we lost confidence in what we had been doing. And after they beat us everyone else thought we could be taken."

And they were. By teams like the Portland State Frosh, who they had previously dumped by 29 points and Clark College, who they had beaten by 8 points.

"But," as Dietz continued, "we came back tougher at the end and beat the Washington Frosh by three after being down by 17 at the half. We also took OSU in the last game of the season, holding them to only 58 points."

"More importantly, the team may have lost confidence but they didn't give up. Paul Sunderland played with an injured foot, Billy (Ingram) had a bad ankle and Jim Bristol had tendonitis in one knee. But they all played."

And as coaches are also prone to do, and Jim Dietz is no exception, post-season plaudits are bestowed.

"Individually, Billy had just a fantastic season. He had to carry us. We asked a great deal of him and he responded extremely well."

"Paul Sunderland is an exceptional shot. Anyone who can have 11 for 11 and 8 for 8 games has to have promise."

Dietz also praised three Ducklings on their improved play over the course of the season.

Tennis squad meets Beavers

Oregon's tennis squad, 0-5 on the season, will travel to Corvallis this Friday for a match with the Beavers. The match is scheduled for 3:00 p.m.

Coach Buzz Summers' squad lost to a highly-touted Seattle University team 7-2 last week with Brian Boucher and Brad Look picking up the only points for the Ducks. They each posted wins in the single matches. Look was competing in his first varsity action ever as he out-pointed his opponent 6-1 and 6-1.

RESULTS: 0-5

Oregon 4, Chico State 5
Oregon 3, Alpine Hills 6
Oregon 1, California 8
Oregon 0, Stanford 9
Oregon 2, Seattle 7

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"Eldridge (Broussard) was great one-on-one when he came here but he learned to pass-off and improved his defense also."

"Paul Halupa had to make an adjustment as his outside shot alone wouldn't carry him. Towards the end he was really driving. And Bruce Posey was the most improved player by far. He just improved overall."

Rather than individual heroics, the one aspect of the team that impressed Dietz most was that it was "the most unselfish ball club I've ever had. No one complained when I took someone out and put someone else in. That's real class."

Considering the tallest player on the squad was only 6'6", to top 100 points ten times and average 96.5 points a game was an accomplishment. That can be attributed to a sometimes shoddy, but usually effective, fastbreak and to "the real battling we did for that ball."

Ingram broke the Frosh single-season rebounding record,

Ducks beat OCE by 4-2

The Oregon Ducks scored a 4-2 baseball victory over visiting Oregon College of Education Wednesday behind the 10-strikeout pitching of senior Rick Mealey. Bill Lawrence had two hits for the Ducks, and scored the deciding run in the fifth inning when he tripled and came across on a wild pitch.

Oregon hosts the University of Portland today in a 1 p.m. doubleheader at Howe Field. Rich Haderer and Rich Zeider are scheduled to pitch.

hauling down 329, besting by eight the total established last season by Doug Little. Ingram also scored 521 points, second on the all-time Frosh scoring list behind Stan Love's 561. The 6'4" forward averaged 21.7 points a game and scored 30 or more points on five occasions with a high of 39 points.

Paul Halupa, who scored 380 points, ended up ninth on the all-time scoring list.

"While I don't know if the other two basketball coaches agree with me I feel," explained Dietz, "the most important aspect of athletics is attitude improvement and the maturing Freshman athlete's go through. In this aspect I am very pleased."

"Record-wise the team can be very proud of what they did. With the height we had—to score the way we did—it's very, very remarkable."

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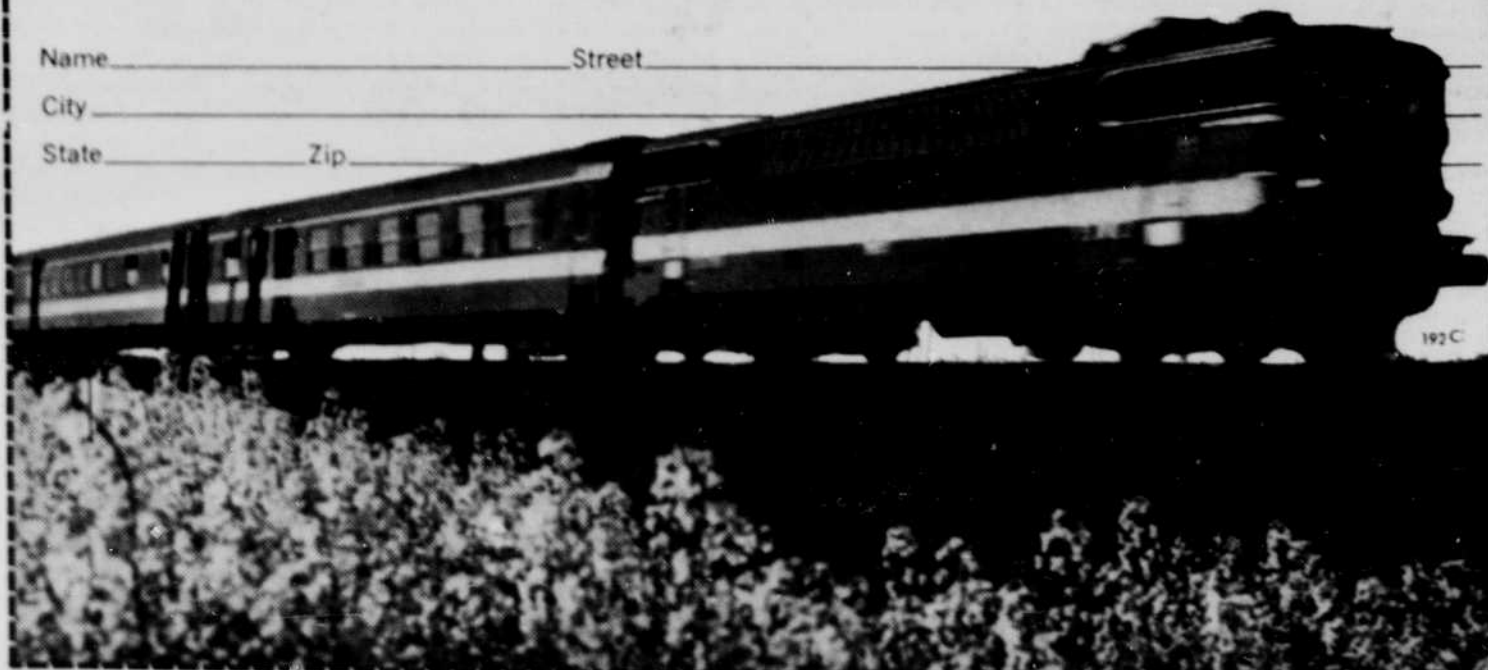
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Thursday, April 8, 1971